



475 Park Avenue at 57th Street, New York, New York 10022
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Robert Fishko, *Director*

For Immediate Release

Gregory Gillespie

September 12 – November 8, 2025



Studio Wall (Still Life with Self-Portrait), 1976, oil, printed paper collage, pencil and Magna on wood, in four parts, 96 x 124 inches

New York, NY – Forum Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition celebrating the art and life of American artist **Gregory Gillespie (1936-2000)**. The exhibition opens on Friday, September 12th at the gallery, 475 Park Avenue, continuing through Saturday, November 8th.

Gregory Gillespie painted memorable self-portraits, haunting fantasy landscapes, disturbingly surreal genre scenes and monumental, dimensional paintings, incorporating astonishing *trompe l'oeil* illusions and imaginary themes. His unerring eye for detail, masterful technique and uncompromising independence combined in deeply personal, often hallucinatory visions of the world. Impossible to categorize, Gregory Gillespie captivated diverse and devoted collectors, critics and curators.

Gillespie's first New York exhibition was at Forum Gallery in 1966. The 30-year-old artist was then at the American Academy in Rome on a Fulbright grant, followed by three Chester Dale fellowships. At age forty, Gillespie burst into the national spotlight with a retrospective exhibition at the Joseph H. Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden in 1977. Forty solo museum and gallery exhibitions followed. He was shown regularly by the Whitney Museum of American Art, in international exhibitions of American contemporary Art, and a second retrospective, *A Unique American Vision*, organized by the Georgia Museum of Art traveled to four more diverse institutions in 1999.

Now, twenty-five years after his untimely death by suicide in 2000, Gregory Gillespie's complex, psychologically charged paintings, propelled by his visual anarchy and consummate skill, are as fresh and compelling as they were during his lifetime.

A feature length film documentary, ***The Painted Life of Gregory Gillespie***, directed by Evan Goodchild, made its European Premiere at Cannes International Film Week Festival in May 2025 where the film won "Best Film Audience Award." This past July, the film won "Best Feature Documentary Film" at the Doc.Boston Documentary Film Festival, and in August, the film had its New York Premiere at the Greenpoint Film Festival. A short teaser of *The Painted Life of Gregory Gillespie* will be on view at the gallery during the exhibition and can also be viewed by visiting our online viewing room for the exhibition at <https://viewingroom.forumgallery.com/viewing-room/gregory-gillespie>



Gregory Gillespie in his studio, 1992

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Forum Gallery is located at 475 Park Avenue at 57th Street, New York, NY 10022. *Gregory Gillespie* opens on Friday, September 12, 2025, and continues through Saturday, November 8, 2025. The gallery is open to the public Monday through Saturday from 10am to 5:30pm, closed Sundays and holidays.

For all inquiries, please contact **Nicola Lorenz**, Executive Director or **Marjorie Van Cura**, Associate Director, 212-355-4545; gallery@forumgallery.com.