

# A M E R I C A N   A B S T R A C T   A R T I S T S

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***THE ONWARD OF ART: American Abstract Artists 80th Anniversary Exhibition***

On view January 18, 2016 through March 25, 2016

Curated by Karen Wilkin and organized by American Abstract Artists

Opening reception: Tuesday, January 19, 6–8 p.m.

1285 Avenue of the Americas Art Gallery

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Between 51st Street and 52nd Street, New York City

Directions: B/D/F/M to 47-50 Streets/Rockefeller Center, B/D/E to 7th Ave, 1 to 50th Street

Hours | Admission: Monday–Friday, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. | Free

NEW YORK CITY, DEC. 10, 2015—*The Onward of Art: American Abstract Artists 80th Anniversary Exhibition*, curated by Karen Wilkin, presents recent work by members of American Abstract Artists (AAA) at 1285 Avenue of the Americas Art Gallery beginning Monday, January 18, 2016.

An opening reception will be held on Tuesday, January 19, 6–8 p.m.

In her catalogue essay, Karen Wilkin looks back to the early years of AAA and its subsequent development to lay the foundation for the forward momentum of the group in the 21st Century. In addition to the works of 65 current members, on view will be works by founding and past members and archival print materials from the early decades of the group.

American Abstract Artists was founded in 1936 by a group of progressive, forward-looking practitioners. At the time, abstraction, as part of the language of modernist art, had a history of less than a quarter century and was still regarded with suspicion by many serious art lovers. The founders of AAA believed implicitly in the power of autonomous, non-representational images to communicate profound ideas and emotions. 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 eloquence that the first members of AAA embraced has once again come into question. Yet the work of many significant artists, such as today's members of AAA, continues to reaffirm the health and versatility of abstraction. To celebrate the organization's 80th anniversary in 2016, it seems imperative to consider not just the AAA's distinguished

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Daniel G. Hill, President  
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past but, more importantly, its robust present. The exhibition organized to honor the anniversary has therefore been selected from submissions by current members of works made within the past three to five years—a showcase not only of the vitality and relevance of the AAA in the twenty first century, but of the continued relevance and vitality of art that communicates directly through the eye, reaching our intellect and our emotions without words. A selection of works by distinguished earlier members of AAA emphasizes both the continuity of the organization’s concerns and its significance to the history of modernist art in American.

— Karen Wilkin, Curator

The exhibition will be accompanied by an 80 page, full color catalogue with an essay by the curator.

## ARTISTS:

Alice Adams, Steven Alexander, Martin Ball, Siri Berg, Emily Berger, Susan Bonfils, Power Boothe, Naomi Boretz, Sharon Brant, Henry Brown, Marvin Brown, Mark Dagley, Gabriele Evertz, Heidi Gluck, Gail Gregg, James Gross, Lynne Harlow, Mara Held, Daniel G. Hill, Gilbert Hsiao, Phillis Ideal, Julian Jackson, Roger Jorgensen, James Juszczyk, Cecily Kahn, Marthe Keller, Iona Kleinhaut, Victor Kord, Irene Lawrence, Jane Logemann, David Mackenzie, Stephen Maine, Katinka Mann, Nancy Manter, Joanne Mattera, Creighton Michael, Manfred Mohr, Judith Murray, John Obuck, Jim Osman, Corey Postiglione, Lucio Pozzi, Raquel Rabinovich, Dorothea Rockburne, Ce Roser, Irene Rousseau, David Row, Anne Russinof, Cordy Ryman, Lorenza Sannai, Mary Schiliro, Claire Seidl, Edward Shalala, Susan Smith, Richard Timperio, Li Trincere, Kim Uchiyama, Vera Vasek, Don Voisine, Stephen Westfall, Jeanne Wilkinson, Mark Williams, Thornton Willis, Kes Zapkus, Nola Zirin

## HISTORICAL WORKS BY:

Herbert Ferber  
Balcomb Greene  
Gertrude Greene  
Harry Holtzman  
Alice Trumbull Mason  
Piet Mondrian  
Ad Reinhardt  
Esphyr Slobodkina  
Jack Tworkov  
Charmion von Wiegand