


[Adolph & Esther Gottlieb Foundation](#)

Gottlieb and Mark Rothko discussed “The Portrait and the Modern Artist” on WNYC’s Art in New York program in 1943. Read a [transcript](#) of the original broadcast, which is made available by WNYC Archive Collections.

Listen to a 1967 [oral history interview](#) with Gottlieb, recorded by Dorothy Seckler for the Archives of American Art at the Smithsonian.

Read a transcript of a [conversation](#) between Gottlieb and Jack Breckenridge held at the University of Arizona in 1973. The general topic of the discussion was “The Shift of the Art Capital From Paris to New York in the 1940s.”

In 2002, [The Beginning of Seeing: Tribal Art and the Pictographs of Adolph Gottlieb](#) was organized by the Adolph and Esther Gottlieb Foundation and traveled to New Britain Museum of American Art, the Krannert Art Museum, the Lowe Art Museum, and the Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Center for Visual Art.

Gottlieb, 1942
Photograph: Aaron Siskind

[Adolph Gottlieb: A Survey Exhibition](#) was at the Jewish Museum in New York in 2003. The exhibition explored “his visual language and engagement with themes of identity.” Read a review in [artcritical](#) by Eric Gelber.

In 2006, [Adolph Gottlieb: Early Prints from the Adolph and Esther Gottlieb Foundation](#) opened at the [Allen Memorial Art Museum](#) at Oberlin College. The exhibition then traveled as [Adolph Gottlieb: Early Prints](#) to the [Milwaukee Art Museum](#), the Art Museum of the University of Memphis, and the [Pollock-Krasner House and Study Center](#).

The Jewish Museum in New York organized [Modern Art, Sacred Space: Motherwell, Ferber and Gottlieb](#) in 2010, focusing on an art commission from Herbert Ferber for a modern synagogue in Millburn, New Jersey. Read an article about the exhibition in [The New Yorker](#) and a review in [The New York Times](#).

[Adolph Gottlieb: A Retrospective](#) was a major survey exhibition held at the Peggy Guggenheim Collection in Venice in 2010.

In 2012, [Adolph Gottlieb: Sculptor](#) opened at the [Akron Art Museum](#) before traveling to the [University of Michigan Museum of Art](#) and the Philbrook Museum. Read reviews in [STARR REVIEW](#) and the [Ann Arbor Observer](#).

[Gottlieb/Rothko: The Realist Years](#) was at 125 Newbury Gallery in 2025, featuring more than 30 works on paper and canvases by the two pioneering artists as they explored the transition from figuration to abstraction in their practices.

The [Cape Ann Museum](#) opened [Avery, Gottlieb, and Rothko: By the Sea](#) in 2026, exploring the friendships between Milton Avery, Adolph Gottlieb, and Mark Rothko and their mutual love for summers on Cape Ann. The exhibition then traveled to [The Phillips Collection](#).

[Gottlieb at Pace Gallery](#)
[Gottlieb at American Contemporary Art Gallery](#)


Gottlieb in the studio, 1962
Photograph: Fred McDarrah



Adolph Gottlieb (American, 1903-1974)
Dusk, 1969
Oil on canvas

Private Collection; L2025:111.1

Born and raised in New York, Adolph Gottlieb was among the first generation of Abstract Expressionist painters working in the city in the 1950s. He began producing “Burst” paintings in 1956, simplifying landscapes into a color field ground and a celestial orb floating above. **Dusk** was painted towards the end of Gottlieb’s career, featuring dark earth and a radiating glow around the deep magenta disk. As the artist explained: “I use color in terms of emotional quality, as a vehicle for feeling... feeling is everything I have experienced or thought.”

On view January 14 – April 19, 2026