# Taos

The Spirit of Place

#### Taos Pueblo

Taos Pueblo is an ancient pueblo belonging to a Taos-speaking Native American tribe of Puebloan people. It lies about 1 mile north of the modern city of Taos, New Mexico. The pueblos are considered to be one of the oldest continuously inhabited communities in the United States.

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NcyS8WvfBX8
- http://www.taoschamber.com/taos-pueblo









## Velino Shije Herrera (Ma Pe Wi) 1902-1973

Herrera (Zia Pueblo), also known by this Indian name of Ma Pe Wi, as the "singing artist" because as he drew, Herrera would sing songs appropriate for the ceremony he was depicting. Herrera gave permission to the state of New Mexico to adapt the design of the Zia sun symbol for use as the state logo. The red design on a yellow field can be seen on the state flag, seal, and license plates. The artist received some criticism from other members of the Zia community for betraying his people by giving the traditional Pueblo design to non-Indians.

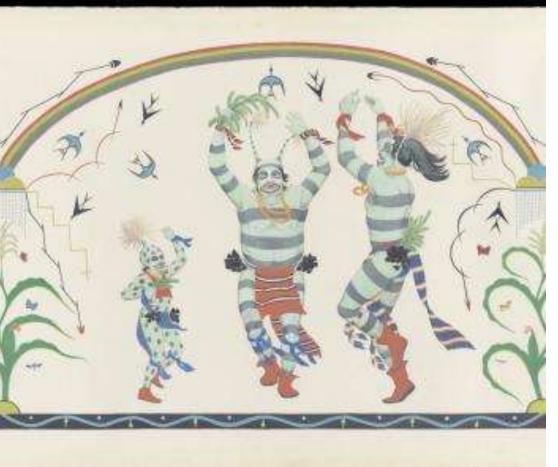
With Awa Tsireh, Herrera painted under the sponsorship of the School of American Research and in the late 1930s, Herrera taught painting at the Albuquerque Indian School. In 1939 he was commissioned to create a series of murals for the Department of the Interior building in Washington, D.C. He spent much of his life as a rancher and cowboy.

Born at Zia Pueblo, New Mexico, Herrera was a self-taught artist whose painting career began in 1917 at the School of American Research in Santa Fe. His subjects included native dances, genre scenes from the pueblos, portraits, and hunting scenes. As his work grew in breadth and confidence, his style changed from flat, patternlike compositions to more naturalistic representations, often with a delicate rendering of texture and detail. In 1938 he reproduced ancient *kiva* murals found at Kuau (near Bernalillo, New Mexico). He also painted murals for the Department of the Interior building in Washington, D.C., and illustrated several books on Pueblo life and art.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A6vKcMdD0Fg&t=5s









BUFFALO ROUND UP BY VELINO SHIJE HERRERA SANTA FE INDIAN SCHOOL

















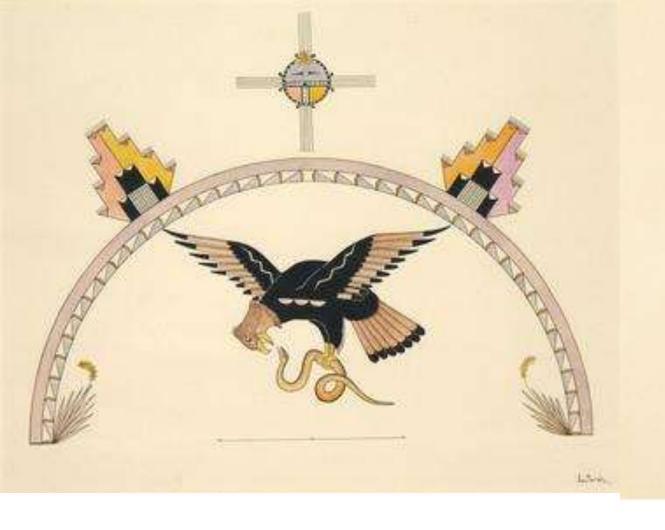
# Awa Tsireh (1898-1955)

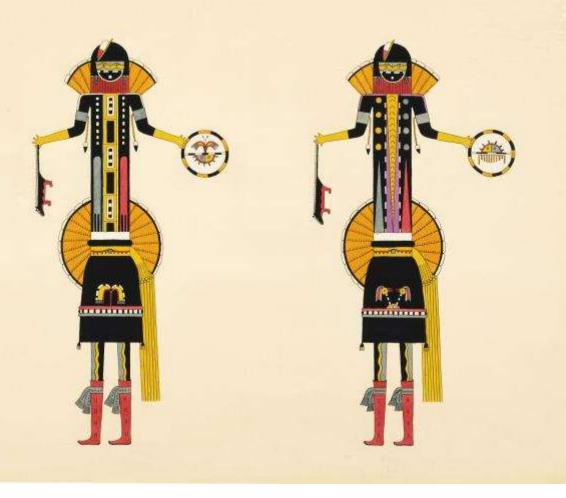
Awa Tsireh, also known as Alfonso Roybal and Cattail Bird, was a San Ildefonso Pueblo painter and artist in several genres including metalwork. He was part of the art movement known as the San Ildefonso Self-Taught Group. His work is held by several museums, including the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

The paintings of Awa Tsireh (1898–1955), represent an encounter between the art traditions of native Pueblo peoples in the Southwestern United States and the American modernist art style begun in New York, which spread quickly across the country. Tsireh, also known by his Spanish name, Alfonso Roybal, decorated pottery as a young man on the San Ildefonso Pueblo near Santa Fe, New Mexico. Later, at the encouragement of Anglo patrons, he translated the forms and symbols of his pottery designs into watercolor paintings on paper. His stylized forms echoed the Art Deco aesthetic that was so popular between the two world wars, and his linear compositions appealed to modernist sensibilities.

<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g4gUuT6QzRc</u> (lost pottery tiles)
<u>https://messieraz.com/the-metalwork-of-awa-tsireh/</u> (metalwork)





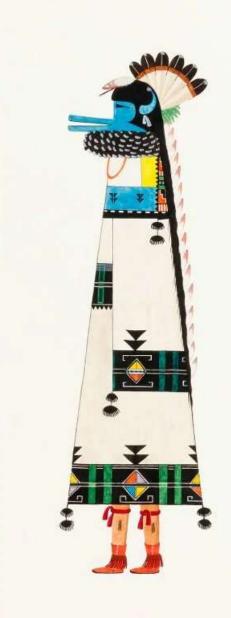
















Awataneh -















Many of Martinez's family members were involved in producing pots, and she learned to make pottery in the traditional way—watching her aunt and grandmother work. By age thirteen, she was already celebrated within the tribe for her creative skills.

She and her husband, Julian Martinez, revived an ancient local process for making the all-black pottery. Their blackware stood in marked contrast to the all-red or polychrome ware that had dominated the pueblo's production for generations.

By the mid-1920s, Martinez's blackware had become extremely popular outside the pueblo, thanks to a book published by the director of director of the Museum of New Mexico. Martinez was encouraged to sign her pots, which were beginning to be regarded as works of art rather than household or ritual vessels.

Martinez was awarded two honorary doctorates, had her portrait made by the noted American sculptor Malvina Hoffman, and in 1978 was offered a major exhibition by the Smithsonian Institution's Renwick Gallery.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SkUGm87DE0k (27 mins) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nyAZYXrlL3w (15 mins)

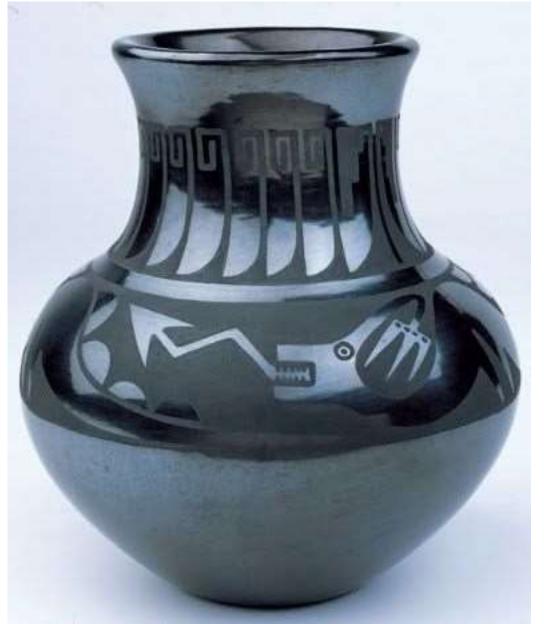
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oAFPAUVowE4 (5 mins)



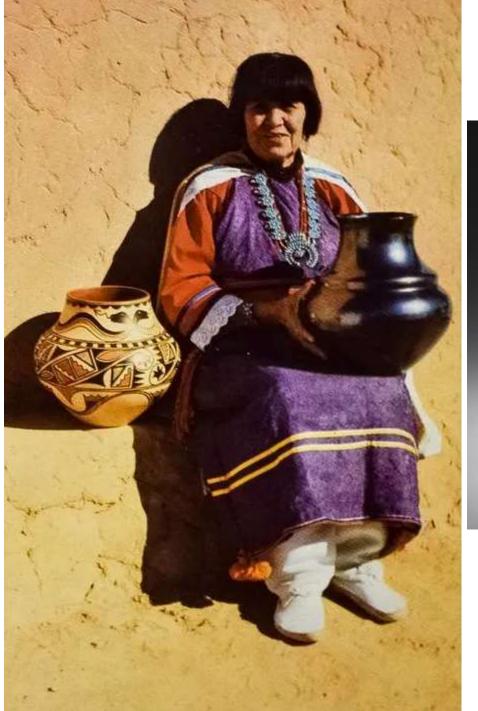












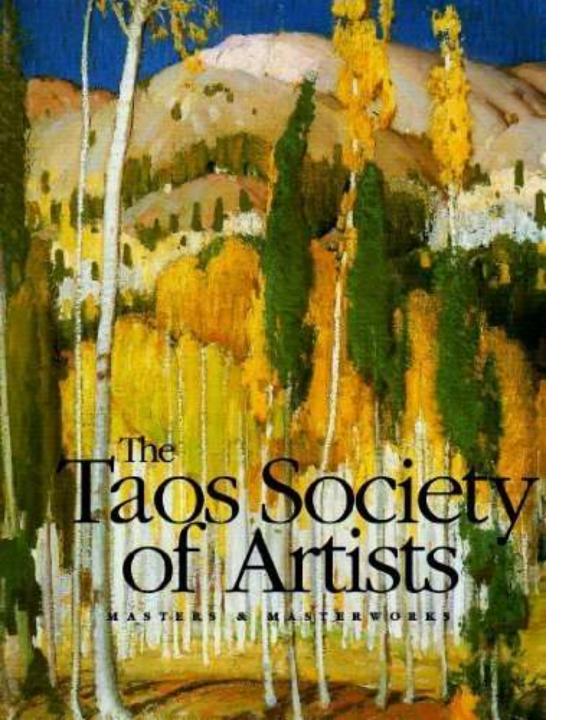


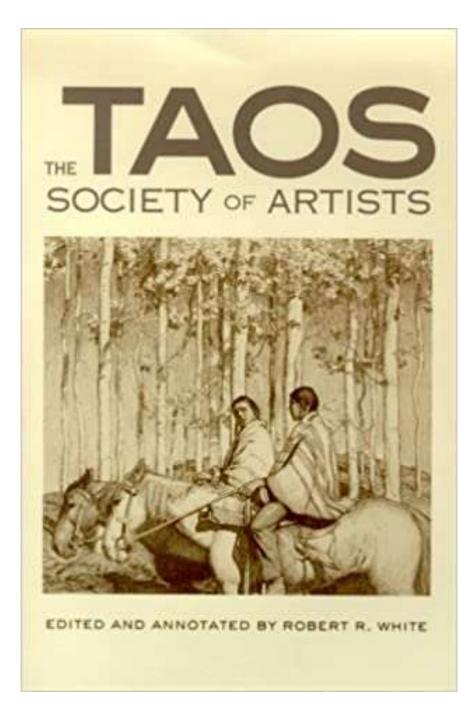
#### Taos Society of Artists

In 1915, six painters from around the United States formed the Taos Society of Artists in Taos, New Mexico, USA. They had a shared vision: to create a uniquely American art style with an express goal of preserving the native arts they found in their new home. They also found a verdant valley with varied topography, from the depths of the Rio Grande gorge to the heights of the Sangre de Cristo mountains. More important, they found a culturally diverse community, with the Native people of Taos Pueblo, the Hispano descendants of Spanish colonizers, and the more recent Anglo settlers. They also discovered the magic Taos light, unmatched in its clarity and depth. These painters also benefitted from and appreciated the openness found to outside cultures. Taos was a center of trade, long before the Spanish arrival in the early 1600s. Besides the commercial trade, there was an exchange of ideas, fertile ground for artists. This is the home they found in Taos. By pooling their skills and resources, what (eventually) twelve men and women achieved together far outweighs their significance as individual artists. The TSA opened the door for all the artists that followed and created a model of what a determined, competitive, highly talented group with a shared vision could accomplish.

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6\_zP3FBj6e4
- <a href="https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/art-1010/american-art-to-wwii/american-south-southwest/v/american-southwest-hennings">https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/art-1010/american-art-to-wwii/american-south-southwest/v/american-southwest-hennings</a> (smart history)
- Blumenshien
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gtXR0Pjddcw

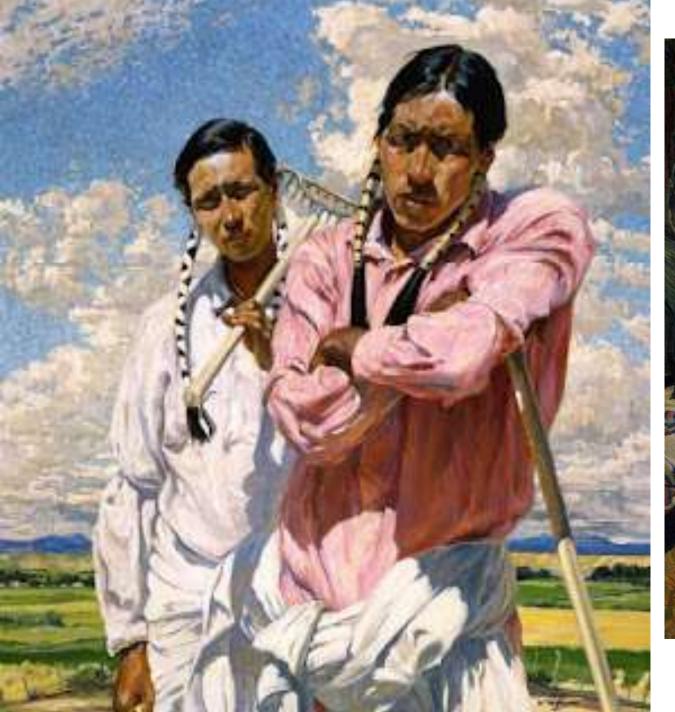


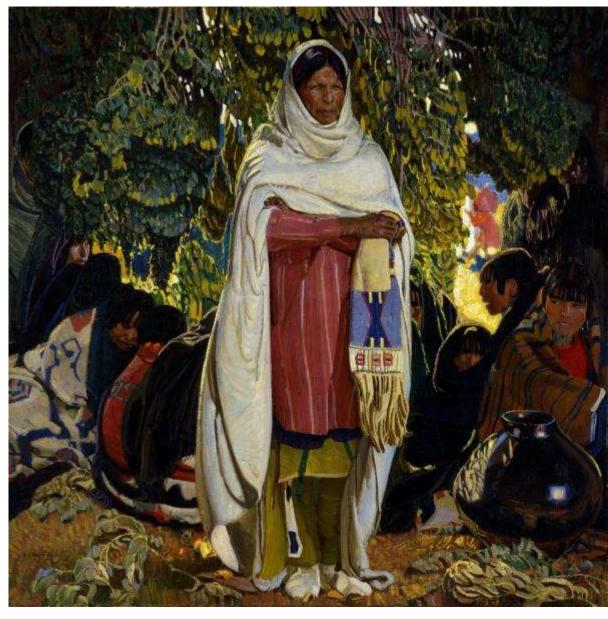




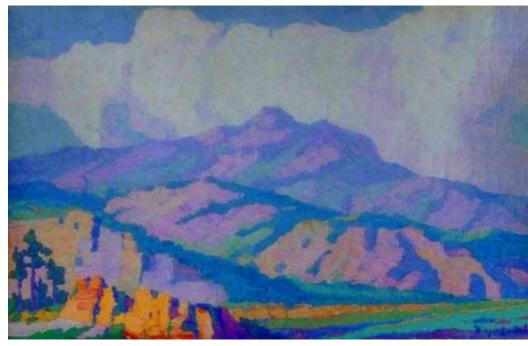












## Mabel Dodge Luhan (1879-1962)

Mabel Evans Dodge Sterne Luhan was a wealthy American patron of the arts, who was particularly associated with the Taos art colony.

In Santa Fe, Luhan judged the artistic community too established—but, in the smaller, more remote Taos, she found what she was seeking. "The singular raging lust for individuality and separateness had been impelling me all my years," she writes. Taos was different: "All of a sudden I was brought up against the Tribe, where a different instinct ruled. . . . and where virtue lay in wholeness instead of in dismemberment." That instinct, she thought, could teach America to abandon the logic of science and individualism and revert to mysticism and communal life.

https://vimeo.com/ondemand/ait



#### Mabel Dodge Luhan House

Built in 1922, Mabel Dodge Luhan House, which is sometimes referred to as the "Big House" is a standing representation of art and humanities patron and writer, Mabel Dodge Luhan (1879-1962). Madel Dodge is known for her contributions to the Taos art colony and she had a significant presence in the 20th-century literary and art scene with her affiliation with the Taos art colony. At the Big House, Dodge Luhan would host literary gatherings and invited prominent literary and art figures to stay at the house, such as D.H. Lawerence, Aldous Huxley, Georgia O' Keefe, Ansel Adams, and Willa Cather. At these gatherings, she would introduce them to the Native American and pre-Colombian artwork done in Taos, resulting in Taos being put on the map and its art influencing people nationwide. In 1978, the Mabel Dodge Luhan House was listed in the National Register for Historic Places for its Pueblo architectural style and its connection to Mabel Dodge Luhan and her contributions to the Taos art colony. Currently, the house is now a hotel equipped with rooms named after famous literary and artistic figures and Luhan's friends, a conference room for workshops, and dining for guests.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xZt-PyS0iXk

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HOGH cW77fl (depression)



# Millicent Rogers (1902-1953)

Mary Millicent Abigail Rogers, better known as Millicent Rogers, was a socialite, fashion icon, jewelry designer and art collector. She was the granddaughter of Standard Oil tycoon Henry Huttleston Rogers, and an heiress to his wealth.

"Dear Paulie, Did I ever tell you about the feeling I had a little while ago? Suddenly passing Taos Mountain I felt that I was part of the earth, so that I felt the sun on my surface and the rain. I felt the stars and the growth of the Moon; under me, rivers ran..."

- Millicent Rogers
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JBpMxwwn7oc
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rYotJeah8Xs
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DLZOX0Xgw9Y





## Agnes Pelton (1881-1961)

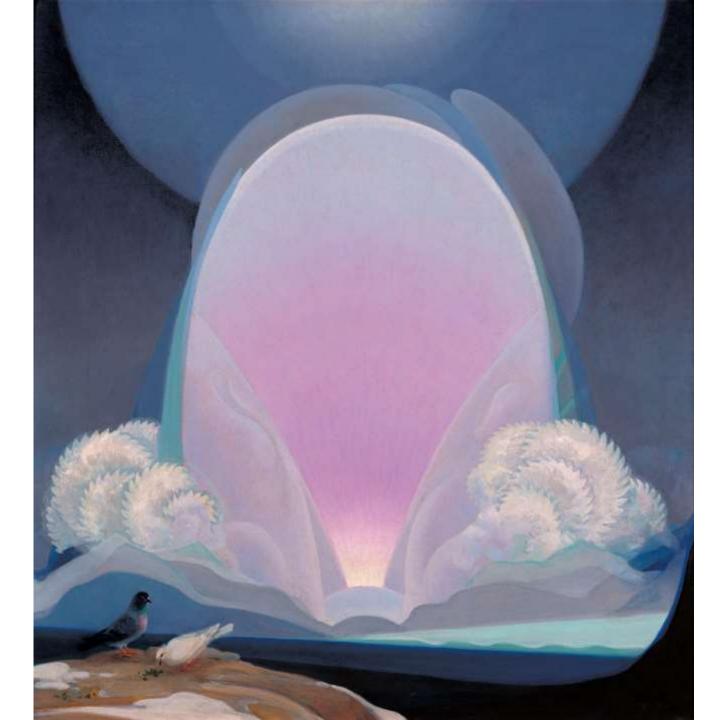
Agnes Lawrence Pelton was a modernist painter who was born in Germany and moved to the United States as a child. She studied art in the United States and Europe. She made portraits of Pueblo Native Americans, desert landscapes and still lifes.

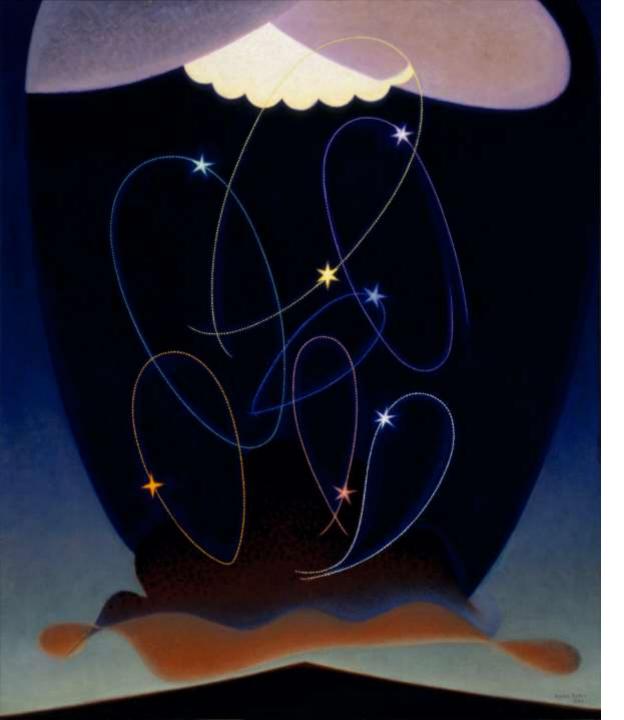
The Light, the sky, the space... Painter Agnes Pelton was enthralled with the spirit she found in the Southwest. The Phoenix Art Museum's Gilbert Vicario shares insights into Pelton's vision and work with New Mexico's Transcendental Painting Group, which included Raymond Jonson and Emil Bisttram.

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d5S2UmMxuvo
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PRmBDLRjXvA
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= 700XBIjf-k (Cathedral City)



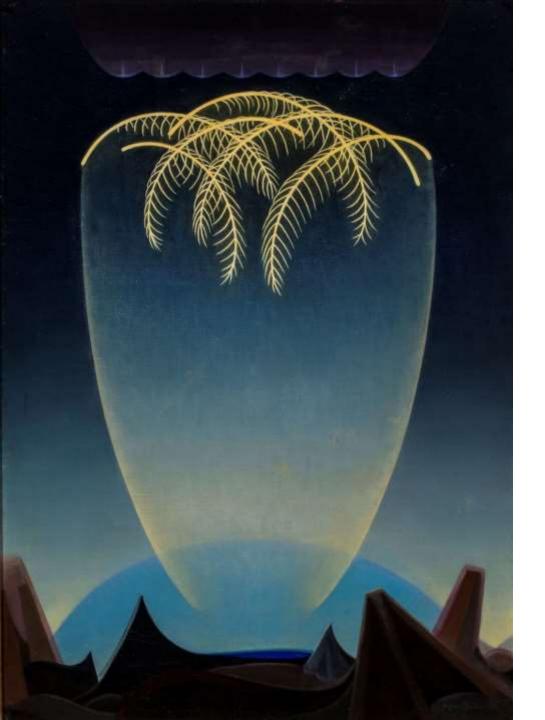






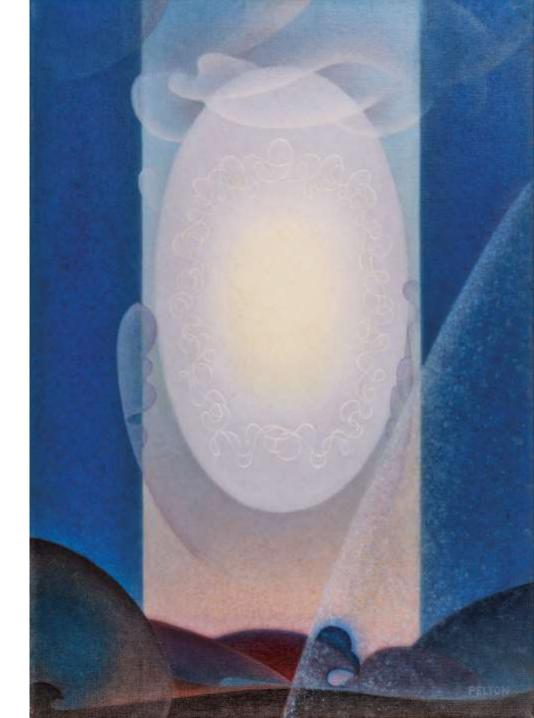














## Emil Bisttram (1895-1976)

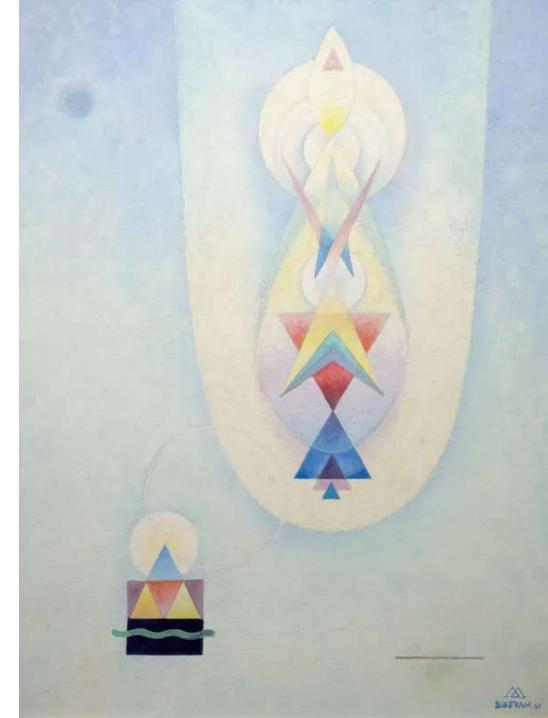
Emil Bisttram was an American artist who lived in New York and Taos, New Mexico, and was known for his modernist work.

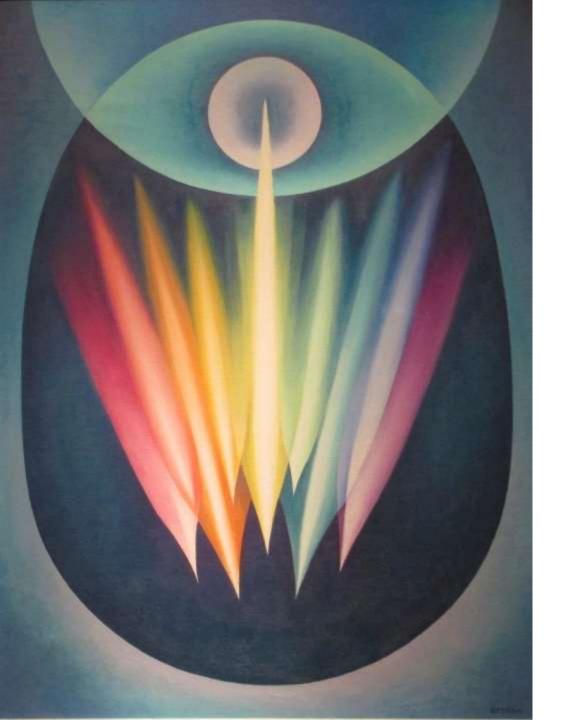
Emil Bisttram grew up in the tenements of New York City after his family emigrated from Hungary when he was a young boy. Bisttram studied at Cooper Union, the National Academy of Design, and at the New York School of Fine and Applied Art. During his training, Emil studied under Ivan Olinsky, Leon Kroll, Howard Giles, and Jay Hambidge. Bisttram later taught at the New York School of Fine and Applied Art, Parson's School of Design, and at the Master Institute of the Roerich Museum in New York.

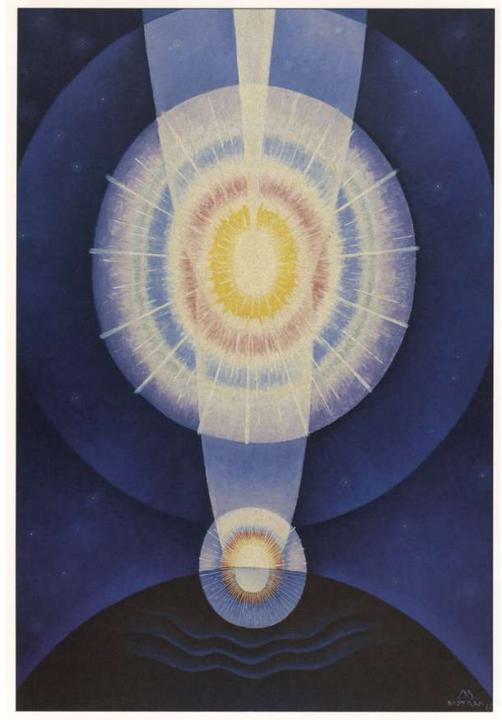
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nKWCPoxge28



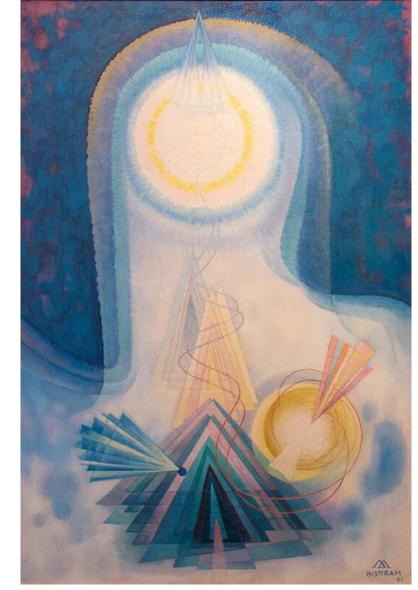




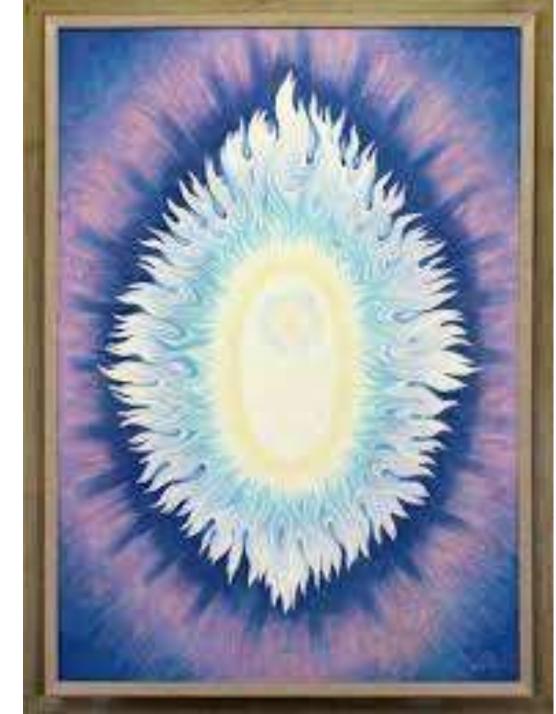
















## Raymond Jonson (1891-1982)

Raymond Jonson, was an American-born Modernist painter known for his paintings of the American Southwest. Born Carl Raymond Johnson, he originally signed his paintings C. Raymond Johnson, but later used Raymond Jonson, dropping the first initial and reverting to a more traditional spelling of his last name.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yQ\_5-1WP-38

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hRun3G5fji8



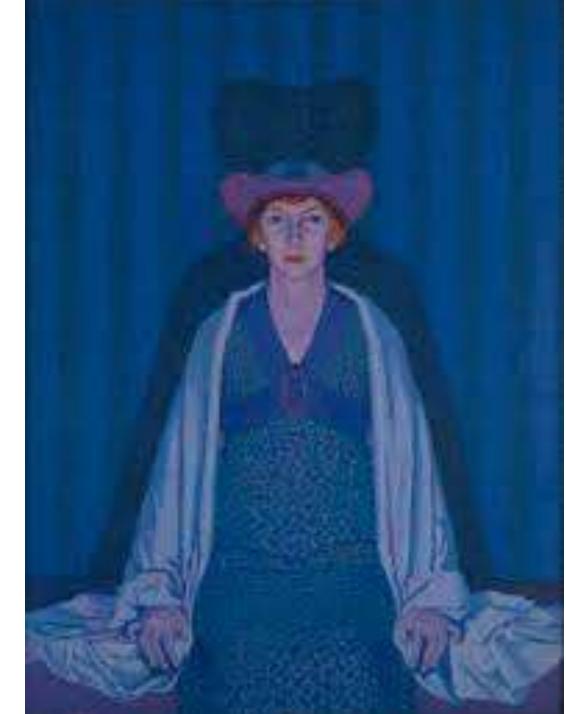












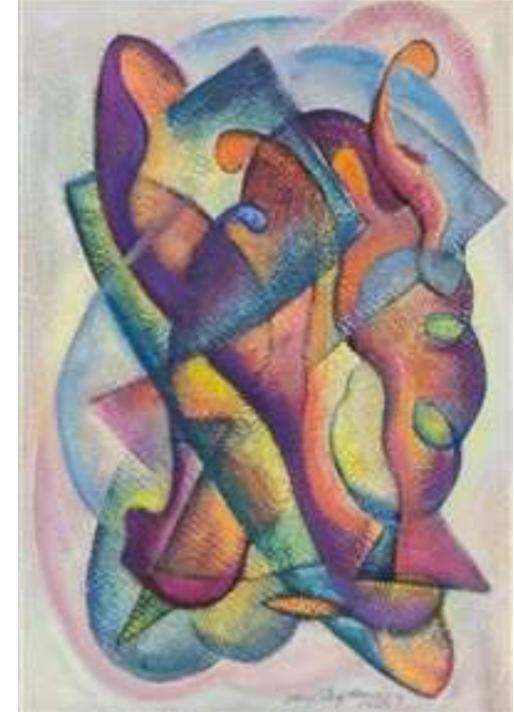


## Dorothy Morang (1906-1994)

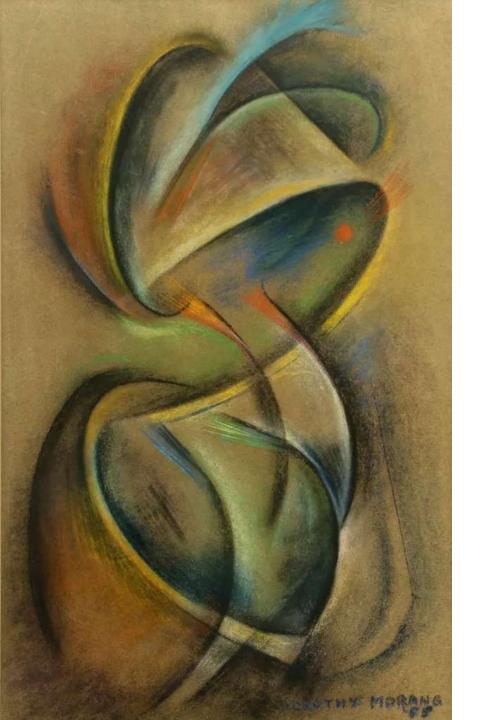
Dorothy Morang was an American painter, pastelist, and active member of the Santa Fe art colony. Dorothy Alden Clark was born in Bridgton, Maine on November 24, 1906. Her early formal study was in music at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston and she taught piano throughout most of her life.



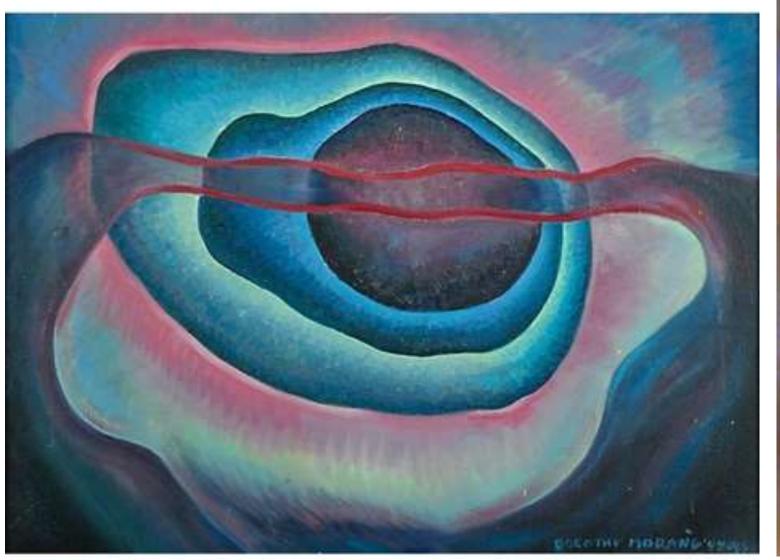














#### Georgia O'Keefe (1887-1986)

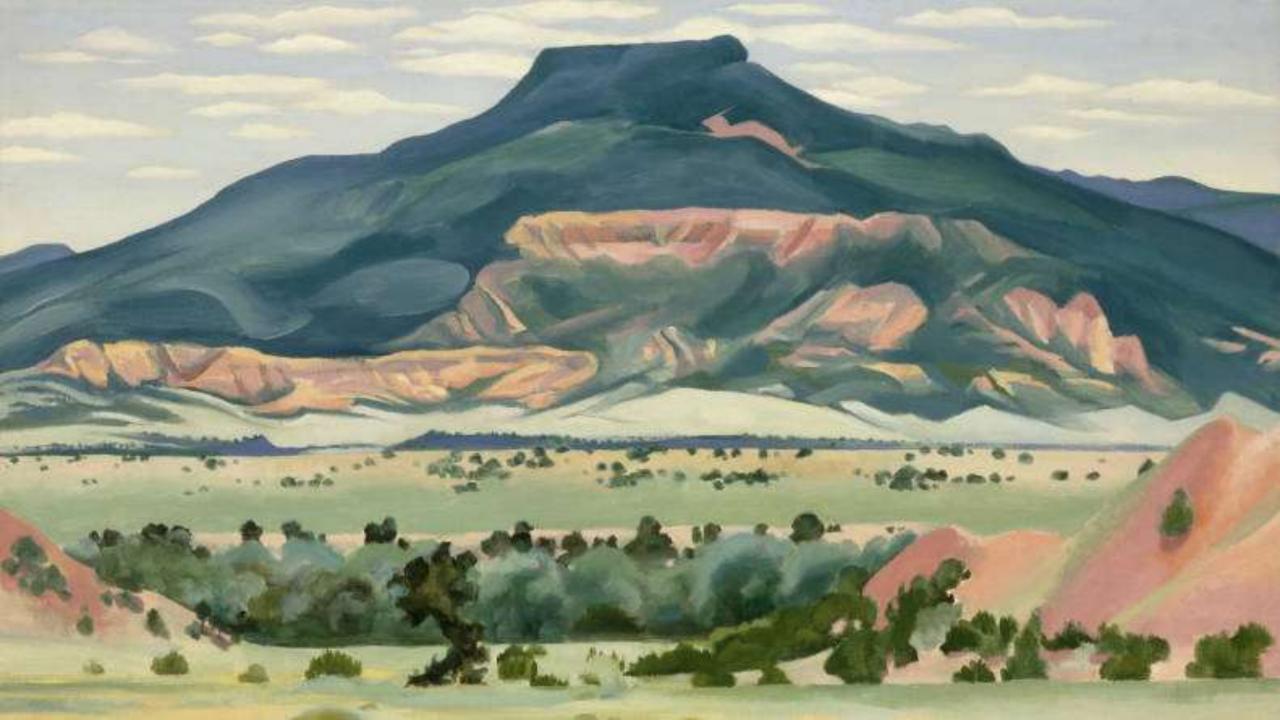
Georgia Totto O'Keeffe was an American modernist artist. She was known for her paintings of enlarged flowers, New York skyscrapers, and New Mexico landscapes. O'Keeffe has been recognized as the "Mother of American modernism".

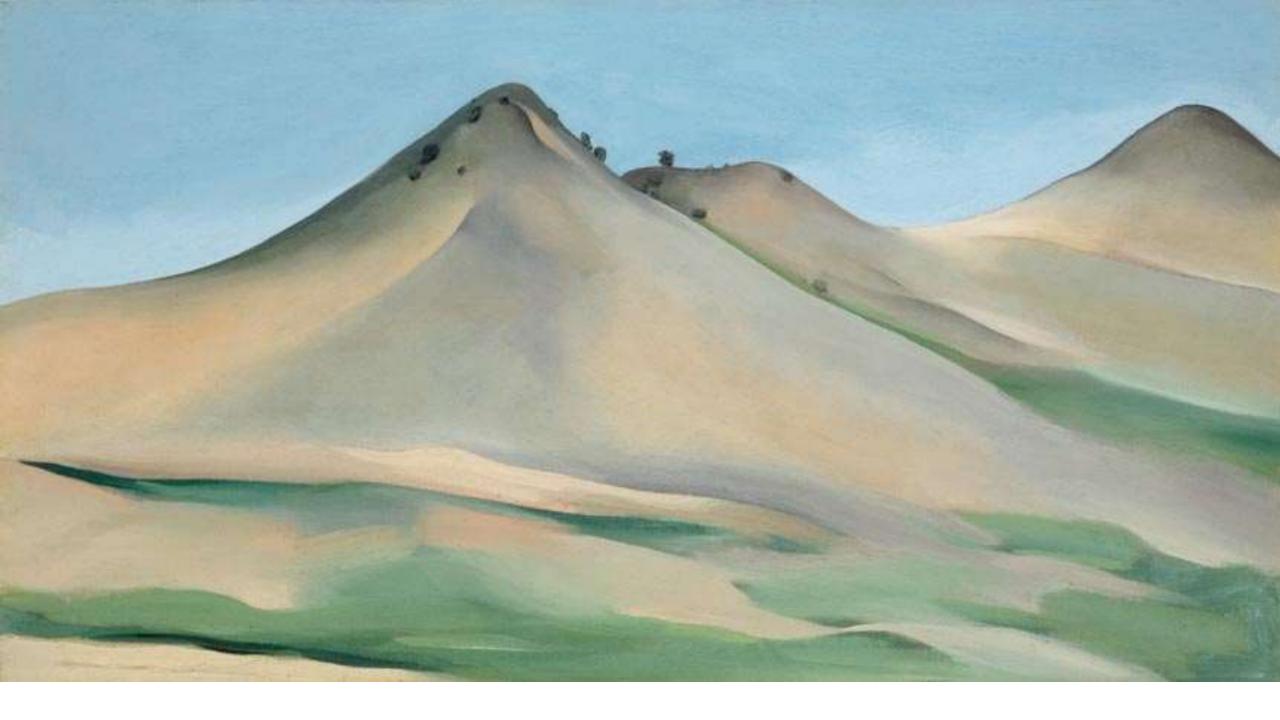
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Q1eXYqbfMQ
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7AOEDMAPZBs

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h14j6GKFf60
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p25P3KS87MA



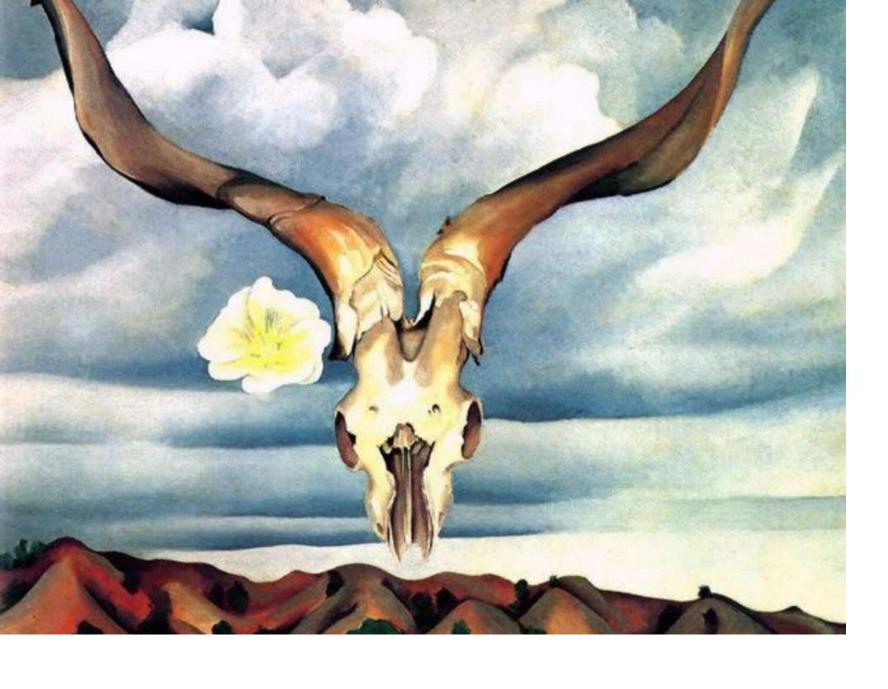


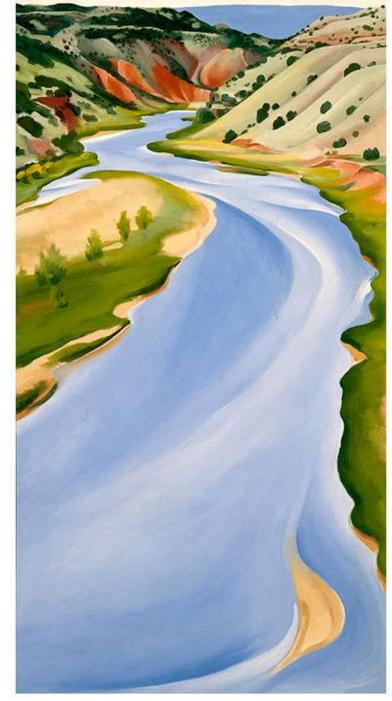


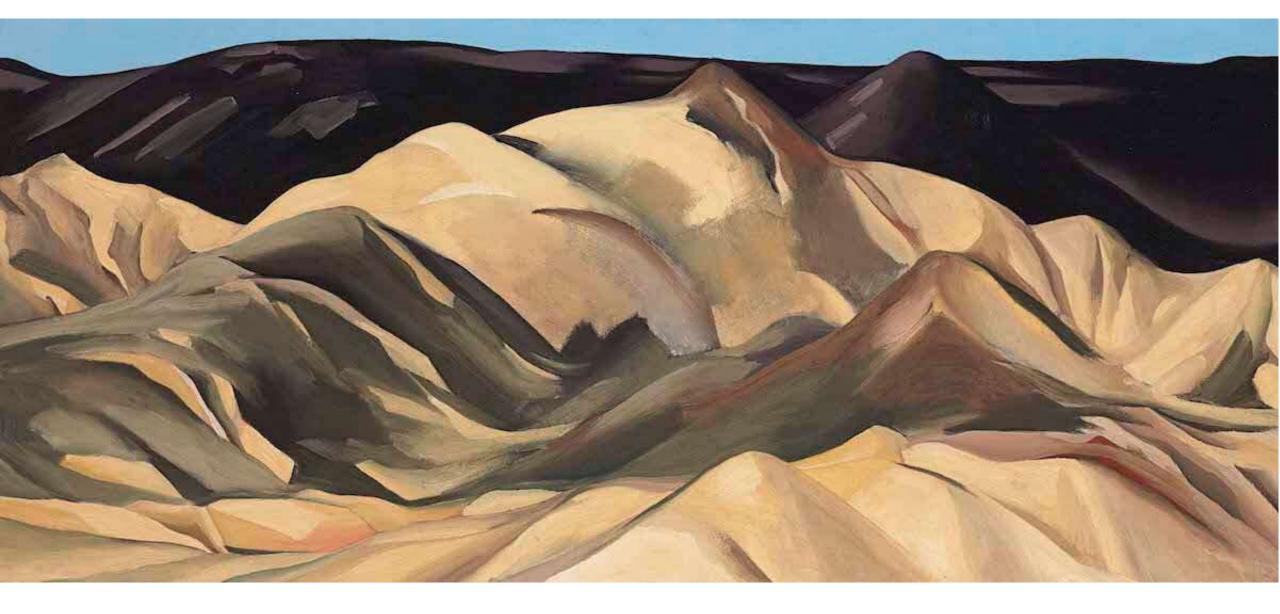






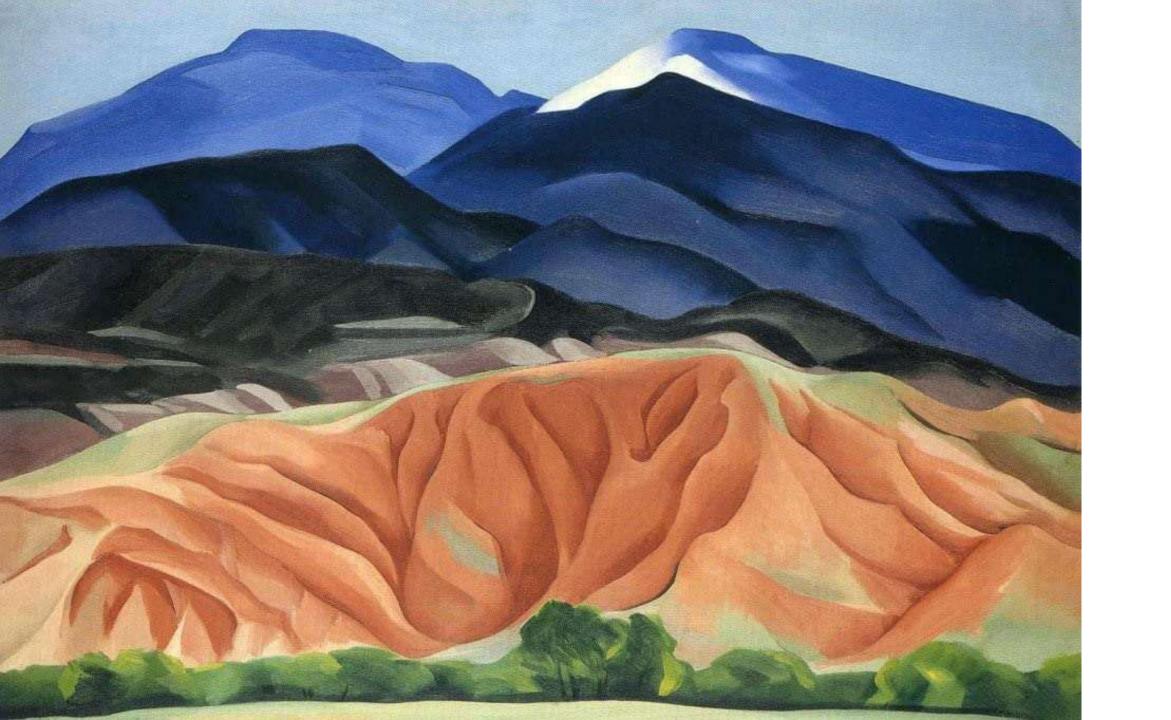


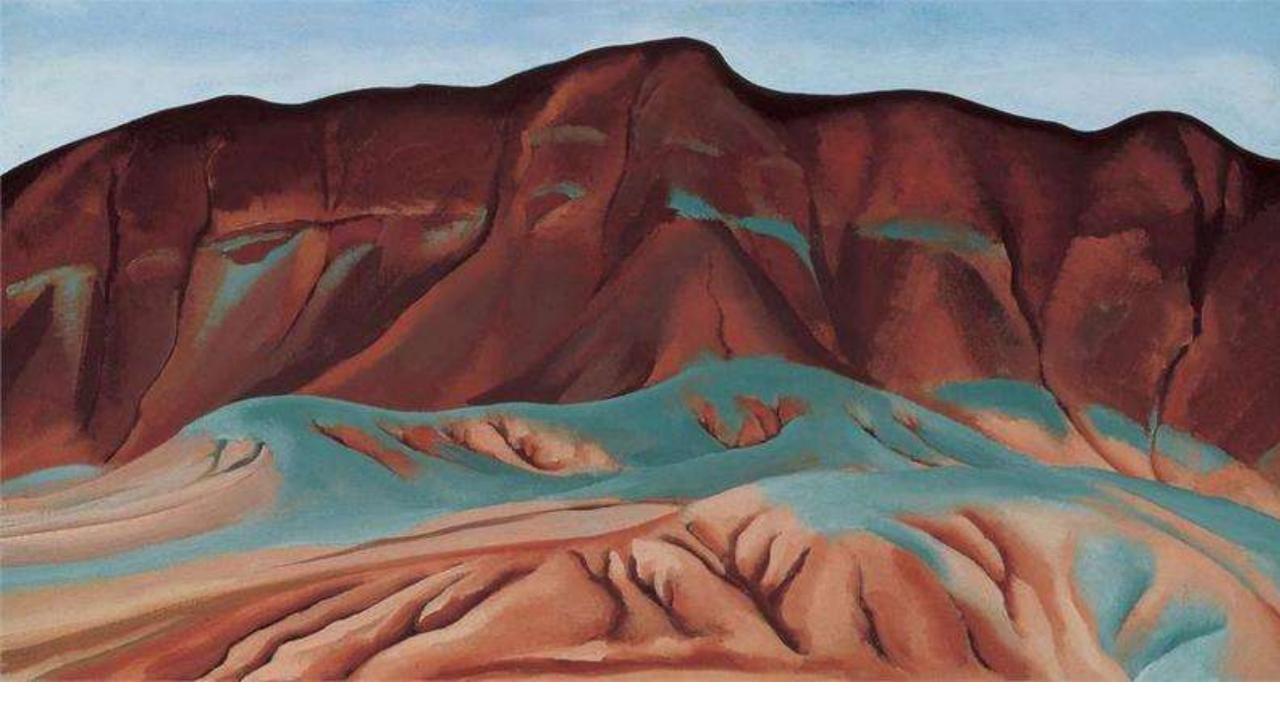
















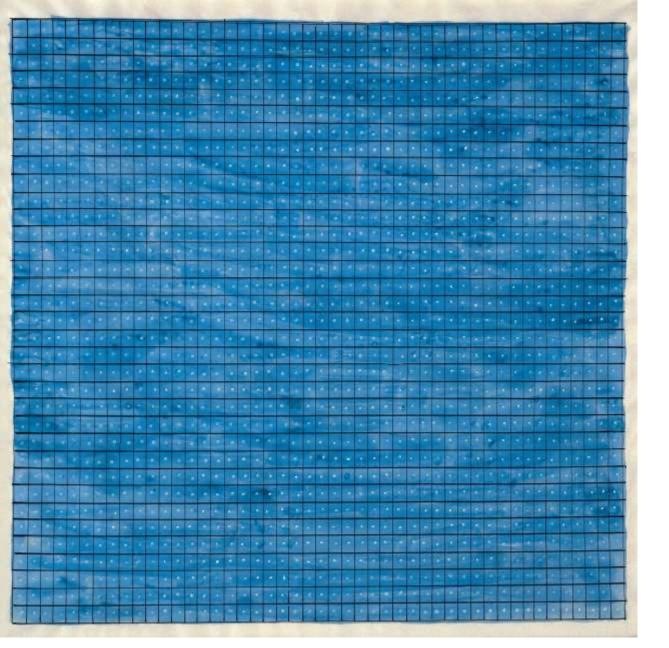
## Agnes Martin (1912-2004)

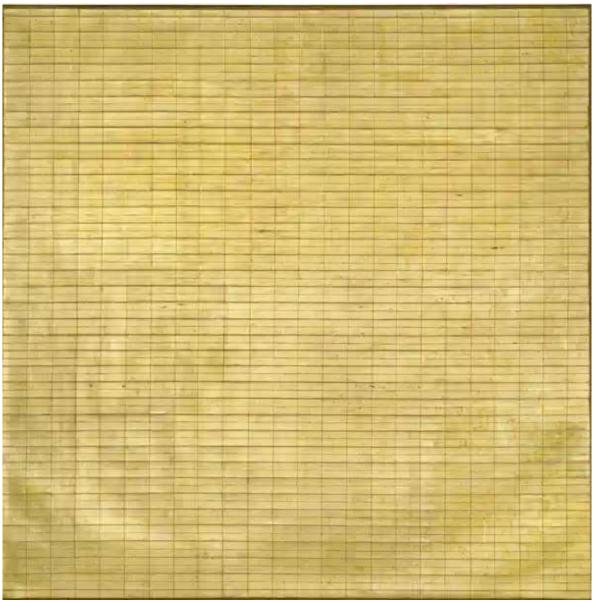
Agnes Bernice Martin, RCA, was an American abstract painter. Her work has been defined as an "essay in discretion on inward-ness and silence". Although she is often considered or referred to as a minimalist, Martin considered herself an abstract expressionist.

In the summer of 1967, Martin left New York and went off-grid before reappearing in New Mexico. The art she made there — with its buoyant bands of color — offer no clues to the turbulent life of an artist who was diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia. Ahead of a major retrospective, Olivia Laing celebrates her visions of pure joy.

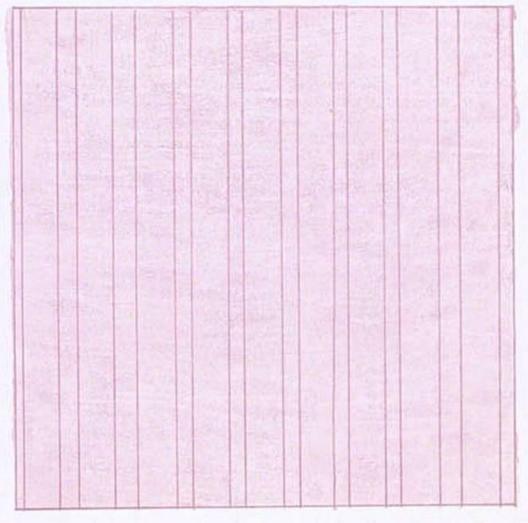
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=902YXjchQsk



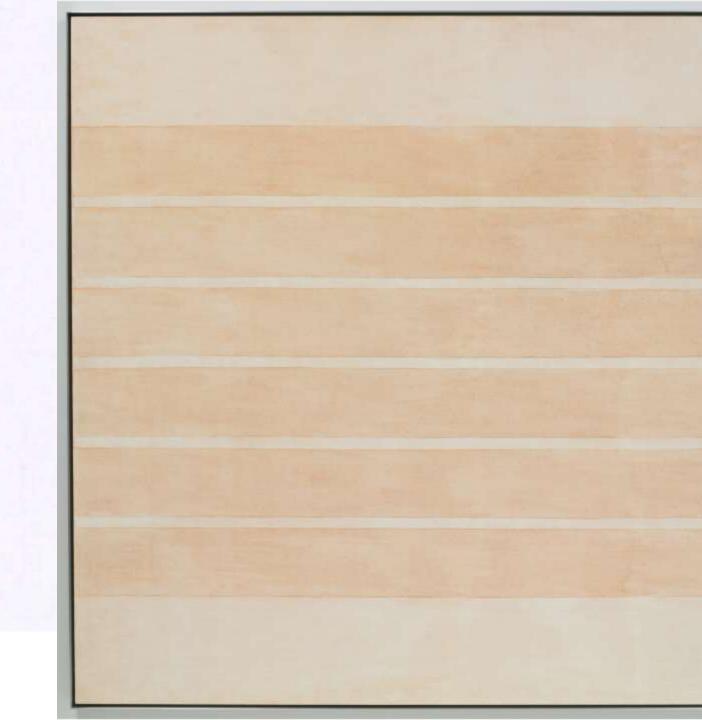


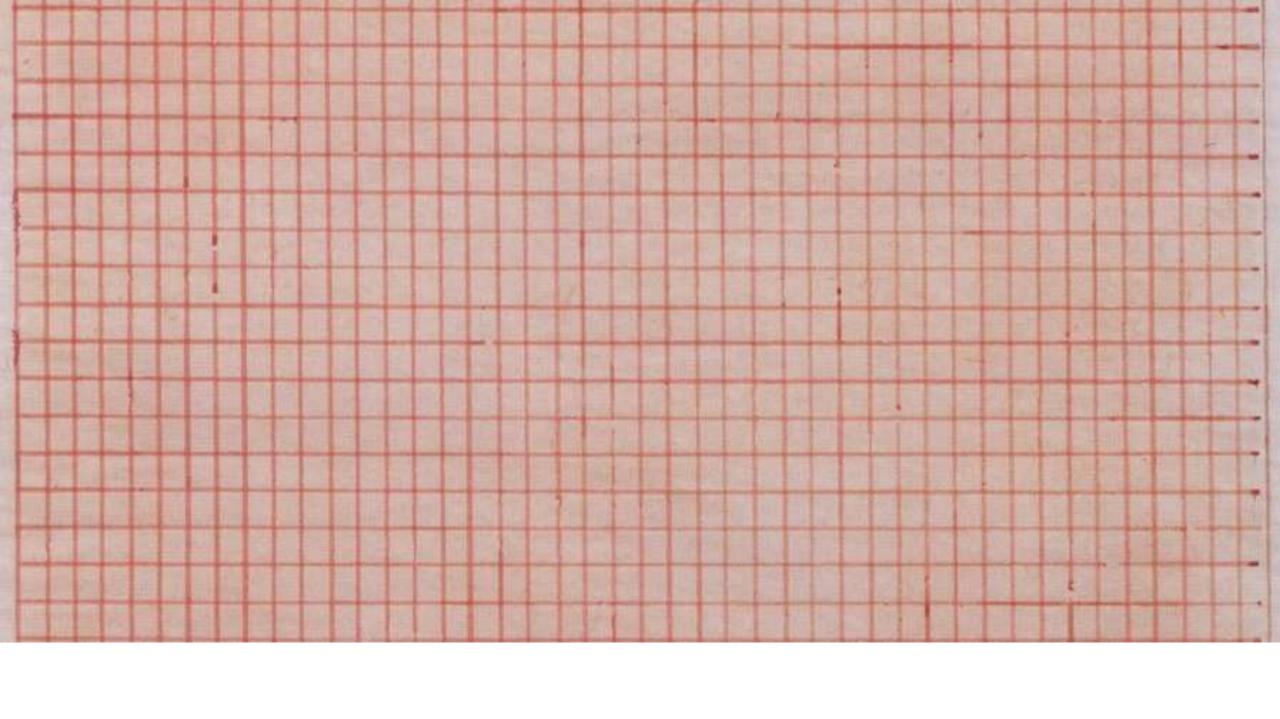


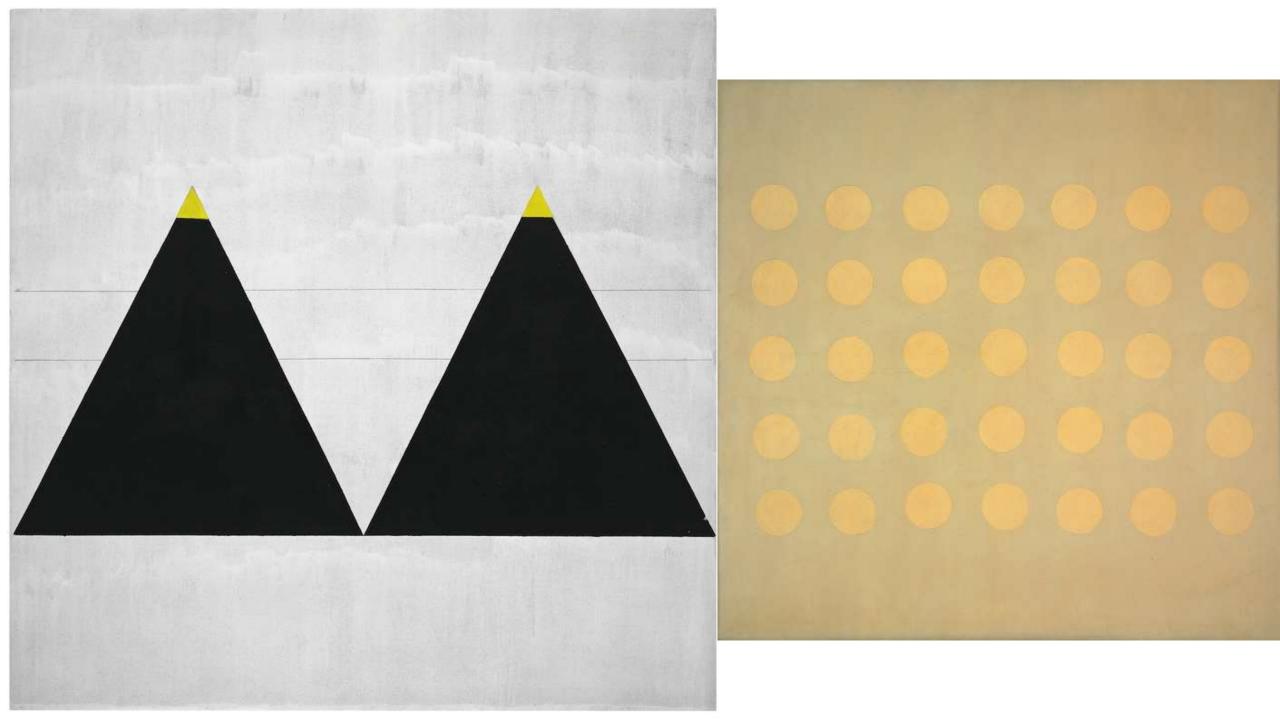




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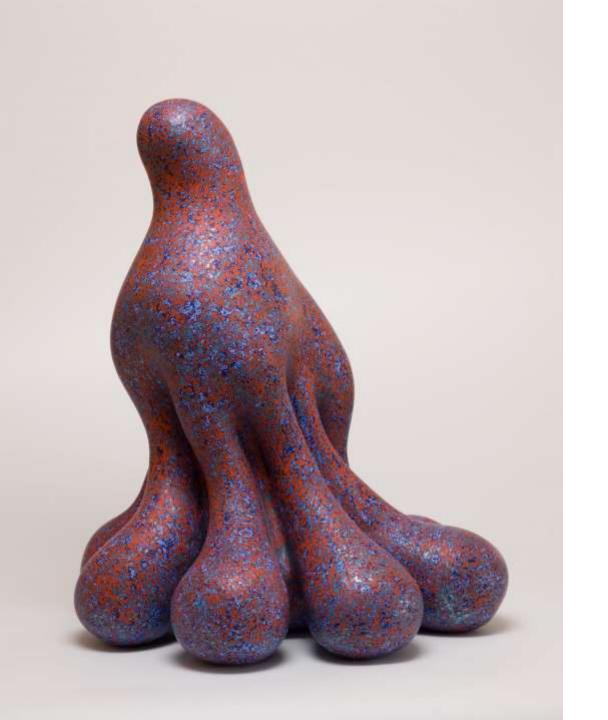
## Kenneth Price (1935-2012)

Kenneth Price was an American artist who predominantly created ceramic sculpture. He studied at the Chouinard Art Institute and Otis Art Institute in Los Angeles, before receiving his BFA degree from the University of Southern California in 1956.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vzsnUo2ODR0

https://www.lacma.org/art/exhibition/ken-price-sculpture-retrospective

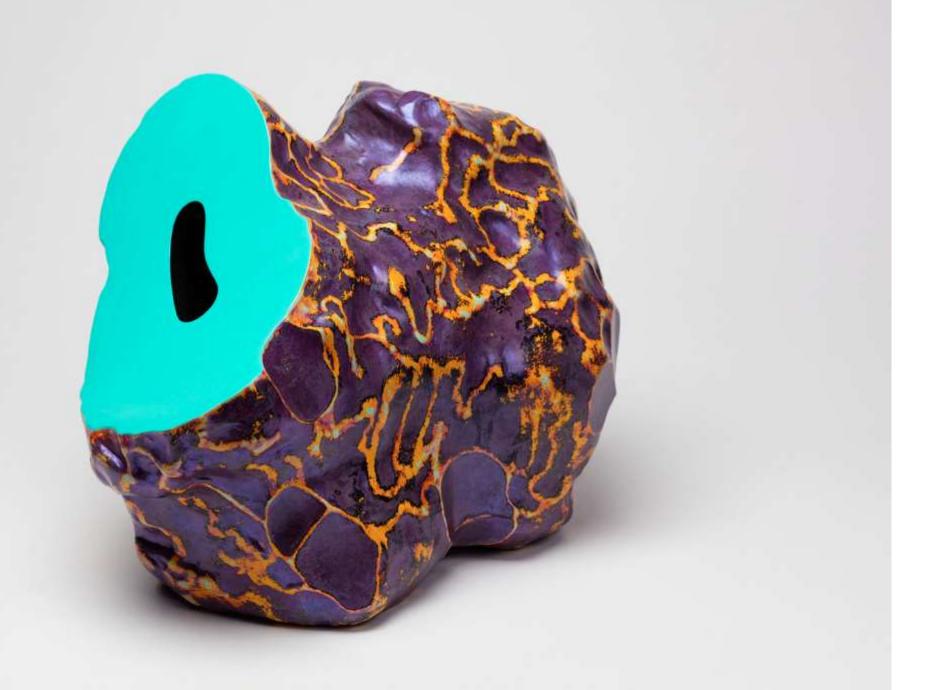




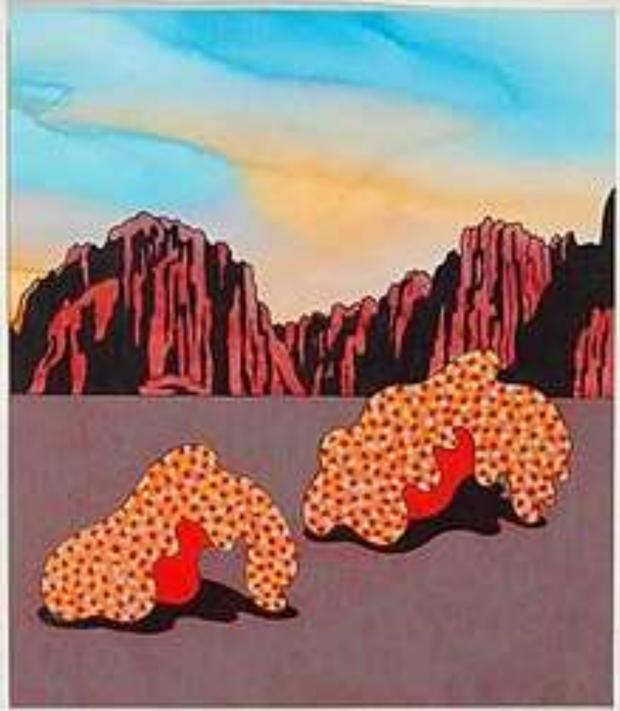


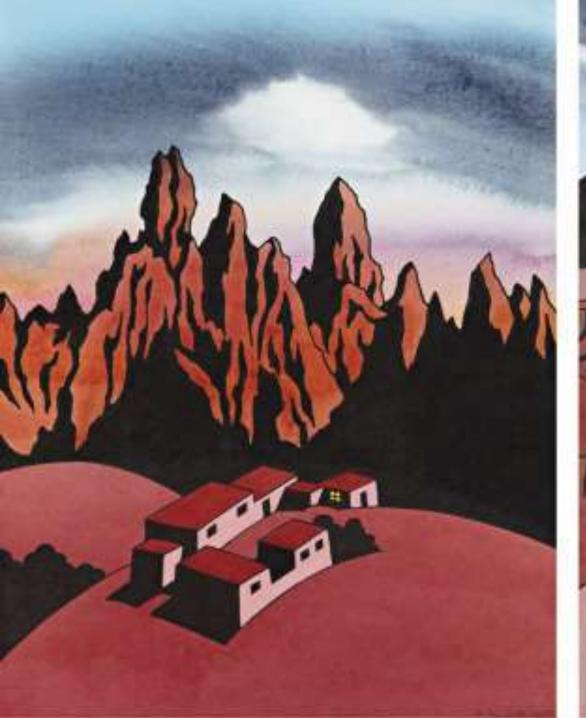


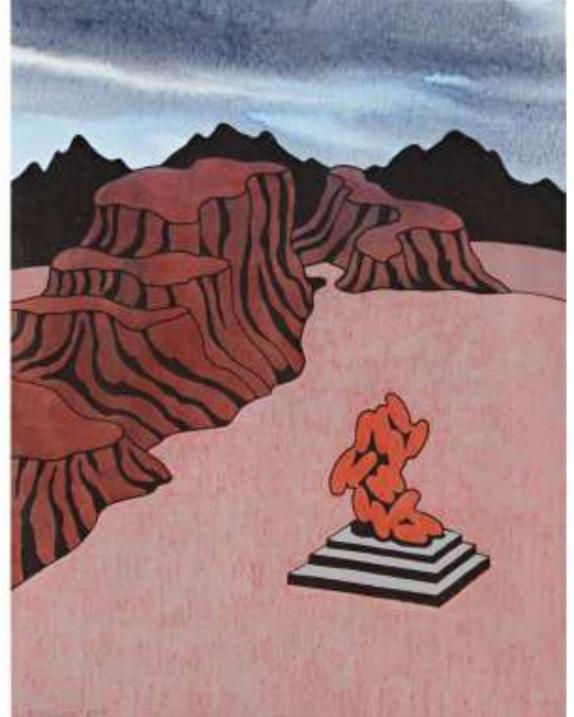












## Larry Bell

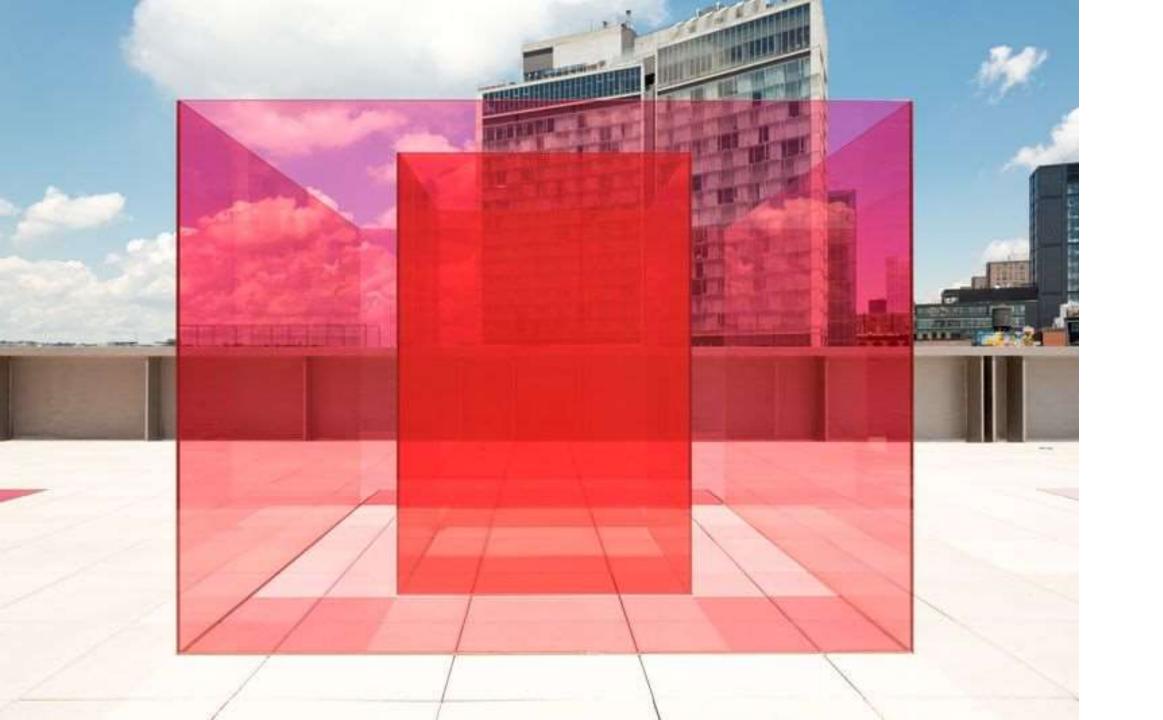
Larry Bell (born 1939) is an American contemporary artist and sculptor. He is best known for his glass boxes and large-scaled illusionistic sculptures. He is a grant recipient from, among others, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Guggenheim Foundation, and his artworks are found in the collections of many major cultural institutions. He lives and works in Taos, New Mexico, and maintains a studio in Venice, California.

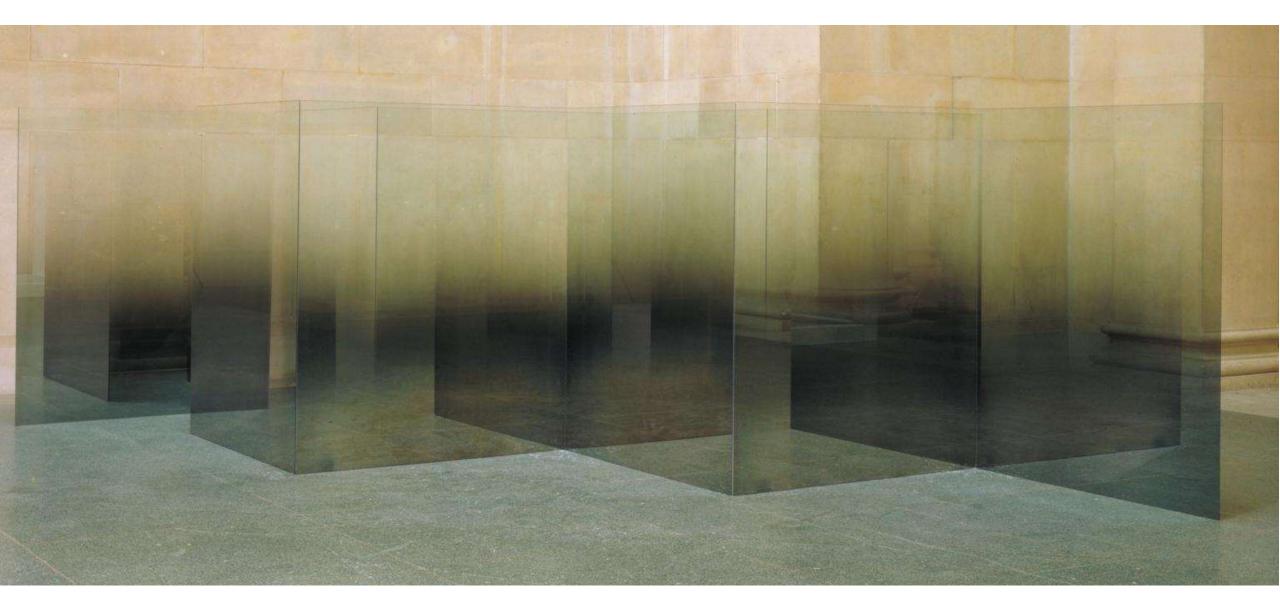
https://icamiami.org/video/larry-bell-on-inspiration-preparation-and-practice/

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9HcK6US-b2w&t=28s











## Assignment Suggestions...

- Take a walk or hike and think about light and landscape
- Create an artwork that is a meditation
- Create an artwork inspired by the Native American patterns and paintings.