

# CITY OF JERSEY CITY

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## ***Jersey City's 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Artists Studio Tour Continues to Expand Citywide Featuring Hundreds of Artists, Dozens of Exhibitions, Galleries, Museums, & Live Entertainment City & NoGas Pipeline Collaborate to Show Irish Film Opposing Gas Pipeline***

**JERSEY CITY** – Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy, the **Municipal Council**, and the **Jersey City Dept. of Health & Human Services/Division of Cultural Affairs**, in partnership with **ProArts**, and the **Hudson Reporter**, present the **2011 Jersey City Artists Studio Tour**, a **FREE** self-guided walking tour featuring galleries, artist studios and ad hoc exhibition sites. The tour will take place on the weekend of **Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> from Noon - 6:00 p.m.**

In its 21<sup>st</sup> year, the *Annual Jersey City Artists Studio Tour* is a weekend celebration of the East Coast's fastest growing art scene that features hundreds of artists, dozens of exhibitions, galleries, museums, live music and performances, food, drink and parties – all located just five minutes from Manhattan.

The *Jersey City Artists Studio Tour* features a diverse selection of styles and artistic disciplines, from avant-garde video and sculpture to traditional oil painting. Tour goers will have the opportunity to meet and talk to the artists themselves, including interaction with the artists in their working environments.

From a diverse art scene, to the eclectic shops and boutiques, indulging in multi-ethnic cuisines at local restaurants along the tour route, or simply enjoying the lively atmosphere strolling from one studio to the next, for visitors and tour goers, *this is a wonderful way to spend the weekend exploring all that Jersey City has to offer.*

Year after year, the Tour continues to expand with added venues and hundreds of artists participating in the tour attracting thousands of visitors during its two-day run. The ***Jersey City Artists Studio Tour*** is widely considered New Jersey's premier art and cultural event, and is free and open to the public.

This year, a major new art venue, hundreds of artists and dozens of studios, big group exhibitions, concerts, and the first Powerhouse Short Film Festival bring fresh energy and cutting edge art to the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Jersey City Artists Studio Tour.

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The new 125,000-square-foot **Mana Contemporary Art Center**, a former industrial complex located at 888 Newark Avenue on the outskirts of Journal Square, joins the Studio Tour for the first time as host of the Studio Tour Kick-Off Celebration (September 30, 6-10pm.) . Mana Contemporary Art Center features open studios, curated exhibitions by Jim Pustorino (Victory Arts Projects) and **Michelle Mumoli** (Pop Up Art), as well as Mana's major in-house show **“Our Own Directions: 40 Years of Photorealism.”**

Also open for the 2011 Studio Tour is the **Mana Contemporary Annex**, located at 227 Coles Street, presenting curator Tina Maneca's Exquisite Corpse exhibition - which features collaborative art created by more than 70 Jersey City artists.

Studio Tour visitors can also visit **The Powerhouse Short Film Festival**, which opens Friday September 30 in the Powerhouse Arts District, and features dozens of short independent films showing on the street under tents throughout Studio Tour weekend.

Another new *Jersey City Artists Studio Tour* venue is **Liberty Science Center**, hosting a community exhibition that features Jersey City artists **Bojana Coklyat, Stephanie Riggi, Vanessa Holly** and more.

**Gallery exhibition highlights include:**

- **“Evolutionary Psy Wear”** at **Mary Benson Gallery** (369 Third Street), curated by Uta Brauser of Creative Grove Art Market.
- **“Dividing light, Measuring Darkness”** at **Curious Matter Gallery** (272 Fifth Street). Gallery owners Raymond E. Mingst and Arthur Brusio deliver another meticulously curated and inscrutable exhibition.
- **“Gatherings”** at 58 Gallery presents new work by painter **Kirk Bray**.
- Brennan Courthouse showcases **Sandra Swieder's 911 documentary photography** in **“From Across The River.”**
- **Woolpunk Studios** (298 Newark Avenue), a new downtown artist run space, also opens for its first Studio Tour with a group show **featuring work by Michelle Loughlin and Margaret Murphy**.
- Artist studios open for Studio Tour weekend include **“Garfield Shows”** at 2 Union Street, **The Penthouse** at 326 Montgomery, **Alvin Pettit Studio** at 34 Aster place, and **Gaia Studio** at 315 Third.
- The **8<sup>th</sup> Annual Fourth Street Art & Music Festival** returns as a major Studio Tour venue with even more artists, open studios, murals, food, bands, and beer.

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- **Parlay Studios** hosts the **Studio Tour Closing Party** for its second year, as well as displaying the Pro Arts Members Exhibition, curated by Merideth Lippman.

In addition to the films, galleries and exhibitions listed above, the City of Jersey City, in conjunction with non-profit NoGas Pipeline, will be showing *The Pipe* – a documentary by filmmaker Richard O’Donnell about the small Irish town of Rossport and what happened when Shell Oil decided they were going to run a gas pipeline out of the ocean floor and across their village.

The film, with a running time of 83 minutes, will be shown on Saturday, Oct. 1st and Sunday, Oct. 2nd at 11 a.m., 2 p.m., and 4 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers, 280 Grove Street.

**Free Studio Tour bus service** will shuttle visitors to and from major tour sites.

Provided by Pro Arts, a **shuttle service bus with tour guides** will be available to select venues. Easily accessible, most tour venues are within walking distance of the NY/NJ PATH, the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail, or jitney bus services.

A **Free Wheelchair Accessible Guided Tour** is also available to select wheelchair accessible venues over the tour weekend from Noon - 6:00 p.m. Provided By Hudson County Transcend, all persons wishing to take this guided tour, **must make ADVANCED reservations as seats are limited by September 30<sup>th</sup>**. For details and to reserve a space, please call 201-736-7057.

For transportation schedules and more information, please call the Division of Cultural Affairs at (201) 547-6921 or visit us online at [jerseycitynj.gov](http://jerseycitynj.gov) or [proartsjerseycity.org](http://proartsjerseycity.org)

The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Jersey City Artists Studio Tour is sponsored by: (Platinum Sponsor) Bank of America; (Gold Sponsors) Goldman Sachs, Provident Bank Foundation; (Silver Sponsors) Panepinto Properties and Silverman; and (Bronze Sponsor) Skinner’s Loft.

**All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.///**