NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART ONLINE EDITIONS Alfred Stieglitz Key Set



Alfred Stieglitz American, 1864 - 1946

Georgia O'Keeffe at 291

1917

platinum print

image: 23.3×19 cm (9 $3/16 \times 7$ 1/2 in.) sheet: 25.4×20.2 cm (10 $\times 7$ 15/16 in.) Alfred Stieglitz Collection 1980.70.1 Stieglitz Estate Number OK 25D

Key Set Number 457

KEY SET ENTRY

Related Key Set Photographs



Alfred Stieglitz Georgia O'Keeffe at 291 1917 platinum print Key Set Number 458



Alfred Stieglitz Georgia O'Keeffe at 291 1917 silver-platinum print Key Set Number 459



Alfred Stieglitz Georgia O'Keeffe—Hands 1917 silver-platinum print Key Set Number 460

Remarks

Although Georgia O'Keeffe first visited 291 in 1908 to see the Rodin exhibition and subscribed to both *Camera Work* and *291*, Stieglitz did not see any of her work

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until January 1916 when her friend Anita Pollitzer brought it to the gallery. Impressed that a woman could create such expressive and abstract work, Stieglitz wrote O'Keeffe and the two began an intense and ultimately intimate correspondence. They met in spring 1916 when O'Keeffe returned to New York to study at Columbia University Teachers College. In late May 1917 O'Keeffe traveled from Canyon, Texas, where she was teaching, to New York to see her third exhibition at 291, but arrived after it had closed (14 May). Stieglitz rehung the exhibition for her. She returned to Texas a few days later, explaining in a letter to Pollitzer on 20 June 1917, "I just had to go Anita—There wasn't any way out of it—and I'm so glad I went" (YCAL).

"A few weeks after I returned to Texas, photographs of me came—two portraits of my face against one of my large watercolors and three photographs of my hands" (Georgia O'Keeffe in *Georgia O'Keeffe: A Portrait by Alfred Stieglitz* [1978], unpaginated).

Based on their correspondence, Stieglitz photographed O'Keeffe on 1 June, the day she left New York to return to Texas. The date of 4 June on Key Set numbers 458, 459, and 460 probably indicates the day he completed the prints.

Behind O'Keeffe is her watercolor Blue I, 1916 (Lynes 119), hung horizontally.

INSCRIPTION

by Alfred Stieglitz, on mount, upper left verso, in graphite: OKeeffe 1917 at "291" / June 1—

by Georgia O'Keeffe, on mount, lower left verso, in graphite: OK 25D

PROVENANCE

Georgia O'Keeffe; gift to NGA, 1980.

EXHIBITION HISTORY

National Gallery of Art

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART ONLINE EDITIONS

Alfred Stieglitz Key Set

2002 Alfred Stieglitz: Known and Unknown, National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC, June 2-September 2, 2002; The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, October 6, 2002-January 5, 2003

2016 Georgia O'Keeffe, Tate Modern, London, July 6-October 30, 2016; Bank Austria Kunstforum, Vienna, December 7, 2016-March 26, 2017; Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, April 22-July 30, 2017

BIBLIOGRAPHY

2002 Greenough, Sarah. Alfred Stieglitz: The Key Set: The Alfred Stieglitz Collection of Photographs. Washington, 2002: vol. 1, cat. 457.

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