

REDECOR

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59 WHAT'S NEXT

Painter Alex Katz grabs the spotlight, a Florentine food hall gets a snazzy update, American artists explore their night visions, new hotels in Paris and Baltimore, Los Angeles faces the camera lens, a Toronto bar pays homage to Antoni Gaudí, and more

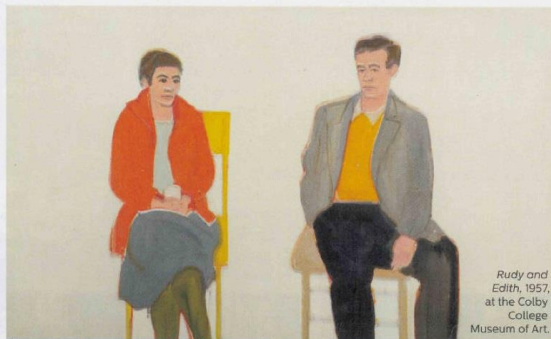
WHAT'S NEXT



LIFE STUDIES

Two new museum shows celebrate the artist who made figurative painting pertinent again

In the 1950s, as Jackson Pollock and the New York School electrified the art world with Abstract Expressionism, Alex Katz sought to keep representative painting relevant. Over six decades, he has rendered the landscape around his Maine summer home, his circle of friends, and most frequently, his wife and muse, Ada, in forms stripped down to their essentials in flat, rich colors. (He drew from ancient Egyptian and Japanese art, as well as Matisse and Old Masters.) Two new exhibitions prove the enduring freshness of Katz's work. "This Is Now," at the High Museum of Art in Atlanta, features more than 40 landscapes, many of massive size (June 21–September 6; high.org). "Brand New & Terrific: Alex Katz in the 1950s" at the Colby College Museum of Art in Waterville, Maine, highlights his early, experimental work (July 11–October 18; colby.edu).



Rudy and Edith, 1957, at the Colby College Museum of Art.

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