THE ONWARD OF ART

AMERICAN ABSTRACT ARTISTS
80TH ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITION

Essay by Karen Wilkin
Published by American Abstract Artists

Guest curator: Karen Wilkin
Gallery director: Colin Thomson
Design: Linda Florio, Florio Design
Editors: Emily Berger, Daniel G. Hill, Claire Seidl

American Abstract Artists (AAA) is a democratic artist-run organization founded in 1936 in New York City to promote and foster understanding of abstract and non-objective art. AAA organizes exhibitions and produces member print portfolios and catalogues. It provides a forum to discuss and expand ideas about abstract art by hosting critical panels and symposia and publishing the American Abstract Artists Journal. AAA distributes its published materials internationally to cultural organizations and documents its member history in the Smithsonian Archives of American Art.

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*The Onward of Art: Eight Decades of American Abstract Artists*
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American Abstract Artists
219 East 2nd Street, #2D
New York, N.Y. 10009
americanabstractartists.org
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Karen Wilkin, curator

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Eighty years ago, in 1936, American Abstract Artists was officially founded in New York by a diverse group of progressive, forward-looking painters and sculptors. The founding members included Josef Albers, Ilya Bolotowsky, Balcomb Greene — AAA’s first chairman — Gertrude Greene, Carl Holty, Harry Holtzman, Ibram Lassaw, Alice Trumbull Mason, Mercedes Matter, George L.K. Morris, Esphyr Slobodkina, and Vaclav Vytlacil, among other distinguished artists. (It’s noteworthy that the founders and early members included an impressive number of women, a striking statistic that has been true of AAA throughout its long history and still obtains.) The backgrounds of the early members were notably disparate. Some, like Albers, Bolotowsky, Lassaw, and Slobodkina, were immigrants, Albers from Germany, the latter three with Russian origins. Mason, by contrast, was a descendant of a long-established American family that included John Trumbull, the 18th century history and portrait painter. Gertrude Greene and Morris were native New Yorkers. Some, like Mason, Morris, and Matter — the daughter of the pioneer modernist Arthur B. Carles — had studied in Europe. Holtzman had traveled to Paris and befriended Piet Mondrian. But other early members had been trained only in the U.S. What united them was their unwavering belief in the importance of “non-objective” art — that is, art that didn’t aspire to reproduce the visible in any conventional way — and their insistence upon the autonomy of the painting or sculpture, not as a reference to something pre-existing, but as an independent, self-sufficient, expressive object.

The organization’s first exhibition, which included the work of twenty-nine members, was held in April 1937, at the Squibb Gallery, on Fifth Avenue. A prospectus issued at the time announced that the fledgling organization’s purpose was “to unite American ‘abstract’ artists, (1) to bring before the public their individual works, (2) to foster public appreciation of this direction in painting and sculpture.” The emphasis on “American” and “abstract” was crucial. The informal meetings of abstractionist painters and sculptors that had led to the AAA’s formation were, in part, prompted by the Museum of Modern Art’s emphasis on Europe when advanced art was exhibited — not a surprising bias, since Paris remained the epicenter of the most adventurous work being made in the first part of the 20th century, yet understandably rankling to ambitious, gifted Americans who wished their efforts to be taken seriously on home ground. What’s fascinating, however, is a statement in a section titled Character of the Group: “…we place a liberal interpretation upon the word ‘abstract,’ a word which we moreover recognize as neither adequate nor accurate.”

Equally important — perhaps even more so — was the second item in the manifesto, “to foster public appreciation” of abstraction. In 1936, public appreciation of “non-objective” art needed a lot of fostering. Since 1920, almost a decade before the Museum of Modern Art’s opening in 1929, the museum’s ancestor, the Société Anonyme, had been organizing exhibitions of avant garde art,
most of it from Europe; in 1927, the American connoisseur, painter, and collector A.E. Gallatin had established his Gallery of Living Art in borrowed space at New York University, to showcase his growing holdings of French and American modernism, with a heavy emphasis on Cubism. But both the Société Anonyme and the Gallery of Living Art were exceptional institutions with small followings. In 1936, the year of AAA’s birth, abstraction, as part of the language of modernist art, had a history of less than a quarter century and was still regarded with suspicion and hostility not only by the general public but also by many serious art lovers. The traditional notion that worthwhile art was defined as the faithful imitation of recognizable appearances and spatial relationships was still entrenched (as it apparently remains entrenched, in many circles) so the original AAA membership’s firm belief in the power of non-representational images to communicate profound ideas and emotions placed them in a true vanguard. Ibram Lassaw stated some of the members’ most deeply held convictions in an essay written for an AAA publication in 1938. He began by noting that photography and cinema were better at dealing with description and narrative than painting or sculpture. “Stripped of these superimposed tasks,” Lassaw wrote, “the underlying structure of art becomes clear. Colors and forms alone have a greater power to move man emotionally and psychologically.”

The importance and significance of abstraction remained a vexed issue, even in relation to institutions that we might assume would have supported this direction. In 1940, four years after the founding of AAA, members picketed the Museum of Modern Art to protest the exhibition program’s concentration on realism. The museum was giving “an awful lot of space to [Thomas Hart] Benton and [Grant] Wood.” Ilya Bolotowsky recalled, in an interview conducted in 1976. But the organization’s relationship with MoMA had been problematic from the start, despite the fact that, as AAA’s chairman, Carl Holty, wrote in a letter to the director, Alfred H. Barr, the group “looks upon the Museum of Modern Art as the authentic place where contemporary thought and effort in art, is clearly identified.” Holty was writing to request that the museum host AAA’s annual exhibition in 1938, citing the uniqueness of the group and its commitment to abstraction. Barr declined, claiming scheduling conflicts and adding that, even if there were no scheduling conflicts, no artists’ group could exhibit at MoMA unless the museum staff was given the right to select what would go on view from the submissions. However true Barr’s claim of previous commitments might have been and however reasonable the provision for selection might seem from the curatorial point of view, the refusal created long-lasting enmity towards MoMA on the part of AAA’s rejected members. AAA’s exhibitions have long been held in changing locations ranging from commercial galleries with supportive directors to the now-vanished Riverside Museum, what would now be termed an “alternative space,” on the Upper West Side, to Lever House, the Loeb Student Center at New York University, and the former IBM Gallery, among many other locations.

On the plus side, the AAA membership’s unwavering support of the cause of abstraction made the organization a sympathetic home for similarly high-minded artists. Piet Mondrian was asked to become a member of AAA soon after he came to New York, in 1940, and quickly accepted; his friendship with the founding member Harry Holtzman, who issued the invitation, must have influenced this decision, but the fact that Mondrian joined AAA when he had earlier resigned from De Stijl because Theo van Doesburg introduced diagonal elements into his work gives us an indication of the rigor of thinking at the American organization. The American writer and critic Charmion von Wiegand began making abstract art — and joined the organization — after meeting and interviewing Mondrian in
Harry Holtzman
*Vertical Volume with Yellow and Blue*, 1944
17" × 7 3⁄4"

Harry Holtzman
*Untitled*, 1983
87" × 25 ½" × 11 3⁄4"
Balcomb Greene
*Untitled (35-8).* 1935
7 3/4" x 6"

Gertrude Greene
*Project for a Sculpture (34-4).* 1934
10 1/4" x 6"
Herbert Ferber
*Labors of Hercules, 1948*
32 3/4" x 19 1/4" x 8"
Fernand Léger was briefly associated with AAA, during his New York sojourn. The precocious Ad Reinhardt, who prided himself on having never worked figuratively, joined as a very young man. According to some lists, the exacting critic Clement Greenberg was a member, and later, such very different artists as the sculptors David Smith and Herbert Ferber, the painters Jack Tworkov, Norman Lewis, Nell Blaine, and Al Loving, and the unclassifiable Dorothea Rockburne and Richard Tuttle — to name only a small sampling of the AAA's constituency, over the years — either joined as members or participated in the annual exhibitions. (That, as this list suggests, a fair number of AAA's once adamant supporters of abstraction have, over the years, allowed varying degrees of reference into their work is subject for another discussion.)

Many of AAA's early members espoused geometric abstraction as a metaphor for order, logic, and truth. Some were convinced of the universality and, often, the spiritual connotations of clearly presented, pure Euclidean absolutes, while others treated shapes more freely, but remained faithful to crisp outlines and uninflected planes. The cool detachment of works of this kind justifies the frequent use of the dispassionate terms "non-objective" and "Neo-plastic" by the members of AAA to characterize their art, descriptions that avoid even the faint connection with something preexisting contained within the word "abstraction," which implies, albeit obliquely, that what we see has been abstracted from something.

But there were also alternatives to geometry. Surrealism, with its probing of inner visions as a source of creativity, was also part of current discussion among the New York art world of the time. The artists associated with AAA rejected the meticulously naturalistic, illustration-like approach of Salvador Dali, but many of them — like other young New York artists of the period — were fascinated by Joan Miró's ambiguous "abstract Surrealist" imagery and Francis Picabia's machine-like fantasies. Also part of the conversation were the provocative cross-connections suggested by "The Golden Bough," Sir James G. Frazer's influential study of comparative religion, published in an abridged version in 1922. Frazer's demonstration of how myths persist through time and across cultures reinforced notions of the seamless connections between modern day abstraction, archaic art, and what used to be called "primitive" art. Added to this was the idea of a collective unconscious, promulgated by some of Sigmund Freud's disciples. Assuming the existence of a shared, unwilled human awareness of mythological patterns gave further justification for art that revealed the imagined and unseen, rather than reproducing the familiar, and encouraged the use of biomorphic forms as equivalents for abstract dream imagery. Inspired by these ideas, some artists associated with AAA adopted, at least at times, suggestive organic forms as non-literal subject matter that could be presumed to be charged with universal meaning. A letter from Alice Trumbull Mason to Ibram Lassaw, when he was serving in the armed forces during World War II, recounts "discussing biomorphic [sic] forms" with Charmion von Wiegand or perhaps, Mason corrects herself, with Balcomb and Gertrude Greene. Mason is puzzled. The dictionary yields nothing "except the word amorphous, which means without form... Does the bi have the sense of double? The Greek root bio means life, but there a new confusion enters. Is the word spelled biomorphic? In which case it would mean life forms. Charmion did say she felt biomorphic meant the true body rhythms, as distinct from obviously sexual forms." Given their clearly imperfect grasp of the ideas contained within the word, it's not surprising that both von Wiegand and Mason were mainly what we would now call "hard-edge" painters, even when curved and sinuous shapes entered their visual vocabularies. By contrast, Herbert Ferber's sculptures of the 1940s bear witness to his enthusiasm for loaded biomorphic forms and his ability to deploy them for emotional effect.

AAA's present day vitality, eight decades after its founding, is proof of the enduring relevance of the organization. The large number of dedicated artists, many of them well known, who make up today's membership, bear witness to the relevance, too, of a belief in what the British sculptor Anthony Caro called "the onward of art" — a sense of the seamlessness of the present, past, and
future of painting, sculpture, and whatever other forms art may take. “The onward of art” is not bound up with the idea of progress or novelty, but rather with continuity and building on what has already been learned. Yet, in today’s pluralistic, global art world, it is difficult to imagine the kind of polarization and the sense of clear cut issues that could provoke a group of otherwise highly individual artists to come together, eighty years ago, not only in order to support their shared aesthetic convictions but also to signal their opposition to other positions. The critic Irving Sandler, born in 1925, in a recent comparison of the present New York art world with what he knew of it, in the early 1950s, stressed the difference between the fierce debates about what art could or could not be, sixty years ago, and the present day’s eager acceptance of just about any conception, any material palette, and any attitude towards description or story telling, abstraction or figuration. A common “whatever” prevails. The absence of a passionate sense of the importance of taking a position, Sandler implied, was in some ways, a loss of vitality. On a more positive note, the present day equivalents of the founding members of AAA no longer have to do battle to call attention to American artists.

The current members of AAA, with their shared commitment to the virtues of abstraction and their shared rejection of traditional figuration, are, because of their common aesthetic values, an unusually coherent group, in contrast to the great majority of their “anything goes” colleagues — which is obviously why they are part of the organization, in the first place. But the present exhibition, celebrating the endurance and continued significance of AAA, also bears witness to the extraordinary diversity of today’s membership. Abstraction, it is clear, may be as broadly defined, uses as wide-ranging a material palette, and is as likely to spring from a conceptual basis or to refuse a conceptual basis as any other present day category. We would be hard put to identify even a few broad typologies, even those as general as the geometric, hard-edge way of working embraced by so many early members, the inclusion of curvilinear shapes, or the investigations of biomorphism. The work of the current members of AAA included in “The Onward of Art” is not nostalgic, formally or conceptually, for a vanished past. It is wholly of the moment. Yet it also affirms the currency of assumptions that would have been familiar to the founding members: assumptions about the autonomy of the work of art, about its independence from explicit narrative or explicit description, about the potency of the raw materials of color, shape, form, and texture to engage us, as Ibram Lassaw said, long ago “emotionally and psychologically.”

In today’s art world, when verbally expressed ideas are often valued more highly than the forms that embody them and traditional facility in representation is often admired above any other considerations, the kind of wordless, imageless eloquence that the first members of AAA embraced has once again come into question, albeit for different reasons than it did eighty years ago. Abstraction is often assumed to be empty unless it is fully bolstered with irony or a complex conceptual justification. Yet the work of many significant artists, including today’s members of AAA, continues to reaffirm the health, eloquence, and versatility of present day abstraction. To commemorate the organization’s 80th anniversary in 2016, we honor its distinguished past, but we also celebrate its robust present. The lasting contribution made by the founding members to the onward of American modernism is attested to by the existence of the works in this exhibition (as well as by a great deal that happened in between). “The Onward of Art” is intended not only as a showcase of the vigor and relevance of American Abstract Artists in the twenty first century, but also of the undiminished vigor and relevance of art that communicates directly through the eye, reaching our intellect and our emotions without words.

Karen Wilkin
New York, November–December 2015
HEIDI GLÜCK
Study for 9 x 45 inch Panel, 2011
9" x 12"
STEVEN ALEXANDER
Arcade, 2011–2015
30" × 26"
SHARON BRANT
#77-2015, (from An Uncertain Geometry series), 2015
36” x 48”
JOHN OBUCK
Dome, 2015
20” diameter
MARK WILLIAMS

Done, 2015

42" x 36"
MARK DAGLEY
Final Sequence, 2014
27” x 27”
DON VOISINE
Jig, 2015
18" x 30"
MANFRED MOHR
P2200_1577, 2014
31 1/2" x 31 1/2"
DAVID MACKENZIE
#29-2014-JT10, 2014
30” x 30”
LORENZA SANNAI
Il sogno di Artemide, 2015
24" x 18"
DAVID ROW
*Cartography*, 2014
38" × 42"
KIM UCHIYAMA

Light Study #39, 2014

48” x 40”
GABRIELE EVERTZ
Grays and Metallics, 2014
36” x 36”
NOLA ZIRIN
Lavender Blue, 2015
40” x 30”
CREIGHTON MICHAEL
SCRIPT 214, 2014
36" × 34" × 2 1/2"
HENRY BROWN
Focal Point, 2015
8” x 8”
JOANNE MATTERA
Chromatic Geometry 23, 2015
12" x 12"
CORDY RYMAN
Nine, 2014
36” x 36 1/4” x 1 1/4”
POWER BOOTHE

*Ellipsis #4, 2015*

$15 \frac{1}{2} \times 15$
CE ROSER

Island Interval, 2015

40" x 40"
VICTOR KORD
*Playboy, 2013*
48" x 48"
JANE LOGEMANN
Green-6 lines, 2010
26” x 18”
SUSAN SMITH
Three Triangles, 2014
21 1⁄4" x 21 1⁄4"
SIRI BERG
Black Sheep, 2015
60" x 10"
JULIAN JACKSON

Iris 2, 2015
48" x 48
KATINKA MANN
Every Now, 2013
37" × 29" × 2"
JAMES JUSZCZYK
Tradition, 2015
20" x 20"
JEANNE WILKINSON
City Symmetry 7, 2015
24” x 16”
RICHARD TIMPERIO

Big Oh, 2015

54" x 46 1/2"
STEPHEN WESTFALL
Otherwise, 2013
48" × 48"
THORNTON WILLIS
The Congregation, 2012
70” x 52”
JIM OSMAN

Court, 2015

51” x 30” x 20 1/2”
EDWARD SHALALA

Untitled, 2015
11" x 14"
NANCY MANTER
Be Still #13, 2015
18” x 18”
ALICE ADAMS
Layer Collage 3, 2010
12" x 18"
ROGER JORGENSEN
The Cosmos, 2012
50” x 62”
STEPHEN MAINE
P15-0711, 2015
54" × 46"
NAOMI BORETZ
Prismatic Landscape #863, n.d.
16” x 20”
MARTIN BALL

Untitled V&A, 2013
54" × 36"
GAIL GREGG
Gilded Gyre Fragment #44, 2015
11” × 10 1/4” × 2 3/4”
MARA HELD
Four Clouds, 2014
48" x 32"
CECILY KAHN
Untitled, 2014
35" x 30"
JUDITH MURRAY

Expedition, 2014

40” x 44”
VERA VASEK
We Shared Moments, 2015
24” x 24”
PHILLIS IDEAL
Nightfall, 2015
30” x 30”
CLAIRE SEIDL

*It Goes without Saying*, 2015

$51 \times 45$
EMILY BERGER
Untitled, 2015
30" × 24"
MARTHE KELLER

By Way of Sagittarius, 2013

48 1/4” x 48”
IONA KLEINHAUT
Yellow Breath, 2015
30" x 32"
IRENE A. LAWRENCE
Landscape/Stage Set II, 2015
23” x 28”
ANNE RUSSINOF

Tall Vault, 2015
60" x 36"
COREY POSTIGLIONE
Lines of Flight # 8, 2014
30" × 30"
Alice Adams
Layer Collage 2, 2010
Cotton cloth with latex on vellum
12” × 18”

Alice Adams
Layer Collage 3, 2010
Cotton cloth with latex on vellum
12” × 18”

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Steven Alexander
Arcade, 2011–2015
Acrylic on linen
30” × 26”

Courtesy of David Findlay Jr
Gallery, New York

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Steven Alexander
Metro, 2014
Acrylic on canvas
30” × 26”

Courtesy of David Findlay Jr
Gallery, New York

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Emily Berger
Untitled, 2015
Oil on wood panel
30” × 24”

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Emily Berger
Untitled, 2015
Oil on wood panel
30” × 24”

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Susan Bonfils
Collective Diversity #2, 2015
Mixed media
16” × 14”

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Susan Bonfils
Collective Diversity #3, 2015
Mixed media
16” × 14”

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Power Boothe
Ellipsis #4, 2015
Gouache on arches
cold press paper
15 1⁄2” × 15”

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Gabriele Evertz
Grays and Metallics, 2014
Acrylic on canvas over birch wood
36” × 36”

Courtesy of Minus Space, New York

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Heidi Glück
Study for 10 x 60 inch
Panel, 2011
Acrylic, ink on paper,
8” × 10”

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Gail Gregg
Gilded Gyre Fragment #44, 2015
Metal leaf on cardboard
11” × 10 1⁄4” × 2 1⁄4”

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Gail Gregg
Gilded Gyre Fragment #103, 2014
Metal leaf on cardboard
9 3⁄4” × 10 1⁄4” × 2 1⁄2”

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James Gross
Canyon, 2011
Mixed media on paper
23” × 15”

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James Gross
Sacrarium, 2014
Mixed media on paper
25” × 18”

Lynne Harlow,
Accumulation, 2015
Vinyl curtain, chiffon,
Flexiglas©
72” × 40” × 2”

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Cecily Kahn
Untitled, 2014
Oil on linen
35” × 30”

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Cecily Kahn
Untitled, 2014
Oil on linen
50” × 35”

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Stephen Maine
Every Now, 2013
Flattened sculptural painting
37” × 29” × 2”

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Nancy Manter
Be Still #10, 2015
Flashe, charcoal on wood panel
20” × 16”

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Nancy Manter  
*Be Still #13*, 2015  
Oil on canvas 18" x 18"  
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Joanne Mattera  
*Chromatic Geometry 22*, 2014  
Encaustic on panel 12" x 12"  
Courtesy of Kenise Barnes Fine Art, Larchmont, New York

Joanne Mattera  
*Chromatic Geometry 23*, 2015  
Encaustic on panel 12" x 12"  
Courtesy of Marcia Wood Gallery, Atlanta, Georgia  
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Creighton Michael  
*SCRIPT 214*, 2014  
Layered acrylic on concave wood panel 36" x 34" x 2 1/2"  
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Creighton Michael  
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Layered acrylic on concave wood panel 36" x 34" x 2 1/2"  
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Manfred Mohr  
*P1611_2*, 2012  
Pigment ink on canvas 35 1/2" x 35 1/2"  
Courtesy of Bitforms Gallery, New York

Manfred Mohr  
*P2200_1577*, 2014  
Pigment ink on paper 31 1/2" x 31 1/2"  
Courtesy of Bitforms Gallery, New York  
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Judith Murray  
*Expedition*, 2014  
Oil on linen 40" x 44"  
Courtesy of Sundaram Tagore Gallery, New York  
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John Obuck  
*Done*, 2015  
Oil on canvas 20" diameter  
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John Obuck  
*Window*, 2015  
Oil on canvas 16" x 20"  
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Jim Osman  
*Court*, 2015  
Wood, paint, log section 51" x 30" x 20 1/2"  
Courtesy of Lesley Heller Workspace, New York  
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Corey Postiglione  
*Lines of Flight # 6*, 2014  
Acrylic on canvas 30" x 30"  
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Corey Postiglione  
*Lines of Flight # 8*, 2014  
Acrylic on canvas 30" x 30"  
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Lucio Pozzi  
*A Fact*, 2015  
Acrylic on canvas, 30" x 24"  
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Lucio Pozzi  
*Fugue*, 2015  
Acrylic on canvas 30" x 24"  
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Raquel Rabinovich  
*River Library 340*, 2009  
Arno River mud and glue on Essinda paper 19 1/2" x 26 1/2"  
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Raquel Rabinovich  
*River Library 342*, 2009  
Arno River mud and glue on Essinda paper 19 1/2" x 26 1/2"  
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Dorothea Rockburne  
*Paper, Pulp, and Dieu Donné #4*, 2003  
Copper foil, paper pulp, Lascaux Aquracryl; mounted on ragboard 31 1/2" x 23"  
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Dorothea Rockburne  
*Paper, Pulp, and Dieu Donné #2*, 2002  
Copper foil, Dieu Donné paper pulp, Lascaux Aquracryl; mounted on ragboard 29 1/4" x 21 1/8"  
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Irene Rousseau  
*Stretching the Space-9*, 2015  
Oil on canvas, pen and ink 36" x 36"  
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David Row  
*Cartography*, 2014  
Oil on canvas 38" x 42"  
Courtesy of David Row/ Loretta Howard Gallery, New York  
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Anne Russinof  
*Tall Vault*, 2015  
Oil on canvas 60" x 36"  
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Cordy Ryman  
*Nine*, 2014  
Lucite, acrylic, enamel, gold leaf, graphite, epoxy on wood 36" x 36 1/2" x 1 1/4"  
Courtesy of Zurcher Gallery, New York  
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Lorenza Sannai  
*Il sogno di Artemide*, 2015  
Acrylic on board 24" x 18" x 2"  
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Lorenza Sannai  
*Exactly, exactly now*, 2015  
Acrylic on board 24" x 18" x 2"  
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Mary Schilio  
*Random Dip 7*, 2015  
Acrylic paint on Mylar 36" x 12"  
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Mary Schilio  
*Random Dip 8*, 2015  
Acrylic paint on Mylar 36" x 12"  
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Claire Seidl  
*It Goes without Saying*, 2015  
Oil on linen 51" x 45"  
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Edward Shalala  
*Untitled*, 2015  
#12 weight, raw canvas thread flown with a kite with 5–10 mph winds forming a random permutation; North Meadow, Central Park, New York  
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Edward Shalala  
*Untitled*, 2015  
#10 weight, raw canvas thread flown with a kite with 10–15 mph winds forming a random permutation; North Meadow, Central Park, New York  
(p. 66)

Edward Shalala  
*Untitled*, 2015  
Oil on canvas 20" x 30"  
(p. 21)

Don Voisine  
*Jig*, 2015  
Oil on wood panel 18" x 30"  
(p. 56)

Don Voisine  
*Dimday*, 2015  
Oil on wood panel 18" x 28"  
(p. 49)

Stephen Westfall  
*Otherwise*, 2013  
Oil and alkyd on canvas 48" x 48"  
(p. 49)

Jeanne Wilkinson  
*City Symmetry 4B*, 2015  
Digital collage printed on aluminum 24" x 16"  
(p. 47)

Jeanne Wilkinson  
*City Symmetry 7*, 2015  
Digital collage printed on aluminum 24" x 16"  
(p. 47)

Mark Williams  
*Done*, 2015  
Acrylic on canvas 42" x 36"  
(p. 19)

Thornton Willis  
*The Congregation*, 2012  
Oil on canvas 70" x 62"  
(p. 50)

Kes Zapkus  
*Proxies for Covert Action*, 2012  
Oil on acrylic on canvas 72" x 36"  
(p. 77)

Nola Zirin  
*Indulger Blue*, 2015  
Oil and enameled on canvas, 40" x 30"  
(p. 28)
HISTORICAL WORKS

Esphyr Slobodkina
The Red L Abstraction
Gouache on paper board, framed c. 1940’s, 6 3/4” x 8 1/2”
Signed lower right: Slobodkina
(with a “t”)
From the collection of
Laurie Fendrich and Peter Plagens.
Courtesy of the
Slobodkina Foundation

Ad Reinhardt
Untitled from X + X (Ten Works by Ten Painters), 1964
Published by Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, Connecticut
Silkscreen print
Composition: 12” x 11 15/16”
Sheet: 23 5/16” x 19 5/16”
Frame: 25 1/2” x 21 1/2”
Courtesy of Don Voisine

Alice Trumbull Mason
#1 Towards a Paradox, 1969
Oil on canvas
19” x 24”
Art © Estate of Alice Trumbull Mason/Licensed by VAGA, New York, N.Y.
Courtesy of Washburn Gallery, New York

Piet Mondrian
Sketch for a Composition on a Cigarette Package, 1938-40
(catalogue raisonne n. B346)
Pencil on paper
2 1/4” / 3 7/8” x 2 1/4” / 3 7/8”
Courtesy of Mondrian/Holtzman Trust

Piet Mondrian
Study for a Composition, 1938-1939
(catalogue raisonne n. B341)
Charcoal on paper
9 1/2” x 8 3/4”
Courtesy of Mondrian/Holtzman Trust

Harry Holtzman
Untitled, 1983
Oil on wood
87” x 25 1/2” x 11 3/4”
Courtesy of Mondrian/Holtzman Trust

Harry Holtzman
Vertical Volume with Yellow and Blue, 1944
Oil and tape on wood
17” x 7 3/4”
Courtesy of Mondrian/Holtzman Trust

Jack Tworkov
Q1-75-S #2, 1975
Oil on canvas
25” x 25”
Titled with dimensions verso upper left and center
© Estate of Jack Tworkov/Licensed by VAGA, New York, N.Y.; Courtesy of Alexander Gray Associates, New York

Balcomb Greene
Untitled (35-8), 1935
Mixed media on paper
7 3/4” x 6” (Framed: 15 1/2” x 14”)
© The Estate of Balcomb and Gertrude Greene; Courtesy of Berry Campbell Gallery, New York

Gertrude Greene
Project for a Sculpture (34-8), 1934
Graphite on Paper
10 1/4” x 6” (Framed: 17 1/2” x 13”)
© The Estate of Balcomb and Gertrude Greene; Courtesy of Berry Campbell Gallery, New York

Charmon von Wiegand
To the Goddess, 1966
Gouache on paper
1966
13 3/4” x 19 3/4”, Framed
© Charmon von Wiegand Estate; Courtesy of Ce Roser

Herbert Ferber
Labors of Hercules
Bronze
32 3/4” x 19 1/4” x 8”
Courtesy of Edith Ferber and the Herbert Ferber Foundation

BOOKS AND DOCUMENTS

AAA
Edited by American Abstract Artists
1939
Courtesy of Don Voisine

American Abstract Artists
Essay by Mondrian
Ram Press, Distributed by Wittenborn and Co., New York, N.Y., 1946
Courtesy of Don Voisine

The World of Abstract Art
Edited by The American Abstract Artists
Published by George Wittenborn, Inc., New York, N.Y., 1957
Courtesy of James Gross and Don Voisine

American Abstract Artists: 1936–1966
Introduction by Ruth Gurin
The Ram Press, Distributed by Wittenborn and Co., New York, N.Y., 1966
Courtesy of James Gross and Don Voisine

Abstraction in Action: dedicated to Ilya Bolotowsky, 1982
Poster
City Gallery, New York, N.Y.
Courtesy of Don Voisine

The Russian Avant Garde and AAA
The Lowe Art Museum, University of Miami, 1983
Cover: Ad Reinhardt
Courtesy of James Gross

AAA the Early Years Part 1
Text by Barbara Rose
March 1980–April 1981, Traveling Exhibition
Cover: Burgoyne Diller
Courtesy of James Gross

AAA the Early Years, 1980
Announcement card
Sid Deutsch Gallery, New York, N.Y.
Courtesy of James Gross

AAA 22nd Annual Exhibition, 1958
Poster
Riverside Museum, New York, N.Y.
Courtesy of James Gross

American Abstract Artists
Three Yearbooks (1938, 1939, 1946)
Arno Press, New York, N.Y., 1969
Courtesy of Don Voisine

The Language of Abstraction, 1979
Poster
Betty Parsons Gallery/Marilyn Pearl Gallery, New York, N.Y.
Courtesy of James Gross

Exhibition in Honor of Albers, Morris, Pereira, Shaw, 1975
Poster
Westbeth, New York, N.Y.
Courtesy of James Gross

20th Annual Exhibition with “Painters Eleven” of Canada, 1956
Poster
Riverside Museum, New York, N.Y.
Courtesy of James Gross

How Modern is the Museum of Modern Art?, 1940
Flyer
American Abstract Artists
Courtesy of Mondrian/Holtzman Trust

Riverside Museum, 1941
Brochure
American Abstract Artists
Courtesy of Mondrian/Holtzman Trust

The Art Critics, 1940
Brochure
American Abstract Artists
Courtesy of Mondrian/Holtzman Trust

The Language of Abstraction
Essay by Susan Larsen
March 1980–April 1981, Traveling Exhibition
Cover: Louis Silverstein
Courtesy of James Gross and Daniel G. Hill

Ibram Lassaw
Sketches
1929–1933
Courtesy of James Gross

American Abstract Artists 26th Annual Exhibition, 1962
Announcement card
IBM Gallery, New York, N.Y.
Courtesy of James Gross

Letters from Alice Trumbull Mason, New York, New York
To Ibram Lassaw, Fort Dix, N.J.
1942–1943
Courtesy of Cecily Kahn
ALICE ADAMS, born in New York City in 1930, is known for sculpture and site works in the 1970’s and 80’s which engaged in a dialogue between architecture and landscape. After receiving a B.F.A. in painting from Columbia University, she studied tapestry design and weaving in Aubusson, France. Awards include two National Endowment for the Arts Artist grants and a Guggenheim Fellowship. Included in historic exhibitions — Eccentric Abstraction, 1966 and An International Survey of Painting and Sculpture, MoMA, 1986 — her work is also in the collections of MoMA, Princeton University Art Museum, Indianapolis Museum, of MoMA, Princeton University Art Museum, she studied with Guy Williams at the University of California at Santa Barbara and James Hayward, David Trowbridge and Stephen Westfall in the College of Creative Studies. Upon graduation in 1979, she moved to Baton Rouge, Louisiana with her son James and husband, Greg Schufreiter, professor of philosophy at L.S.U. Susan has had solo exhibitions in Rome, Italy and Oxford University, England. She has been included in numerous curated and group exhibitions. Her work is held in prestigious private and public collections. In 2016, she will be curating an exhibition, Painting Color, at the Glassell Gallery in Baton Rouge. (p. 17)

POWER BOOTHE grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area. He studied painting at the California College of the Arts and the San Francisco Art Institute, as well as at Colorado College and the Whitney Museum Independent Study Program. For thirty years, he lived and worked in New York City where he had over 20 one-person exhibitions. His work is represented in many public collections, including the Guggenheim Museum, the Whitney Museum of American Art, MoMA, and the Wadsworth Athenaum. He has been awarded a National Endowment for the Arts Individual Artist’s Fellowship, a Pollock-Krasner Grant, and a Guggenheim Fellowship. In 2001 he moved to Connecticut where he is Professor of Painting at the Hartford Art School, University of Hartford. The Giampietro Gallery in New Haven, Conn. represents his work. (p. 36)

NaoMi BoreTz was born in N.Y. and lives in N.J. She received an Arts Grant from the N.J. State Arts Council and was a fellow at the Writers-Artists Guild in Canada and the Guthrie Arts Centre in Ireland. Collections include: Hudson River Museum, Joslyn Art Museum, Asheville Art Museum, San Jose Art Museum, Hove Art Museum, England and Glasgow Art Museum, Scotland. She is author of an illustrated essay, The Reality Underlying Abstraction in Perception & Pictorial Representation, Praeger Publishers. (p. 60)

Sharon BrANT was born in Bethany, Missouri in 1944. After attending the Kansas City Art Institute she moved to New York City in 1966 and then to Beacon, N.Y. in 2007. In 1968, she was co-founder of MUSEUM, A Project of Living Artists, an artist-run exhibition and meeting space at 729 Broadway. She was included in the 1972 Whitney Museum of American Art’s Painting Annual. She exhibited at OK Harris between 1969–1972; AIR Gallery between 1988–1996, the first artist-run gallery for women in the U.S.; Margaret Thatcher Projects between 1999–2003; and MoMA PS1 with reviews in Artforum, Art International, The New York Times, and The Brooklyn Rail. In 2012 she was a recipient of the Adolph and Esther Gottlieb Foundation Grant and is currently represented by Minus Space in Brooklyn, N.Y. (p. 16)

HENRY BROWN was born in Washington D.C. in 1965. He is an abstract painter who interprets pictorial space through dynamic geometric structures. His flat images appear fixed but illusionism animates his work. Brown alters visual perception to create changing representations of depth within each painting. He has exhibited at MoMA PS1; Anderson Gallery, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Va.; Jacksonville Museum of Contemporary Art, Jacksonville, Fla.; and Gallery Sonja Roesch, Houston, Tex. Houston Public Radio KHUF interviewed Henry Brown for The Front Row. His awards include residencies at Yaddo and The MacDowell Colony. Brown holds an M.F.A. from Pratt Institute and two B.A.s from the University of Maryland. He lives and works in New York City. (p. 32)

Marvin Brown was born in 1943, Queens, N.Y. and studied at the High
School of Music and Art with Dorothy Tabak and May Stevens before attending the Brooklyn Museum Art School, Philadelphia College of Art and Yale University Summer School of Music and Art where he was the Ellen Battell-Stoerckel Trust fellow. Graduate work was conducted both at the now Henry Radford Hope Graduate School of Fine Arts of Indiana University and the Graduate Division of Brooklyn College of C.U.N.Y. where he studied with Carl Holty. Further studies in art history and education were undertaken at the Mellon Center for British Art at Yale and the Bank Street College of Education. Later, he undertook graduate study in architecture at the Ecoles d’Art Americaine de Fontainebleau, France. He currently resides in Port Washington, N.Y. (p. 13)

MARK DAGLEY was born in 1957 in Washington D.C. He studied painting and sculpture at the Corcoran School of Art and the Boston Museum School. His first solo exhibition took place in 1986, at the Tony Shafrazi Gallery. Dagley has exhibited frequently in Amsterdam, Madrid, Düsseldorf, Milan and many other European cities. In 1993, Dagley had his first Museum exhibition at the Kunstverein St. Gallen, Switzerland. His work can be found in the collections of the University of Michigan Museum of Art, the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Kunstmuseum St. Gallen, the Musée des Beaux Arts La Chaud de Fonds and the Museum of Contemporary Art, Buenos Aires. His most recent exhibitions were at Galerie Caesar, 2015; Minus Space, 2012; and, Nyehaus, 2007. He lives and works in Jersey City, New Jersey. (p. 20)

GABRIELE EVERTZ was born in Berlin, Germany 1945. She lives and works in Brooklyn and has an M.F.A. from Hunter College. She is the recipient of The Basil Alkazzi Award. Evertz has exhibited in solo and group exhibitions in the U.S., Argentina, Australia, Brazil, France, Germany, and Italy. Her recent exhibitions include MoMA PS1, Columbus Museum of Art, Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum, Schneider Museum of Art, Karl Ernst Osthaus Museum, and the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Buenos Aires, including Hauptsache Grau at Mies van der Rohe in Berlin, Germany, and a solo show at Minus Space, Brooklyn, N.Y. She has curated artist retrospectives, surveys of abstract painting and is the author of catalogues essays on Antoni Mlowski and Robert Swain. (p. 27)

HEIDI GLÜCK was born in Brooklyn, N.Y. in 1944. She studied with Paul Feeley, Anthony Caro and Vincent Longo at Bennington College. At Hunter College graduate school she studied with Tony Smith who also employed her as an assistant for several years. Her work is held in public and permanent museum collections including the Guggenheim, Whitney, Brooklyn and Israel Museums; the Mondriaanhuis, Netherlands; the Walker Art Center, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and the Steven and Nancy Oliver Ranch Collection in Sonoma, California. She received a New York State Council on the Arts Grant. Recent exhibits include Two Ways, a Painting Exhibit at Wagner College SI, N.Y. and Endless, Entire at Five Myles Gallery, Brooklyn, N.Y. She lives and works in Jersey City, N.J. (p. 14)

GAIL GREGG was born in Topeka, Kansas in 1951. She studied photojournalism as an undergraduate and took advantage of New York’s numerous art schools to study painting and drawing in the 1980s. She received her MFA in visual art from Vermont College of the Visual Arts. Her work has been exhibited around the country; her most recent solo show was Fool’s Gold at the Five Points Gallery in Torrington, Connecticut. She shows regularly with the Luise Ross Gallery in New York City. (p. 62)

JAMES GROSS was born in Wichita, Kansas in 1950 and earned an M.F.A. degree from Wichita State. His master teachers included Kaprow, Nevelson, Barnett and Moore. In 1981, Gross became affiliated with Althea Viavara Gallery and Tibor de Nagy Gallery where he exhibited for the next twelve years. He was a finalist in the Exxon show of 1982 at the Guggenheim and was invited to the office of the director for a review of his painting career. The museum also gave Gross a rare studio visit in 1982 by Lisa Dennison. At present, Gross teaches at a small Kansas college and the Koch School of Art. His work is in the Whitney Museum of American Art, MoMA, the Guggenheim and The Metropolitan Museum of Art. (p. 52)

LYNNE HARLOW was born in Massachusetts in 1968 and currently lives and works in Providence, R.I. She exhibits in the U.S. and internationally and holds an M.F.A. from Hunter College, C.U.N.Y. In 2002, she was a Visiting Artist at the Chinati Foundation in Marfa, Texas, where she lived onsite with unrestricted access to its resources. In 2010, she was awarded a MacColl Johnson Fellowship, a $25,000 grant to support new work. In 2011, she was a fellow at the BAU Institute’s residency program in Otranto, Italy. Ms. Harlow’s work has been reviewed by Artforum, The New York Times, The Boston Globe and ArchitectureBoston. Her work is represented by Minus Space and Liliana Bloch Gallery. Collections include The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The RISD Museum of Art and The New York Public Library. (p. 42)

MARA HELD, born in 1954, is a native of New York City. Currently living in the Catskills, Held’s work references topography and the timbre of the physical world. Extensive travel and study of diverse cultures has deeply impacted her work. Visiting Italy often, Held was first introduced to egg tempera through early Italian Renaissance Art and became enamored by the light inherent in the medium. Solo exhibitions include Gary Snyder Gallery, NY; McClain Gallery, Houston; and, Robert Pardo, Milan, Italy. Recent reviews include The New York Times and a feature in Elle Decor Magazine. Her work is in the collections of The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Cleveland Museum of Art, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston and The Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C. (p. 63)

DANIEL G. HILL was born in 1956 in Providence, R.I. He received an A.B., Magna Cum Laude, from Brown University and an M.F.A. from Hunter College, C.U.N.Y. He lives and works in New York City and is an Assistant Professor of Fine Arts at the Parsons School of Design. Hill is a multi-disciplinary artist who has worked in sculpture, installation, painting, photography and digital media. He has exhibited in the U.S. for over 35 years and, more recently, in Europe, Asia and Central America. His work is held in the collections of the Arkansas Center in Little Rock, Ark., the Sanbao Ceramic Art Institute, Jingdezhen, China and in several corporate and private collections. He is the recipient of a fellowship in painting from the National Endowment for the Arts. (p. 35)

GILBERT HSIAO was born in Easton, Pennsylvania in 1956. Raised in Terre Haute, Indiana, he attended Columbia University in the seventies, where he studied art history, the psychology of perception and worked as a DJ at WKCR, the Columbia radio station. He received a B.F.A. from Pratt Institute. He has participated in residencies at Art Omi, Marie Walsh Sharpe Foundation, Millay Colony for the Arts and Gallery Aferro and was a New York Foundation for the Arts Painting Fellow. His work has been seen at MoMA PS1, Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, Indianapolis Museum of Art, MassMOCA and the New Jersey Center for the Visual Arts, as well as galleries throughout the Americas, Asia, Europe and Australia. He currently lives in Brooklyn and works in Newark, New Jersey. (p. 29)

PHILLIS IDEAL was born in 1942 and raised in Roswell, New Mexico. She received an M.F.A. from The University of California, Berkeley. She has lived in New York City for

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thirty years and now splits her time between New York and Santa Fe. Ideal has exhibited in major museums and galleries in San Francisco, Santa Fe and New York. Her work is in many private, corporate and public collections, including the M. H. de Young Museum, The Oakland Museum of Fine Arts, The Newport Harbor Art Museum and The Fine Arts Museum of Santa Fe. In recent years, she has exhibited her work in Otranto, Italy, Berlin, Germany and Paris, France. She has taught at San Francisco State, U. C. Berkeley and Sarah Lawrence. She is represented by David Richard Gallery in Santa Fe, New Mexico. (p. 67)

JULIAN JACKSON was born in Richmond, Virginia in 1953. He lives and works in Brooklyn, N.Y. He studied painting at Massachussetts College of Art in Boston and Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. His paintings have been exhibited widely, both nationally and internationally. He served as secretary of American Abstract Artists from 2001 through 2015. Jackson's work can be found in numerous public and private collections in the United States and Europe including the Museum of Modern Art, N.Y.; the Metropolitan Museum of Art, N.Y.; the Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C.; and the city collection of Salzburg, Austria, among others. He was co-founder of Metaphor Contemporary Art in Brooklyn, N.Y., curating more than 80 exhibitions in 10 years. (p. 43)

ROGER JORGENSEN was born in St Paul, Minnesota in 1919. In 1938, he moved to Chicago, enrolling in the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. In 1941, Jorgensen was drafted and served for four years before returning to Chicago to complete his studies. In 1947, he moved to New York to study at the Art Students League. In 1951, he joined Matrix, one of the first cooperative galleries. He was also invited to show with the Kraushaar Galleries. In 1960, he joined the Brata Gallery with fellow artists Al Held and Ronnie Bladen. In 1968, Jorgensen showed his work in the first Ten Downtown exhibition. The show garnered critical acclaim for Jorgensen and subsequent exhibitions at A.M. Sachs Gallery. Jorgensen continues to paint bold abstractions from his home in Valley Stream, N.Y. (p. 57)

JAMES JUSZCZYK was born in 1943 in Chicago, Illinois. He received a B.F.A. from the Cleveland Institute of Art and an M.F.A. from the University of Pennsylvania. Juszczyk received an award from the Pollock-Krasner Foundation in 1995. From 1984 until 1992, Juszczyk lived and painted primarily in Europe, first, for a year in Stockholm, and then, in Zürich. Since 1974, his paintings have been extensively exhibited in both the U.S. and Europe. In 2010, he joined the faculty of the Art Department at the City College of New York where he continues to teach Design and Color Theory. In 2002, he moved his Riverdale studio to the Bronx, New York where he currently lives and paints. (p. 46)

CECILY KAHN was born and raised in lower Manhattan, and lives and works in a loft overlooking Canal Street and Broadway. Her work reflects the business of city life. Born to two artist parents, Wolf Kahn and Emily Mason, her grandmother Alice Trumbull Mason was a founding member and president of American Abstract Artists. Cecily Kahn has had several solo exhibitions in New York City at Lohin Geduld Gallery and at The Painting Center. Kahn has participated in residencies at William and Mary College, Kent State University, and the Vermont Studio Center. She is now chair of the Advisory Board of The Painting Center in New York City. (p. 64)

MARTHE KELLER, born in New York City in 1948, was educated in the U.S. and Italy, receiving a B.F.A. from Maryland Institute College of Art and an M.F.A. from Queens College. Keller creates paintings, installations and assemblages. Since 1974, she has had 24 one-person shows including those at Queens College, N.Y.; Garrison Art Center, N.Y. and Corso Ricostru in Italy and Germany. She has received grants from the N.E.A., NYFA, MacDowell and others. Collections include the Metropolitan Museum of Art, MoMA and the Whitney Museum of American Art. Her published reviews include Art News, Art in America, Flash Art, and Artcritical.com. Keller lives and works in N.Y.C. and teaches at Hunter College. She is the founder and president of the BAU Institute arts residency operating in Europe and N.Y. (p. 71)

IONA KLEINHAUT was born in New York City in 1955 and continues to live and work there. She holds a B.F.A. from Tyler School of Art at Temple University and an M.F.A. from Columbia University. Her work has been exhibited at The New Museum, The Drawing Center, The Bronx Museum and The Aldrich Museum. She has received grants to attend The Millay Colony for the Arts and The Vermont Studio Center and has been a Visiting Artist at the American Academy in Rome. She is the Director of the BAU at Camargo Arts Residency Award at the Camargo Foundation in Cassis, France. (p. 72)

VICTOR KORD was born in Satu Mare, Romania in 1935. He studied at the Cleveland Institute of Art and received B.F.A. and M.F.A. degrees from Yale University where he studied with Josef Albers. He lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. A teaching career that spanned 45 years, began at the University of Illinois, Champaign with stops at the University of Wisconsin, Madison and Virginia Commonwealth University, concluded with retirement from Cornell University. He was the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1962. Kord's work was included in the Lyrical Abstraction exhibition at the Whitney Museum in 1971. His work is in the collections of the Cleveland Museum of Art and the Whitney Museum of American Art. Kord is represented by the June Kelly Gallery in New York City. (p. 38)

IRENE LAWRENCE was born in California and grew up on Long Island. She lives and works in Providence, R.I. Lawrence, a painter/printmaker, attended RISD as well as Crown Point Press in San Francisco, Calif. She has exhibited at The Herbert Johnson Museum, Cornell Univ., OK Harris Works of Art, N.Y., former AXA Collection, N.Y. and Deutsche Kustlerbund, Berlin, Germany. Her work is included in private, corporate and public collections: RISD Museum of Art, Brown Univ. Art Collection and University of Rhode Island Print Collection. In 2014, her book, Motives for Writing: A Text in Five Movements, was published by Nekoma Press. (p. 73)

JANE LOGEMANN was born in 1942 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She attended the Layton School of Art and received a B.A. from the University of Wisconsin. She lives and works in New York City. Long committed to abstract painting, over the last three decades Logemann has developed several series of work always attentive to the basic elements of visual abstraction. She focuses on the intuitive and sometimes symbolic placement of lines for balance, simplicity and color. Her work can be found in public and private collections which include the Jewish Museum, N.Y.; the Morgan Library; Yale University Art Gallery; Stanford University Art Museum, Calif.; James Michener Collection, University of Texas, Austin. (p. 39)

DAVID MACKENZIE was born in Los Angeles, California and received B.F.A. and M.F.A. degrees from the San Francisco Art Institute. He is an award-winning abstract painter who has exhibited both nationally, including the Whitney Biennial, and internationally. He has been awarded grants by both the National Endowment for the Arts.
and the Pollock-Krasner Foundation. His work is in museum and private collections throughout the U.S. He divides his time between Joshua Tree, Calif. and Morris, N.Y. and maintains a painting studio in Norwich, N.Y. as well as in Joshua Tree. (p. 23)

STEVEN MAINE was born in Hartford, Connecticut in 1958 and has lived and worked in the New York City area since 1982. Maine is a painter, critic, curator and teacher. He is represented by Hionas Gallery in Manhattan, where he had a solo exhibition in September, 2015. He has received support from the New York Foundation for the Arts and Yaddo. He is a member of the International Association of Art Critics, AICA, and his writing has appeared in numerous print and online publications including Arcritical.com where he is a contributing editor. With the artist Celah Penn, he co-curates Diphthong, a roaming exhibition of process-based art. He teaches in the graduate Fine Arts program of the School of Visual Arts in New York. (p. 59)

KATINKA MANN was born in New York City in 1925 and continues to live and work there. She is an artist in residence at The Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts in N.Y.C. from 2009 to 2015 and a fellow until 2017. In 2013, she had a fellowship at the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, Amherst, Va. From 2008 to 2009, she was in The Space Program at The Marie Walsh Sharpe Art Foundation, Brooklyn, N.Y. In 1982, she received a grant from Polaroid Corp. at Boston Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Mass. to work with the Polaroid 24” x 20” camera, studio, film and technician. Her work is in the book From Polaroid to Impossible: Masterpieces of Instant Photography, published in 2011 by WestLicht Museum, Vienna, Austria. Her art is in many collections in the U.S. and abroad. (p. 45)

NANCY MANTER was born in 1952 in Bangor, Maine. She lives and works in Bass Harbor, Maine and Brooklyn, New York. She is the recipient of a New York Foundation for the Arts grant, a MacDowell Chubb Life America Award, The Princeton Atelier David Gardner Award and Materials for the Arts, Verrazano Foundation Award, among others. Her most recent one-person exhibitions have been at 315 Gallery, New York, College of the Atlantic, Blum Art Center, Maine and The Kentler International Drawing Center, New York. Recent group exhibitions include the Shirley Fiterman Art Center, New York, 490 Gallery, New York, and Maine Contemporary Art Center. (p. 55)

JOANNE MATTERA was born in Chelsea, Mass. She works in a style that is chromatically resonant and compositionally reductive. She has had solo shows in New York City at Stephen Hailer Gallery and OK Harris Works of Art. She is represented by DM Contemporary where she curated A Few Conversations About Color in January 2015 and by Kenise Barnes Fine Art, Larchmont, where her solo, The Silk Road Paintings, took place in May 2015. Her paintings and works on paper are in the collections of the New Britain Museum of American Art, Connecticut; Montclair Art Museum, New Jersey; the U.S. State Department and institutional and private collections. She has lived most of her career in New York City and now divides her time between Manhattan and Massachusetts. (p. 33)

CREIGHTON MICHAEL, born in Knoxville, Tenn. in 1949, received an M.A. in art history from Vanderbilt University and an M.F.A. from Washington University in St. Louis. He has received grants and awards from the Pollock-Krasner Foundation, NYFA and the Golden Foundation. His work is in the collections of the Brooklyn Museum, High Museum, Metropolitan Museum of Art, MoMA, National Gallery, McNay Art Museum, Ogden Museum and The Phillips Collection. He has had solo exhibitions at the High Museum, Katonah Museum, The Queens Museum, Neuberger Museum, The Mint Museum and at other galleries and art centers throughout the U.S. Abroad, he has had solo exhibitions in Copenhagen, Montreal and Reyjavik. He has been on the faculty at RISD, Pennsylvania Academy of Art, Princeton University and Hunter College. (p. 31)

MANFRED MOHR was born in Pforzheim, Germany in 1938. He attended art school in Pforzheim and Paris. He has lived in Barcelona, Paris and since 1983, New York. He is considered a pioneer of digital art, programming his first computer drawings in 1969. In 1971, he had the world’s first one-person show of digital art in a museum at ARC Muse’ d’Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris. Other solo shows in museums include: Joseph Albers Museum, Wilhelm-Hack-Museum, Museum for Concrete Art, Kunsthalle Bremen, Museum im Kulturspeicher, ZKM. Group shows include: MoMA, Centre Pompidou, SFMoMA, MoMA P51, MACM. He received the ACM SIGGRAPH Distinguished Artist Award for Lifetime Achievement in Digital Art, ddAA Award, New York Foundation of the Arts, Golden Nica Ars Electronica, and Camille Graesser Award. (p. 22)

JUDITH MURRAY was born in New York City in 1941. She received an M.F.A. degree from Pratt Institute. She is the recipient of a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, the American Academy of Arts and Letters Award for Painting, and the National Endowment for the Arts Award. Ms. Murray was inducted into the National Academy in 2009. Starting in 1976, her solo exhibitions at galleries and institutions include The Clocktower, MoMA P51, and the Dallas Museum of Fine Arts. Group shows include The Whitney Museum of the American Museum Biennal and in 2015, the Museo di Palazzo Grimani at the Venice Biennial. Her works are in many collections including the Library of Congress, The Whitney Museum, The Brooklyn Museum, and National Academy Museum. Ms. Murray lives and works in New York City and Sugarloaf Key, Florida. (p. 65)

JOHN OBUCK was born in Detroit, Michigan in 1949. He received a B.F.A. from Wayne State University and an M.F.A. in painting from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. He has lived and worked in New York since 1979. In 1988 he was awarded the Prix de Rome from the American Academy in Rome. From 1989 to 1998 he was a lecturer in painting at Princeton University. He was the recipient of a grant from the Pollock Krasner Foundation in 2007, 2001 and 1992. He also received a Louis Comfort Tiffany grant in 1987. The National Endowment for the Arts awarded him grants in painting in 1979, 1980 and 1987; he is represented by OHT Gallery in Boston, Massachusetts. (p. 18)

JIM OSMAN was born in 1956 at St Vincent’s Hospital in New York City. He received B.A. and M.F.A. degrees from Queens College, C.U.N.Y. in Flushing, N.Y. where he studied with Tom Doyle and Lawrence Fane. He has had solo exhibits at Lesley Heller Workspace, Long Island University’s Kumble Gallery and Dartmouth College. His work has been included in group shows at Metaphor Contemporary Art in New York City, the Brooklyn Museum and the University of Texas at San Antonio and, most recently, at Morris Warren Gallery. He teaches courses in three-dimensional design and sculpture at Parsons School of Design where he is currently the director of the First Year Program. He lives and works in Brooklyn. (p. 53)

COREY POSTIGLIONE was born in Chicago. He received a B.F.A. in Studio Arts from the University of Illinois, Chicago and a Masters Degree in Art History from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Since the 1970s, Postiglione has exhibited professionally having had over fourteen solo exhibitions and numerous group shows, both nationally and internationally. He was honored with two retrospective exhibitions of his work at the Evanston Art Center, Illinois in 2008 and at the Koehnline Museum of Art, Des Plaines, Illinois in 2010. His
critical writing has been published in Artforum, The New Art Examiner, Dialogue, and C-Magazine. He is represented by the Thomas Masters Gallery, Chicago, Illinois and Space Gallery, Denver, Colorado. (p. 75)

LUCIO POZZI was born in 1935 in Milan, Italy. He came to the United States in 1962, settled in New York and took US citizenship. He currently lives and works in Hudson, NY and Valeggio s/M (Verona), Italy. Pozzi was honored with a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship in 1983. Retrospectives of his art were held at Kunstthalle Bielefeld in 1982 and Badischer Kunstverein, Karlsruhe in 1983 in Germany; the Museum of New Art in 2001 in Detroit, Michigan; Kalama Zoo Institute of Art, Michigan in 2002; Museum of Contemporary Art, Genoa, Italy, 2005 and Fabrikultur, Hegenheim-Basel, 2011. His work has been presented at Documenta 6, 1977 and at the Venice Biennale, American Pavilion in 1980. (p. 58)

RAQUEL RABINOVICH was born in Buenos Aires in 1929 and has lived in the United States since 1967, most recently in upstate New York. Rabinovich was the recipient of the 2011–12 Lee Krasner Award for Lifetime Achievement from The Pollock-Krasner Foundation. She is included in the Oral History Program of the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution. Her most recent solo show was at the Y Gallery in New York City in 2014. Working in a wide variety of media, including drawing, collage, painting, sculpture and installation, her art has always been informed by an underlying awareness of the concealed aspects of existence that we don’t see, or that seem to be invisible. She tries to make the invisible visible. (p. 76)


CE ROSEr was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She studied with Hans Uhlmann at the Hoch Schule Für Bildende Kunst, Berlin, Germany. For the last 40 years, she has worked in her New York studio. She is a founder and was executive coordinator of Women in the Arts. She is a producer of The Circle of Charmion von Wiegand, a documentary that was shown on PBS in 1978. Her works have been shown nationally and internationally and are in the permanent collection of many museums and corporations. (p. 37)

IRENE ROUSSEAU grew up on Long Island and lives in Summit, N.J. She received an M.F.A. from Claremont Graduate Univ., and a Ph.D. from New York Univ. Her work is in the collection of more than 15 international museums, private, and university collections. The conceptual framework of her work encompasses structures and patterns that are related to the mathematical coherence found in natural forms. Since 2003, she has exhibited, lectured and published extensively in international juried venues. Her work was chosen for a traveling exhibit Mathematics and Art by the Ministry of Culture, Paris, France; Science and Art Athens, Greece; Malta Biennale First Prize Installations; BRIDGES International, Granada, Spain; Banff Art Center, Canada. Commissions include the Holocaust Memorial, Gramercy Park, N.Y. (p. 51)

DAVID ROW, born in Portland Maine in 1949, works in New York. He was chosen for a traveling exhibit 10 Ways, ten geometric abstractions at the AAA at Derbyshire Libreria Galleria d’Arte, Milan, Italy and Clement & Schneider, Bonn, Germany in 2015 and at Dr. Julius | ap, Berlin in 2016. (p. 24)

LORENZA SANNAI was born in 1969 in Sardinia, Italy and lives and works in Hudson N.Y. and Valeggio s/M (Verona), Italy. She exhibited at Poor Farm, Wisconsin in 2013; in the AAA exhibitions To Leo, A Tribute, 2014 and Endless, Entire, 2015; and at Hal Bromm in 2015. She had a one-person exhibit at CBGB Art, Hudson, N.Y. in 2014. Sannai was the catalogue editor and the curator of the exhibition 10 Ways, ten geometric abstract artists from the AAA at Derbys Libreria Galleria d’Arte, Milan, Italy and Clement & Schneider, Bonn, Germany in 2015 and at Dr. Julius | ap, Berlin in 2016. (p. 24)

MARY SCHILLIO was born in 1959 in Brooklyn, N.Y. She received an M.F.A. from Hunter College, C.U.N.Y. She currently lives and works in New York City. Her work has been exhibited nationally in New York, California, Rhode Island, Massachusetts and the District of Columbia. Her first international exhibition, Raisonnement Circulaire, was in 2012 at ParisCONCRET, Paris, France. Schilio has created site-specific installations for PS122 Gallery, The Art Lot and Norte Maar in N.Y.C., as well as for the Islip Art Museum in East Islip, N.Y., and for the Imogen Holloway Gallery in Saugerties, N.Y. She was the recipient of two Project Studio residencies at PS122. Schilio’s works are in numerous private collections as well as Swiss Re’s internationally recognized contemporary collection. (p. 30)

CLAUDE SEIDL was born in Riverside, Connecticut in 1951. She earned a B.F.A. from Syracuse University and an M.F.A. from Hunter College and later studied at the International Center for Photography. Seidl lives and works in New York City and in Rangeley, Maine. She has had thirty

EDWARD SHALALA was born in 1949 into a military family in Cleveland, Ohio and grew up on U.S. Army Corps of Engineer bases all over the world. He attended Kent State University, Ohio State University and the University of Wisconsin, Madison and earned an M.F.A. in Painting. A reductive painter, Shalala has lived and worked in New York City since 1977. He has received grants from The American Academy of Arts and Letters, The Pollock-Krasner Foundation, The Wynn Newhouse Foundation, The National Academy Museum and The Cleveland Foundation. His work is in the collections of The Museum of Modern Art, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Brooklyn Museum, The Library of Congress, The Phillips Collection, Art in Embassies and Yale University Art Gallery. (p. 54)

SUSAN SMITH was born in Greensburg, Pennsylvania and lives and works in New York City. She received an M.A. from Hunter College, in New York, studying with Ralph Humphrey, Tony Smith, and Vincent Longo. In 2008, she received an Academy Award and Purchase Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters in New York; and, in 2009, an Edward Albee Foundation Residency in Montauk, N.Y. Recently, she has had solo exhibitions at Isolo 17, Verona, Italy, 2014 and at Galerie Merkle, Stuttgart, Germany, 2011. Group exhibitions in 2015 and 2016 include 10 Ways at Derbylius Libreria Galleria d’Arte, Milan, Italy, Clement & Schneider, Bonn, Germany and 1971 julius | 49, Berlin; 40th Anniversary at Hal Bromm Gallery, N.Y.; N.Y.; Endless, Entire at FiveMyles, Brooklyn, N.Y. (p. 40)

RICHARD TIMPERIO was born in Cleveland, Ohio in 1946. He trained at the Cleveland Institute of Art and in 1969, moved to New York City to pursue a career as a commercial illustrator. Clients included the New York Times, Smirnoff Vodka and National Lampoon. In 1973, he lived and painted in a tiny village in New Mexico and then moved back to Brooklyn where he has resided for the past 35 years. During this time, he was the art director for Show Time at the Apollo and founder and director of Sideshow Gallery, one of the oldest and largest galleries in Brooklyn. In 2015, Timperio had a one-person show at Andre Zarre Gallery in New York City. (p. 48)

LI TRINCERE was born in 1960 in New York City and has exhibited her work for the past 30 years in Europe and the United States. During the early 1980s, she was heavily involved in the East Village abstract painting scene and showed at many of the landmark venues there including Mission Gallery, Pyramid Club, Kamikaze Club and The World. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, she exhibited at key New York galleries presenting new abstraction, such as Julian Pretto/Berland Hall, Stark Gallery, and Gabriele Bryers Gallery as well as at the legendary Galerie Rolf Ricke in Cologne, Germany. Currently, she is represented by Minus Space in Brooklyn. Trincere has received awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Pollock-Krasner Foundation and NYFA. (p. 44)

KIM UCHIYAMA was born in Des Moines, Iowa in 1955 and lives and works in New York. She studied at Drake University, Yale Summer School of Art and Music and with New York School artist, Nicolas Carone, at the New York Studio School of Drawing, Painting and Sculpture. She has had solo shows in New York City at Fox Gallery, Lohin Geduld Gallery and Janet Kurnatowski Gallery and at Kathryn Markel Fine Arts, Bridgehampton, N.Y. and John Davis Gallery, Hudson, N.Y. Her work has been reviewed in ARTNews, The Brooklyn Rail, The New Criterion, The New York Sun and The New York Times. Her paintings are in the collection of the San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts, Texas and the Art Museum of South East Texas at Beaumont. She is a grant recipient from New York Foundation for the Arts. (p. 26)

VERA VASEK was born in Buffalo, New York in 1959. Her studies in sculpture began with a concentration in classical realism and traditional bronze casting at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where she received a B.F.A. While in New York City, her bronze work was juried into the Annual Exhibition at the National Academy and the Salmagundi Club in 1986. In search of a new beginning, she left New York in 1988 and eventually found herself in the intertidal zone of the Florida Keys, pulling plaster images off the tidal markings found in sand produced by the flow of water. Her practice began to focus on process, with the eventual outcome obtained through physical endurance, observation and chance. Her home studio is located on Upper Sugarloaf Key, Florida. (p. 66)


STEPHEN WESTFALL was born in 1953 in Schenectady, N.Y. and received an M.F.A. from the University of California, Santa Barbara. He is represented by Lennon, Weinberg, New York. His work is included in the collections of: the Museum of Modern Art; the Whitney Museum of American Art; the Kemper Museum; the Louisiana Museum, Humlebaek, Denmark; the Munson Williams Proctor Museum; the Baltimore Museum of Art; and the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Westfall has received awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the Nancy Graves Foundation, the Guggenheim Foundation and the American Academy in Rome. He teaches at Rutgers University and at Bard College. Westfall has created large-scale wall paintings at Art OMI, the McNay Art Museum and U.C., Santa Barbara. (p. 49)

JEANNE WILKINSON was born in 1949 in Duluth, Minnesota and grew up next to Lake Superior, its clarity, forms and colors influencing her abstract aesthetic. After going “back to the land” and ten years of dairy farming in the 1980’s, she felt compelled to go back to art, which led her to pursue an M.F.A. at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn where she currently lives and works. She has taught at Pratt and currently teaches studio art and art history at Kingsborough Community College, C.U.N.Y. Her work now includes digital collage and animation, and has been shown in the A.I.R. Biennial, at the Brooklyn Academy of Music and numerous other venues. She is also a writer and a recent piece was published in the online magazine of Columbia Journal. She has two sons who live in Madison, Wisconsin. (p. 47)
**Mark Williams** was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1950. He studied at North Texas State University, Denton and the Independent Study Program of the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York City. He lives and works in New York City. He is a recipient of grants from the Pollock-Krasner Foundation, Artists’ Space, and the National Endowment for the Arts. His work is in many collections including Yale University Art Gallery, Museum of Fine Arts Houston, and the Staatliche Museum, Berlin, Germany. Williams’ most recent exhibitions include a solo show at Galerie Wenger, Zurich, Switzerland and Three Painters at Barry Whistler Gallery, Dallas, Texas. (p. 19)

**Thornton Willis** was born in 1936 in Pensacola, Florida. He served in the Marine Corps and received a B.A. from the University of Southern Mississippi and an M.F.A. from the University of Alabama. He was included in *Lyrical Abstraction* at the Whitney Museum of American Art in 1971, *American Painting; the Eighties* at the Grey Art Gallery in 1979, and MoMA’s inaugural *An International Survey of Recent Painting and Sculpture* in 1984. He exhibited with Sydney Janis, Andre Emmerich, Andre Zarre, and is represented by the Elizabeth Harris Gallery. His work is in the permanent collection of the Whitney, MoMA, The Phillips Collection, and the Guggenheim. A recipient of a Pollock-Krasner grant, a Guggenheim fellowship and a Gottlieb Foundation grant, he resides in New York City. (p. 50)

**Kes Zapkus**, born in Lithuania in 1938 as a U.S. citizen, received a B.F.A. from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and an M.F.A. from Syracuse University. He lived in Paris 1962–1965 and has lived in New York City since 1965. Awards include the Ryerson Fellowship, CAPS, N.E.A. and Elizabeth Foundation. He has had solo shows in New York City at Gres Gallery, Stable Gallery, Paula Cooper, John Weber, Andre Zarre, O.K. Harris, and, most recently, William Holman. Museum retrospectives were held at the Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, Penn. and the National Gallery of Art, Vilnius, Lithuania. The monograph, Kestutis Zapkus, was published in 2014. His paintings are maximalist in attitude, seek musical parallels, and are often very large with multiples of small events—abstractions based on specific content and world issues. (p. 77)

**Nola Zirin** was born in New York City in 1943. She currently maintains a studio in Long Island City, New York. Zirin received a bachelor’s degree from New York University, studied painting with Milton Resnick and George Ortman and printmaking with Bob Blackburn and Donn Steward. Her work has been shown in solo and group shows throughout the United States and abroad, most recently at June Kelly Gallery in New York City and Simon Gallery in New Jersey. She is represented in numerous public and corporate collections, including MoMA, the Brooklyn Museum of Art, the Zimmerli Art Museum at Rutgers University, the National Museum of Taiwan, the Isilp Museum, the Hecksher Museum and the Library of Congress. (p. 28)

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