

THE "NEW" NEW YORK

The modern New York City that we know today was created in 1898, when the island of Manhattan and its outlying areas consolidated. A new metropolis, New York quickly rose to global prominence through its commerce and industry, becoming the symbol of the "American Century," the time when America grew to be a superpower. On countless canvases, artists celebrated urban life and its new architectural icons — towering skyscrapers and monumental bridges — and the bustling harbor that made it all possible. Well into the third decade of the 20th century, these images were rendered in the impressionist style of an earlier generation, with an interest in mood, color, and light, but equally prevalent were the direct and grittier pictures of the so-called Ashcan School, which captured the intense energy and vitality underpinning the city's life.