

INCENDIARIES: **THE
PEOPLE'S
FLAG
SHOW
1970**

September 9, 2026 – January 16, 2027

80 Washington Square East
New York, NY 10003

80WSE presents *Incendiaries: The People's Flag Show 1970*, examining the landmark exhibition at Judson Memorial Church and the networks of artists, activists, and communities that shaped it into a defining moment in American art and cultural protest.

Organized in collaboration with NYU's Fales Library & Special Collections and in cooperation with Judson Memorial Church, *Incendiaries* draws on rare photographs, video documentation, and archival materials from the Judson Memorial Church Archive to trace a formative chapter in the intertwined histories of art, activism, and public dissent. A centerpiece of the exhibition is archival video of choreographer Yvonne Rainer's *Trio A With Flags* (1970), a pivotal adaptation of her signature dance performed with members of the Grand Union and other dancers at the opening of the exhibition.

As a nexus of social activism and experimental culture in Greenwich Village and a vital hub for New York's downtown avant-garde, Judson Memorial Church actively supported the artists and collectives behind *The People's Flag Show*. Presented in November 1970 amid opposition to the Vietnam War and the broader movements for civil rights, feminism, and artistic freedom, the exhibition brought together more than 150 artists who used the American flag as image, object, and material to confront questions of political expression and artistic agency.

During the exhibition, Faith Ringgold, Jon Hendricks, and Jean Toche (later known as the “Judson Three”) were arrested under New York’s flag desecration law in connection with *The People’s Flag Show*. Their prosecution reflected broader national debates over artistic freedom and the constitutionality of such laws.

Incendiaries considers how artists and activists organized in response to war, censorship, and social change, revealing how collective action intersected with political dissent and artistic practice in times of profound upheaval.

Curated by Howie Chen with Jon Huron

In collaboration with Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU

Produced by Jon Huron and 80WSE

Erika Airikh, Shreya Dwibedy, and Ariel He, Curatorial Assistants

Olivia Andrews and Kiyomi Taylor, Preparators

Sebin Cho, Sophia Clinard-Rubio, Sebastian Higgins, Cassie Piña, and Klara Puskeilerova, Student Exhibition Assistants

Special thanks to Fales Library and Special Collections, Judson Memorial Church, Yale Library Special Collections, McCormick Library of Special Collections, Paula Cooper Gallery, Jack Shainman Gallery, Kevin Kelly, Nicholas Martin, Joan Kee, Barbara Moore, and Jon Hendricks.

About 80WSE

Founded in 1974, 80 Washington Square East (80WSE), NYU is a not-for-profit gallery presenting contemporary and historical exhibitions. The gallery exhibits in two further locations, at Broadway Windows at Broadway and East 10th Street, and Washington Square Windows, next to the main space on Washington Square East

Curator Howie Chen and Gallery Manager Jon Huron.

For more information, please contact Jon Huron at jlh403@nyu.edu

INCENDIARIES: **THE PEOPLE'S FLAG SHOW 1970**

September 9, 2026 – January 16, 2027

80 Washington Square East

New York, NY 10003

GALLERY 1

Photographer unidentified (Stevens)

**Interior of the Meeting Room,
Judson Memorial Church, undated**

Pigment print

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Communion Table from

Judson Memorial Church, Date unknown

Courtesy of Judson Memorial Church

Historical Background of

The People's Flag Show, 1970

Photocopy reproduction

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Exhibition announcement for

The People's Flag Show, 1970

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Howard Moody

**"Symbols & Fetishes: A Left Handed Salute
to the Flag" sermon, 1970**

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Jan van Raay

**Howard Moody at the opening of
*The People's Flag Show, 1970***

Pigment print

From the Jan van Raay Photographs of

Art Strike Protests archive (YCAL MSS 1329)

Courtesy of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library,
Yale University

***The Art Workers' Coalition and Its Networks,
1969–71***

Courtesy of 80WSE

Global Village

Howard Moody interview (excerpt), 1970

Video, sound

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

GALLERY 2

Global Village

Symposium on Repression at

The People's Flag Show (excerpts), 1970

Video, sound

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Symposium on Repression: Thematic Selections

Artist and Art World

Alex Gross – Art critic and AWC member

Faith Ringgold – Artist and WSABAL member

Gregory Battcock – Art historian and AWC member

Flag as Symbol

Joachim Neugroschel – Literary translator

Sam Wiener – Artist and AWC member

Kate Millett – Artist, feminist scholar, and representative
of the Women's Liberation Movement

Revolution

Lil Picard (interviewed by Joachim Neugroschel)

– Artist, writer, and AWC member

Frank Justice – Activist

Unidentified representative, – Black Panther Party

"John Dewey," – Gay Liberation Front

Jan van Raay

Kate Millett at the *Symposium on Repression, 1970*

Pigment print

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Kate Millett

The American Dream Goes to Pot

(installation view), 1970

Pigment print

From the Jan van Raay Photographs

of Art Strike Protests archive (YCAL MSS 1329)

Courtesy of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library,

Yale University

Jan van Raay

Alex Gross at the *Symposium on Repression, 1970*

Pigment print

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Jan van Raay

Opening of *The People's Flag Show,*

Judson Memorial Church, 1970

Pigment print

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Jan van Raay

Installation view of *The People's Flag Show,*

Judson Memorial Church, 1970

Pigment print

From the Jan van Raay Photographs

of Art Strike Protests archive (YCAL MSS 1329)

Courtesy of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library,

Yale University

Jan van Raay

Abbie Hoffman at the

Symposium on Repression, 1970

Pigment print

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Jan van Raay

Installation view of *The People's Flag Show,*

Judson Memorial Church, 1970

Pigment print

From the Jan van Raay Photographs

of Art Strike Protests archive (YCAL MSS 1329)

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Yale University

Jan van Raay

Work by Mel Roman

at *The People's Flag Show*, 1970

Pigment print

From the Jan van Raay Photographs

of Art Strike Protests archive (YCAL MSS 1329)

Courtesy of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library,
Yale University

Faith Ringgold

The People's Flag Show, 1970

Screenprint

© Faith Ringgold

Courtesy of the Anyone Can Fly Foundation
and Jack Shainman Gallery, New York

Jan van Raay

Opening of *The People's Flag Show*,

Judson Memorial Church, 1970

Pigment print

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

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Jan van Raay

Installation views of *The People's Flag Show*,

Judson Memorial Church, 1970

Pigment prints

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Yale University

Jan van Raay

Faith Ringgold at the *Symposium on Repression*, 1970

Pigment print

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

GALLERY 3

**Press coverage of *The People's Flag Show*
and the Judson Three**

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Global Village

Interview with the Judson Three: Faith Ringgold,

Jon Hendricks, and Jean Toche, 1970

Video, Sound

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Jan van Raay

The Judson Three: Jean Toche, Jon Hendricks,

and Faith Ringgold, 1970

Pigment print

From the Jan van Raay Photographs

of Art Strike Protests archive (YCAL MSS 1329)

Courtesy of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library,
Yale University

Global Village

Judson Three Benefit, 1970

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

**The Committee to Defend
the Judson Three Flyer, 1971**

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Summons, 1970

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Judson Three Defense Fund

An Open Letter to the Art Community, 1970

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

GALLERY 4

Jan van Raay

Jon Hendricks and Jean Toche with exhibition closure signs at Judson Memorial Church, 1970

Pigment print

From the Jan van Raay Photographs

of Art Strike Protests archive (YCAL MSS 1329)

Courtesy of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University

Jan van Raay

Exhibition closure signs at Judson Memorial Church, 1970

Pigment print

From the Jan van Raay Photographs

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Courtesy of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University

Jan van Raay

Jon Hendricks and Jean Toche with exhibition closure signs at Judson Memorial Church, 1970

Pigment print

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Courtesy of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University

Correspondence to Judson Memorial Church concerning *The People's Flag Show*, 1970-71

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Jan van Raay

Howard Moody and Jon Hendricks with exhibition closure signs at Judson Memorial Church, 1970

Pigment print

From the Jan van Raay Photographs

of Art Strike Protests archive (YCAL MSS 1329)

Courtesy of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University

Jan van Raay

Art Workers' Coalition panel on the Judson Three, 1970

Pigment print

From the Jan van Raay Photographs

of Art Strike Protests archive (YCAL MSS 1329)

Courtesy of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University

Global Village

Abbie Hoffman and Gerald Lefcourt at the *Symposium on Repression* (excerpt), 1970

Video, Sound

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Jan van Raay

Judson Three petition at the Museum of Modern Art, 1970

Pigment prints

From the Jan van Raay Photographs

of Art Strike Protests archive (YCAL MSS 1329)

Courtesy of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University

Jan van Raay

First court appearance of the Judson Three, New York City Criminal Court, 1970

Pigment print

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Jan van Raay

Flag burning following the Judson Three's first court appearance, 1970

Pigment print

From the Jan van Raay Photographs

of Art Strike Protests archive (YCAL MSS 1329)

Courtesy of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University

GALLERY 5

Jan van Raay

Announcement of the Judson Three federal lawsuit,
Federal Courthouse, New York, 1971

Pigment prints

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)
Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Legal brief for the Judson Three federal lawsuit, 1971

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)
Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Jan van Raay

Demonstration in support of the Judson Three,
Foley Square, 1971

Pigment prints

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)
Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Faith Ringgold

The Judson 3, 1970

Screenprint

© Faith Ringgold
Courtesy of the Anyone Can Fly Foundation
and Jack Shainman Gallery, New York

Peter Moore

David Gordon in Yvonne Rainer's "Trio A with Flags",
Judson Memorial Church, New York, 1970, 1970

Gelatin silver print

Peter Moore Estate and Paula Cooper Gallery

Peter Moore

Barbara Dilley in Yvonne Rainer's "Trio A with Flags",
Judson Memorial Church, New York, 1970, 1970

Gelatin silver print

Peter Moore Estate and Paula Cooper Gallery

Peter Moore

Steve Paxton in Yvonne Rainer's "Trio A with Flags",
Judson Memorial Church, New York, 1970, 1970

Gelatin silver print

Peter Moore Estate and Paula Cooper Gallery

Peter Moore

Yvonne Rainer, "Trio A with Flags",
Judson Memorial Church, New York, 1970, 1970

Gelatin silver print

Peter Moore Estate and Paula Cooper Gallery

Original pew from Judson Memorial Church

Courtesy of Judson Memorial Church

Yvonne Rainer

Trio A with Flags, 1970

Film transferred to video, sound

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)
Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Guerrilla Art Action Group (GAAG)

Burning Ceremony of the American Flag,
The People's Flag Show, 1970

Video, Sound

Video documentation by Global Village
From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)
Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Original pew from Judson Memorial Church

Courtesy of Judson Memorial Church

Jan van Raay

Jean Toche and Jon Hendricks with
the burned flag at *The People's Flag Show*, 1970

Pigment print

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Jan van Raay

Flag before the Guerrilla Art Action Group
(GAAG) burning ceremony, 1970

Pigment print

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

**Government in Exile, Republic of the
Federal Socialist States of Belgium**

Declaration of War, 1970

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Jan van Raay

Installation view of *The People's Flag Show*,
Judson Memorial Church, 1970

Pigment print

From the Jan van Raay Photographs

of Art Strike Protests archive (YCAL MSS 1329)

Courtesy of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library,

Yale University

Guerrilla Art Action Group (GAAG)

Guerrilla Art Action Group's Contribution
to *The People's Flag Show*, 1970

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

Courtesy of Fales Library and Special Collections, NYU Libraries

Jan van Raay

Burning Ceremony of the American Flag,
The People's Flag Show, 1970

Pigment print

From the Judson Memorial Church Archive (MSS 094)

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