

PRESS RELEASE

SAUL STEINBERG

Still Life

COSTANTINO NIVOLA

Sandcasts, Graffiti & Carved Concrete

October 9 – December 20, 2021

From October 9 through December 20, 2021, The Drawing Room is pleased to present exhibitions that pair two eminent artists who were lifelong friends: Sardinian-born sculptor Costantino Nivola [1911-1988] and Romanian-American artist Saul Steinberg [1914-1999]. Having first met in Milan before the Second World War prompted them to flee Europe, Nivola and Steinberg reconnected in New York in 1942. The following year Betty Parsons organized concurrent shows of their work at the Wakefield Gallery. Soon after their first New York exhibitions, the artists became neighbors in The Springs hamlet of East Hampton. In this legendary 20<sup>th</sup> century artist community, each created influential bodies of work across various mediums that established their international reputations.

**Costantino Nivola: Sandcasts, Graffiti & Carved Concrete** features iconic examples of the modernist abstract forms Nivola distilled to represent the human figure. The show also highlights Nivola's innovative use of sand and concrete and his unique contribution to mid-century art and architecture. Some works on view are plaster sandcasts originally created as models for large-scale reliefs commissioned for the facades of public buildings. Others are freestanding sculptures carved from blocks of porous concrete. Seen together this selection illuminates Nivola's singular legacy for transforming concrete, a universal building material, into groundbreaking monumental sculpture and architecture.



Costantino Nivola, A37, 1984, 12 x 19 6/8 x 1 5/8 in.



Saul Steinberg, *Perspective Table*, 1982, 21 x 31 1/2 in.  
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**Saul Steinberg: Still Life** assembles watercolors, drawings and wood sculptures that spotlight the artist's keen observations and witty interpretations of quotidian objects. Noted internationally for his gifts as a graphic artist whose work appeared in *The New Yorker* for six decades, Steinberg is also acclaimed for the drawings, paintings, prints, collages, and sculptures he exhibited in galleries and museums worldwide. The subjects of the works on paper and carved wood objects on view range from floral still lifes to cubist tabletops scattered with airmail envelopes and other domestic ephemera. Painted wood sculptures include whittled fountain pens, a camera, books and treasure boxes.

For further information and reproduction quality images contact Claudine Chartouni at 631 324.5016 or [info@drawingroom-gallery.com](mailto:info@drawingroom-gallery.com)

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