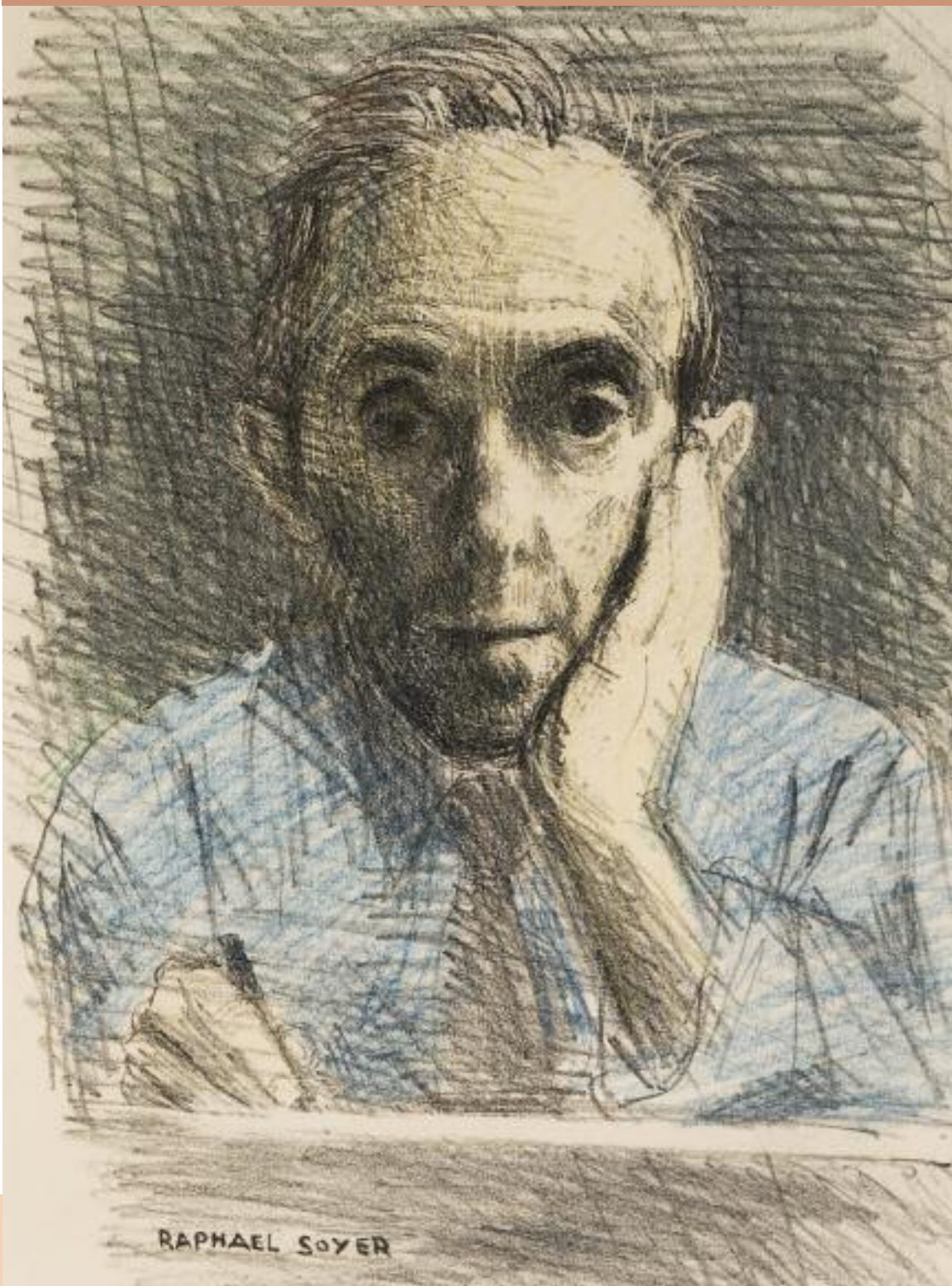


Prints by Raphael Soyer

*from the Collection of the Memorial Art Gallery
of the University of Rochester*

January 25 – April 22, 2012



MEMORIAL
ART GALLERY
UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER

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A prolific realist painter and printmaker,

Raphael Soyer had a career that spanned most of the twentieth century with its various artistic 'isms.' New York was his first and only American home, to which he immigrated from Russia in 1912, and it became his muse: "I painted only what I saw in my neighborhood in New York City which I call my country...New York and I are a part of one another." Soyer studied at Cooper Union's night school, the National Academy of Design, and the Art Students League while he worked at a variety of day jobs to earn money for himself and his family. After 1929, when he had his first show, he was able to dedicate himself full-time to his art and his teaching. Soyer's subjects were women (often dancers), street scenes, and, throughout his career, himself. Through the decades of the twentieth century in which leading critics promoted modernism and abstraction, Soyer remained faithful to the great figural tradition of Old Masters like Rembrandt as well as later painters like Degas, Corot, and Thomas Eakins, embracing their humanistic focus. His own subjects, gracefully and tenderly rendered in paint or printer's ink, are infused with a penetrative 'soul' that he attributed to the influence of the three cultures in which he developed—Russian, Jewish, and American.

Presented here are seven prints by Raphael Soyer from the Memorial Art Gallery's permanent collection, five of which are a recent gift from Diane Ambler, University of Rochester Class of 1971, and Ethan Grossman.



right:

Girl with Parted Lips, 1962

Lithograph

Gift of Diane Ambler, UR Class of 1971, and Ethan Grossman, 2011.47



above right:

Veterans Waiting Room, undated

Color lithograph

Gift of Diane Ambler, UR Class of 1971, and Ethan Grossman, 2011.51

right:

Self-Portrait, 1933

Lithograph

Gallery Purchase Fund, 38.37



left, and on front in detail:

Self-Portrait, 1954

Hand-colored lithograph

Gift of Diane Ambler, UR Class of 1971, and Ethan Grossman, 2011.49

All images by Raphael Soyer (1899-1987)

©Estate of Raphael Soyer, courtesy of Forum Gallery, New York

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above right:

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left, and on front in
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