

Abstraction in the 1960s: Rediscovered Works from the Permanent Collection

On view through July 28, 2013

On view in the Gilbert Pavilion Gallery, The Hebrew Home at Riverdale

5901 Palisade Avenue Bronx NY 10463

Open daily from 10:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. free of charge



Lionel Gilbert (American, 1912-2005), *Untitled*, ca. late 1960s, oil on board, 12 3/8 x 14 1/4 in., HHAR 5694

The Hebrew Home at Riverdale is pleased to announce its new exhibition, **Abstraction in the 1960s: Rediscovered Works from the Permanent Collection**, featuring abstract paintings and works on paper from the 1960s by nine different artists and drawn from the Hebrew Home's art collection. The exhibition will be on view in the Gilbert Pavilion Lobby Gallery through July 28.

Abstract Expressionist artists such as Lionel Gilbert (American, 1912-2005), Sidney Gross (American, 1921-1969), Lee Hall (American, b. 1934), William McCartin (American, 1905-2003) and Symcho Moszkowicz (Swedish, b. Poland, 1915-1966) lived and worked in a number of different locales and absorbed a variety of influences. Gilbert, Gross, Hall and McCartin are American artists associated with the West Coast and New York City where the roots of Abstract Expressionism in the United States first took hold. These four

artists' expressionistic paintings incorporate smudged shapes and exploratory color combinations. They offer an array of diverse examples of the type of art being produced during this period.

European artist Symcho Moszkowicz works in the same tradition; however, his paintings ruminate on his experience during the Holocaust. The large painting included in this exhibition, *Abstract Composition* (1964-1966), executed at the end of his life, incorporates dark paint and textured, mixed media elements that create a rough, disquieting effect. The essential nature of Abstract Expressionist painting – tumultuous and unrestrained – provides a well-matched visual language with which to explore such personal experiences and trauma.

Directly opposed to Abstract Expressionism are the paintings of Don David (American, 1906-2006), who worked in the Hard-edge style typical of his fellow California artists. Hard-edge painting – a West Coast phenomenon – intentionally contradicted the dramatic sensibilities of Abstract Expressionism – a distinctly East Coast, New York City-based movement – presenting works with bold, geometric shapes that are intended to be impersonal and precise.

Also included is international artist Saliba Douaihy (Lebanese, 1915-1994), a painter from Lebanon who began his career painting landscapes under the tutelage of Habib Srour (Lebanese, 1860-1938). After a pivotal trip to New York City in 1950, where he remained for the next 25 years, Douaihy began to experiment with abstraction. After reading the work



Saliba Douaihy (Lebanese, 1915-1994), *Untitled*, 1966, oil on board, 16 x 24 in., HHAR 5000

of philosopher Immanuel Kant, he became interested in distilling form to its most essential elements. His paintings from the 1960s, two of which are included in this exhibition, are comprised of color fields and precise edges; his use of organic, earthy colors reflects the qualities of his early landscape paintings of Lebanon.

As a member of the American Alliance of Museums, The Hebrew Home at Riverdale is committed to publicly exhibiting its art collection throughout its 32-acre campus including the Derfner Judaica Museum and a sculpture garden overlooking the Hudson River and Palisades. The Derfner Judaica Museum + The Art Collection provide educational and cultural programming for residents of the Hebrew Home, their families and the general public from throughout New York City, its surrounding suburbs and visitors from elsewhere. The Home is a nonprofit, non-sectarian geriatric organization serving more than 7,000 elderly persons through its resources and community service programs. Museum hours: Sunday - Thursday, 10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Art Collection open daily, 10:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. Call for holiday hours, or for further information visit our website at <http://hebrewhome.org/art.asp>



This exhibition is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.