

Pattern and Decoration

P&D is Not Afraid of Pretty

Pattern and Decoration Movement (P&D)

The Pattern and Decoration movement consisted of artists, many of whom had art education backgrounds, who had been involved with the abstract schools of art of the 1960s. The westernised, male dominated climate of artistic thought throughout Modernism had led to a marginalisation of what was considered non-Western and feminine.^[6] The P&D movement wanted to revive an interest in minor forms such as patterning which at that point was equated with triviality. The prevailing negative view of decoration was one not generally shared by non-Western cultures.^[7]

The Pattern and Decoration movement was influenced by sources outside of what was considered to be fine art. Blurring the line between art and design, many P&D works mimic patterns like those on wallpapers, printed fabrics, and quilts.^[1]

These artists also looked for inspiration outside of the United States. The influence of Islamic tile work from Spain and North Africa are visible in the geometric, floral patterns. They looked at Mexican, Roman, and Byzantine mosaics; Turkish embroidery, Japanese woodblocks; and Iranian and Indian carpets and miniature.

<https://www.tiktok.com/@austynliston/video/7266897343738514734> (TikTok)

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8fUUtY_mhOM&t=21s (2 mins)
- <https://jennifercocere.com/pattern-decoration-crime/>

Robert Kushner

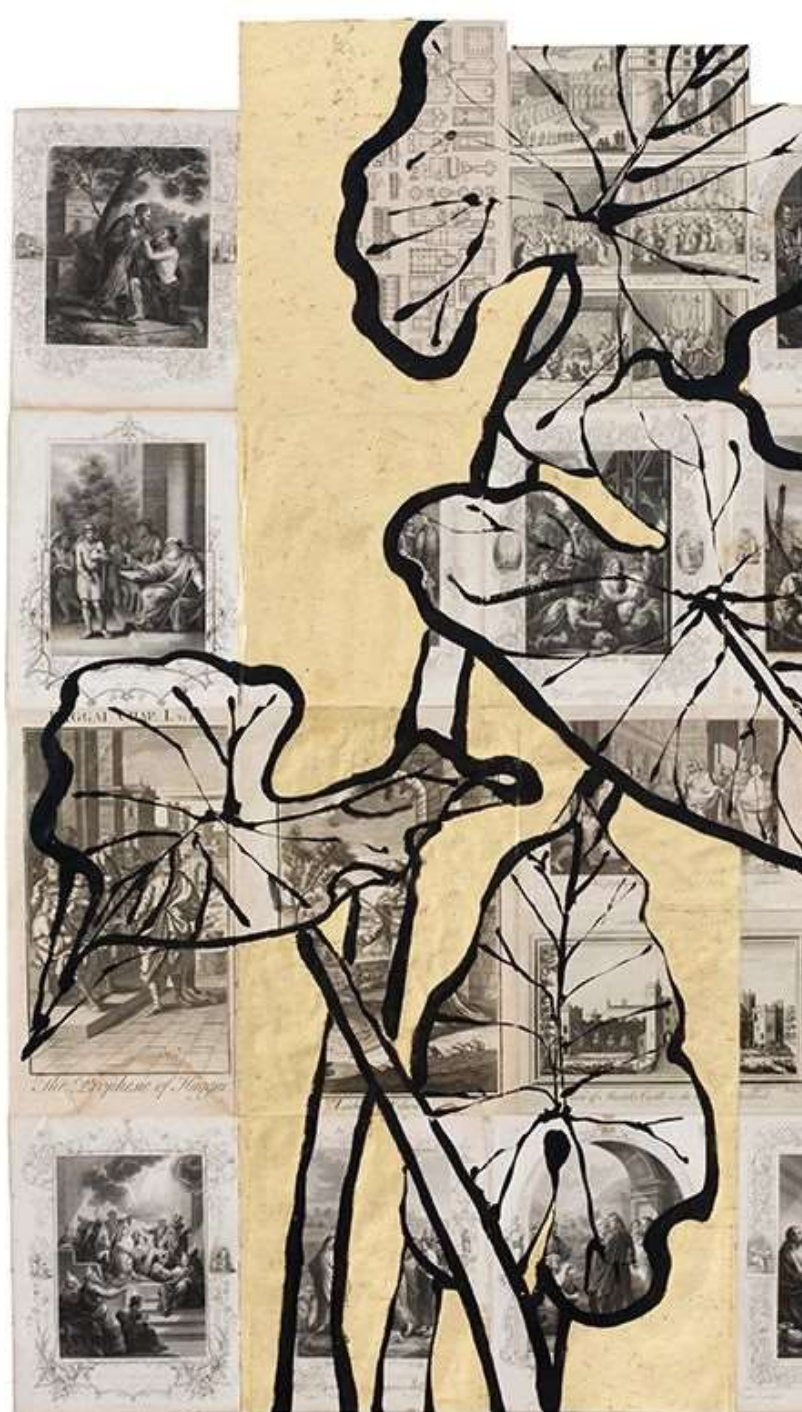
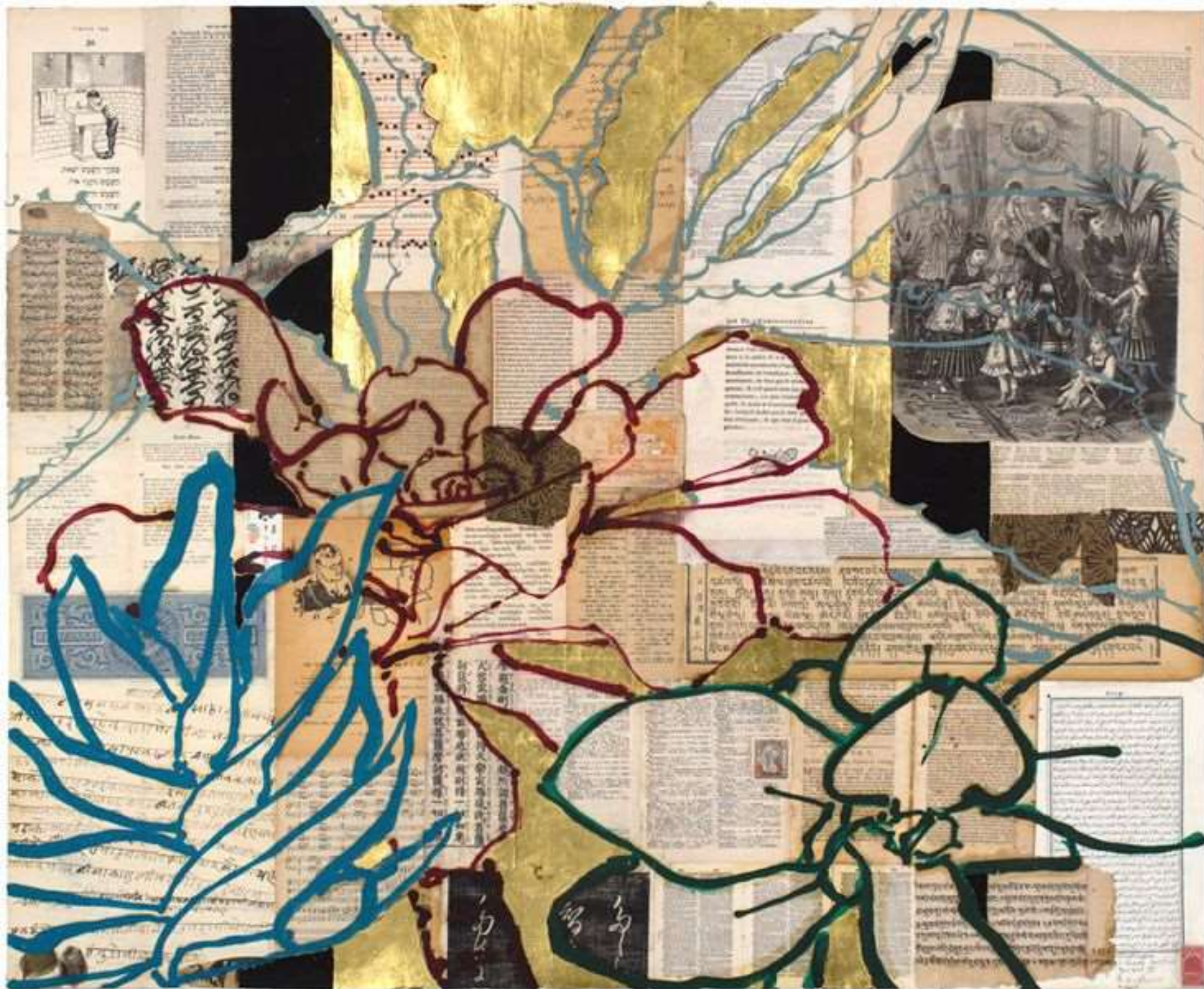
Robert Kushner is an American contemporary painter who is known especially for his involvement in Pattern and Decoration. He has been called "a founder" of that artistic movement.

Robert Kushner's ongoing fascination with decorative and modernist traditions, the use of fabric as a form of cultural expression, and the interfacing of 'high' and 'low' traditions is evident in this sumptuous exhibition of new paintings. *Robert Kushner: By My Window* October 10th – November 9th finds the artist in a complicated dialogue with the traditions of pure painting as well as a conversation with the artisans who created traditional textiles. This body of work also references his own early fabric installations and performance work from the 70s and early 80s. A catalogue will accompany the exhibition, with an interview by Manuela Ammer - curator mumok, Museum Moderner Kunst Stifftung Ludwig Wien — with Robert Kushner.

- <https://www.robertkushnerstudio.com/blog/category/Pattern+and+Decoration> 20 mins
- <https://www.robertkushnerstudio.com/blog/category/Pattern+and+Decoration> 3 mins















Miriam Schapiro

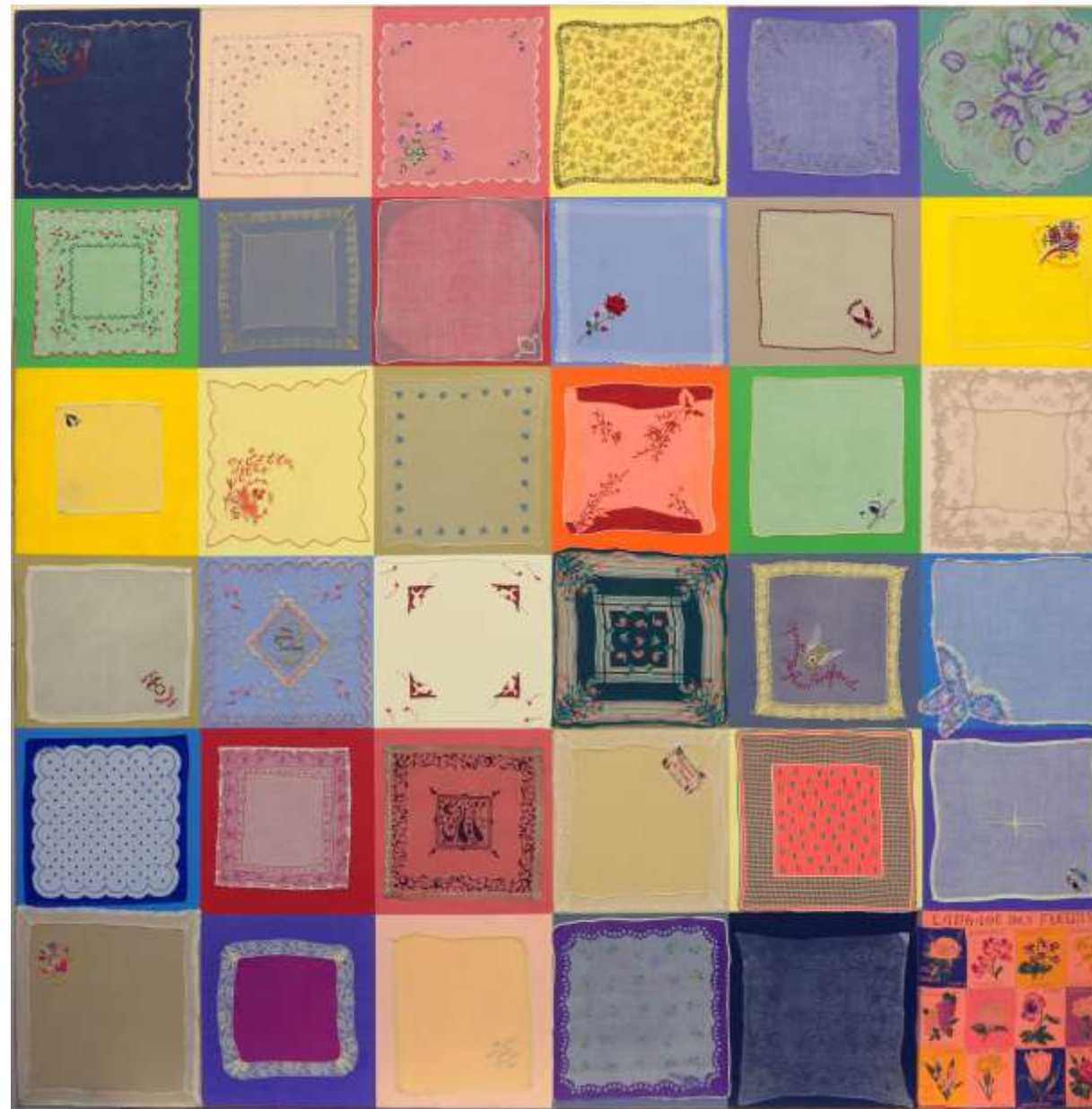
Miriam Schapiro was a Canadian-born artist based in the United States. She was a painter, sculptor, printmaker, and a pioneer of feminist art. She was also considered a leader of the Pattern and Decoration art movement. Schapiro's artwork blurs the line between fine art and craft.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPCq8r52B4Y>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GsvOvL58Jl8>

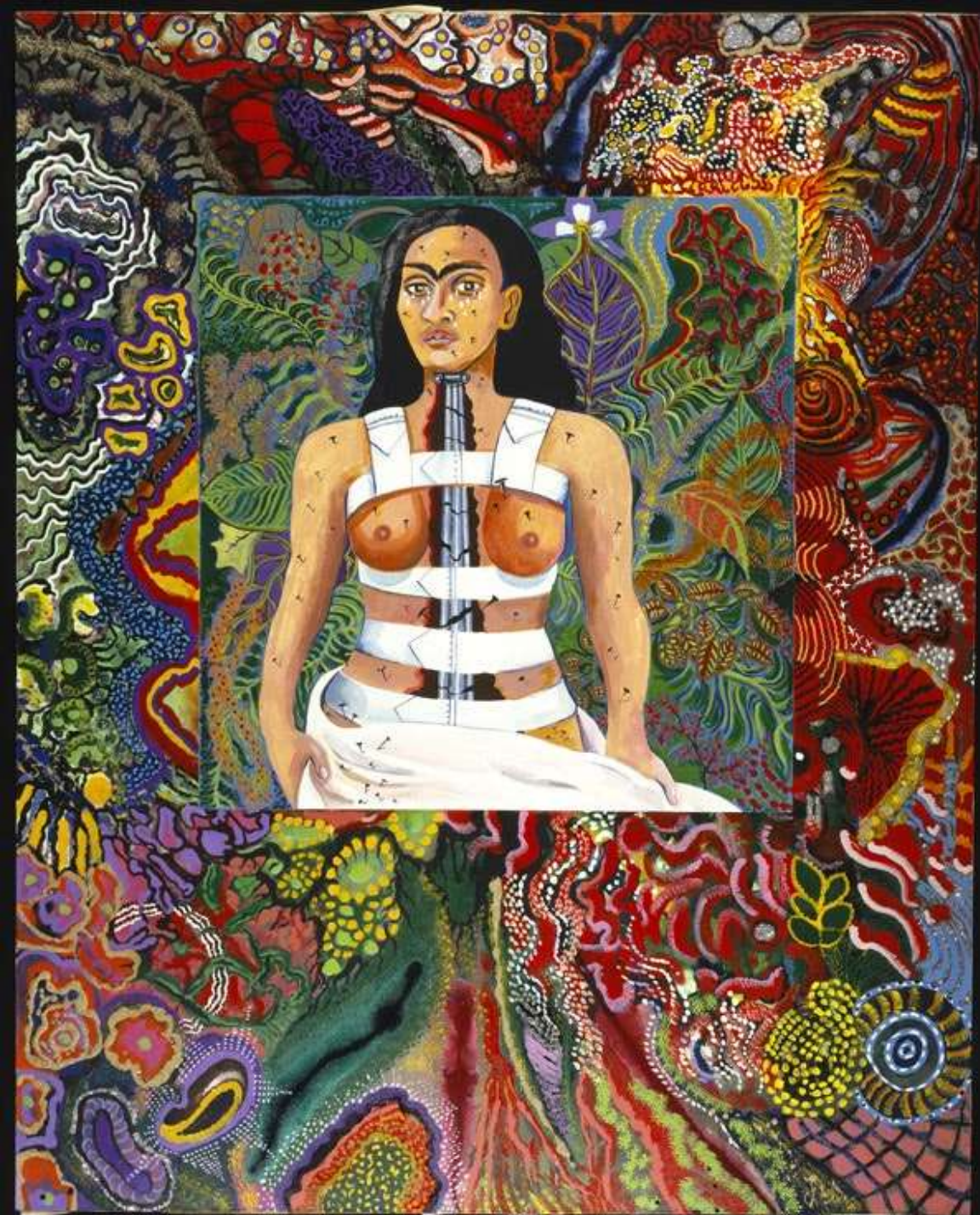
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=31_qczttT00













Joyce Kozloff

Joyce Kozloff is an American artist whose politically engaged work has been based on cartography since the early 1990s. Kozloff was one of the original members of the Pattern and Decoration movement and was an early artist in the 1970s feminist art movements.

<https://www.artforum.com/video/david-velasco-in-conversation-with-joyce-kozloff-86910>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GJYrGy7m_LI



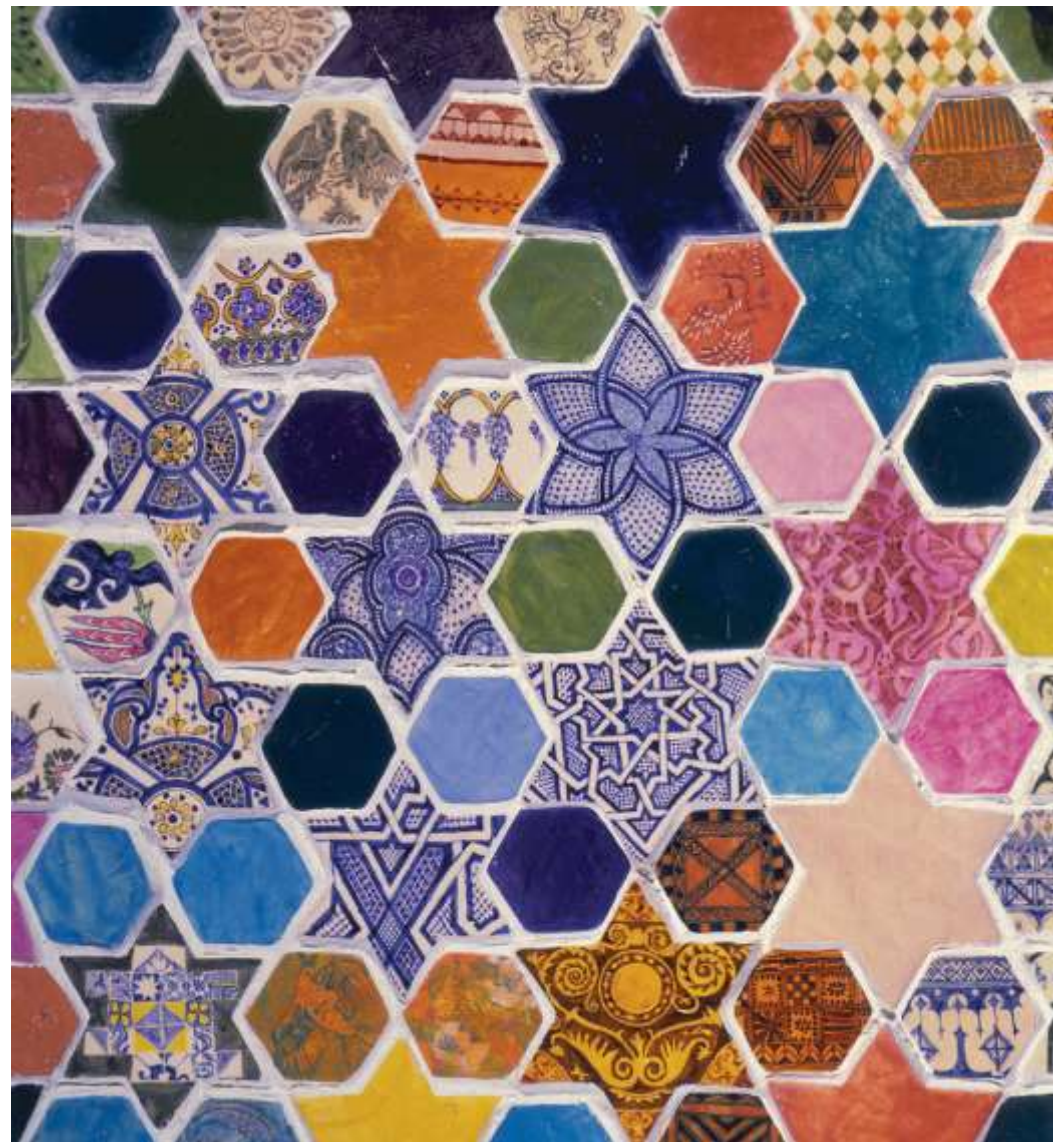












Robert Zakanitch

Robert Rahway Zakanitch is an American painter and was one of the founders of the Pattern and Decoration movement. His work is held in the collection of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Museum of Modern Art, Whitney Museum of American Art, among others.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ojGPgoyD3c0>











Rose in the Blue Garden, 2006 Gouache and paper on paper, 24½ x 36½ in (61 x 91 cm) Collection of artist



Rose in the Blue Garden, 2005 Gouache and ink on paper, 30½ x 40½ in (75 x 101 cm) Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Thea Stern



Kim MacConnel

Kim MacConnel is an American artist who works with painting, sculpture, and mixed media-collage/fabric. MacConnel is a seminal figure in the Pattern and Decoration movement of the seventies, but overall MacConnel's oeuvre has surpassed being categorized.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C9Tzj5qm3k4>







Cynthia Carlson

Carlson was born in 1942 in [Chicago, Illinois](#). She graduated from [Kelvyn Park High School](#) in Chicago and then attended the [School of the Art Institute of Chicago](#). She received her BFA in 1965. She moved to New York City and attended [Pratt Institute](#) in Brooklyn, NY, graduating with her MFA in 1967.^[1] She is married to Robert Gino Bertoletti.

<https://alchetron.com/Cynthia-Carlson>

Cynthia Carlson Sixty Years

Cynthia Carlson



Sixty Years



Autumn 1984





Merion Estes

Merion Estes (born [Salt Lake City](#), Utah on 5 September 1938) is a [Los Angeles](#)-based painter. She earned a [B.F.A.](#) at the [University of New Mexico](#), in Albuquerque, and an [M.F.A.](#) at the [University of Colorado](#), in Boulder. Estes was raised in [San Diego](#) from the age of four. She moved to Los Angeles in 1972 and first showed her work at the [Woman's Building](#) in Los Angeles. As a founding member of Grandview 1 & 2, she was involved in the beginnings of Los Angeles feminist art organizations including Womanspace, and the feminist arts group "Double X," along with artists [Judy Chicago](#), [Nancy Buchanan](#), [Faith Wilding](#), and Nancy Youdelman. In 2014, *Un-Natural*, which was shown at the [Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery](#) in Los Angeles and included Estes' work, was named one of the best shows in a non-profit institution in the United States by the [International Association of Art Critics](#).

<https://launchla.org/video/20-configured-landscapes-curated-by-betty-brown-deena-capparelli-patsy-cox-bibi-davidson-merion-estes/>









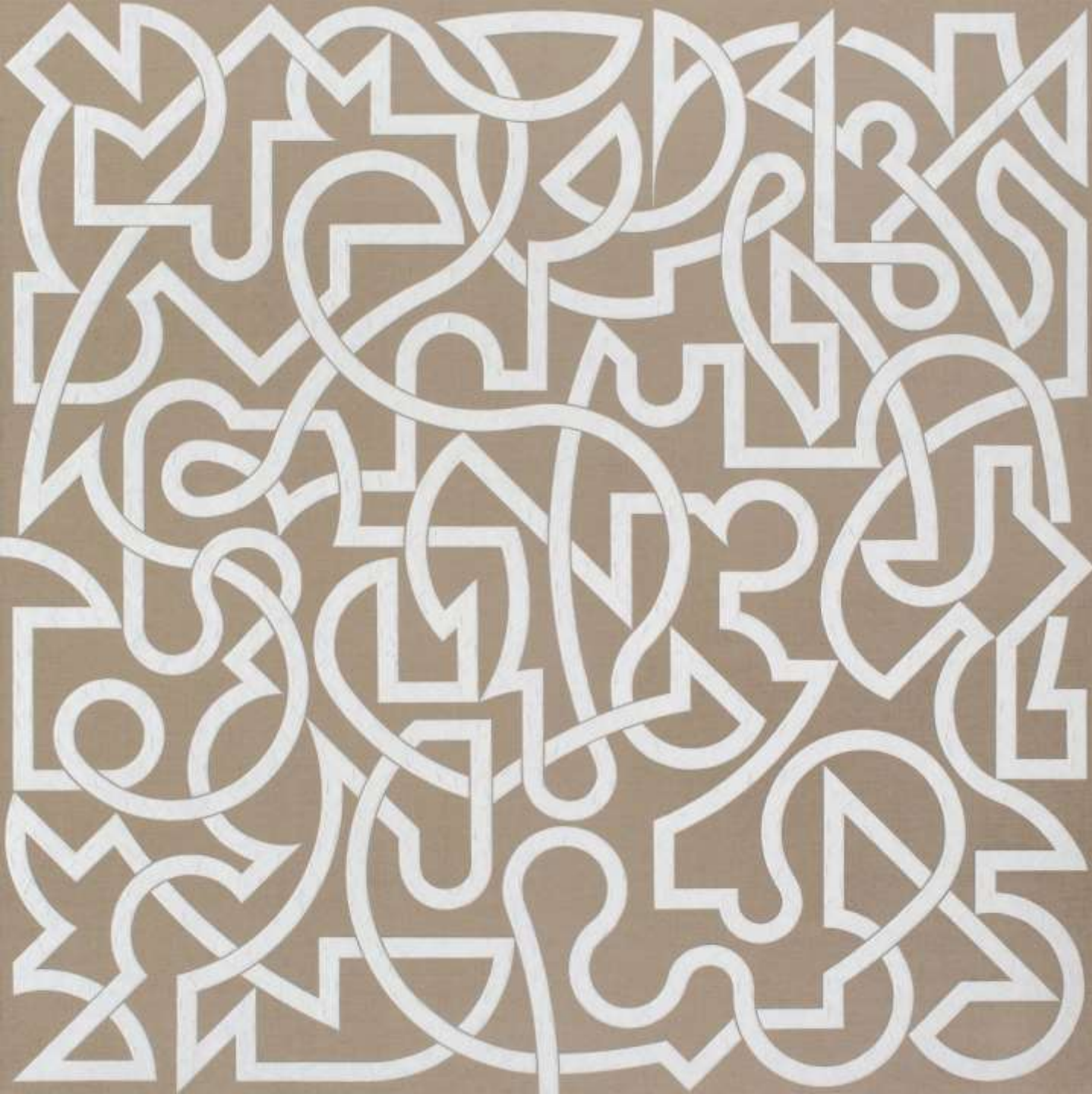


Valerie Jaudon

Valerie Jaudon is an American painter commonly associated with various Postminimal practices – the Pattern and Decoration movement of the 1970s, site-specific public art, and new tendencies in abstraction.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZ9JDvFs9qE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VRQcAeW1LB0>







Dee Shapiro

Dee Shapiro is an American artist and writer associated with the Pattern and Decoration movement.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T0Nc5L4-eq8&t=8s>









DEE SHAPIRO

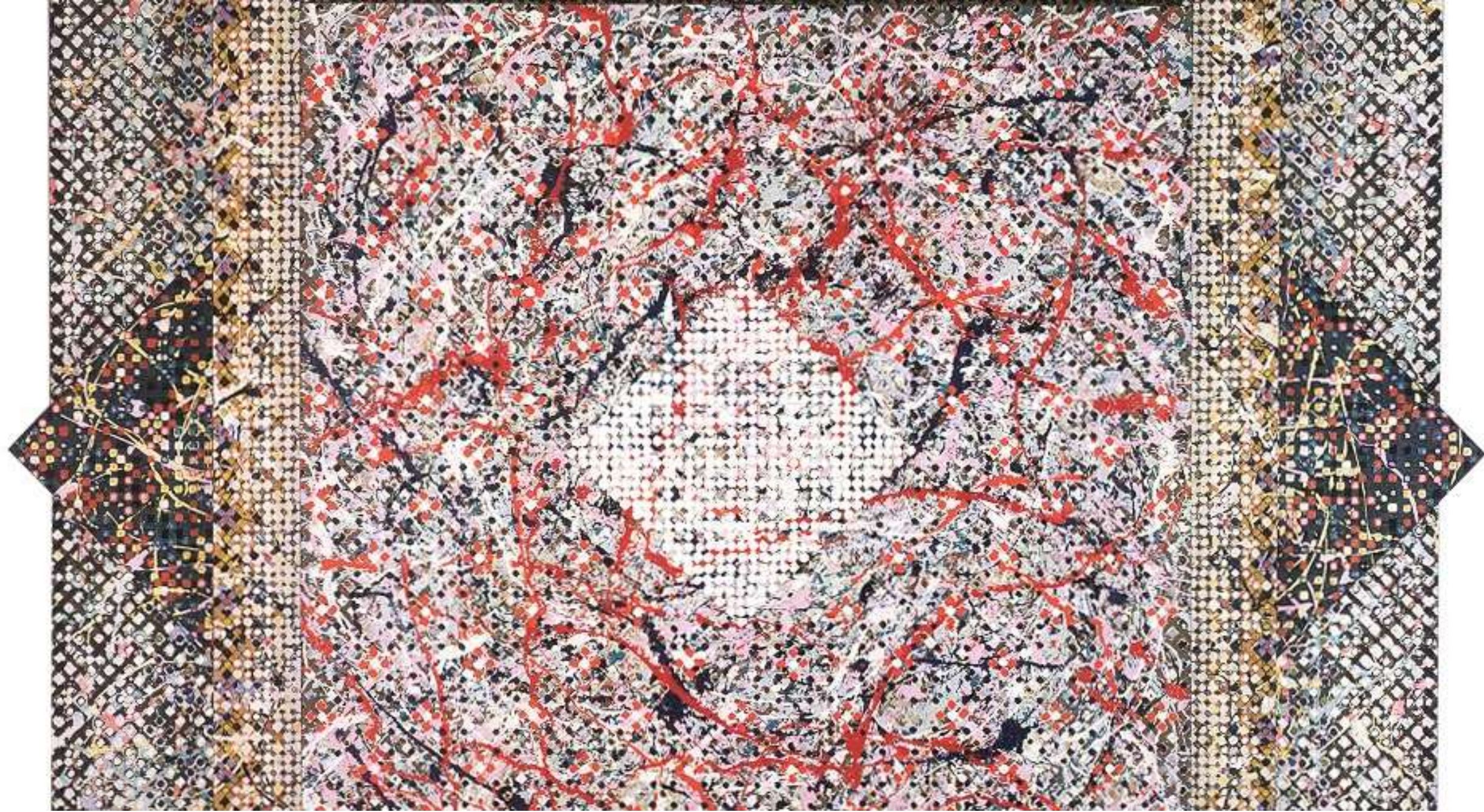
Redrawn and Redressed



DAVID RICHARD

Kendall Shaw

George Kendall Shaw was an American painter who was based in New Orleans, with a career spanning a number of art styles—ranging from abstract expressionism to pop art to minimalism to pattern and design to color field—with heightened emotion, pattern, shape, and vivid color predominant.







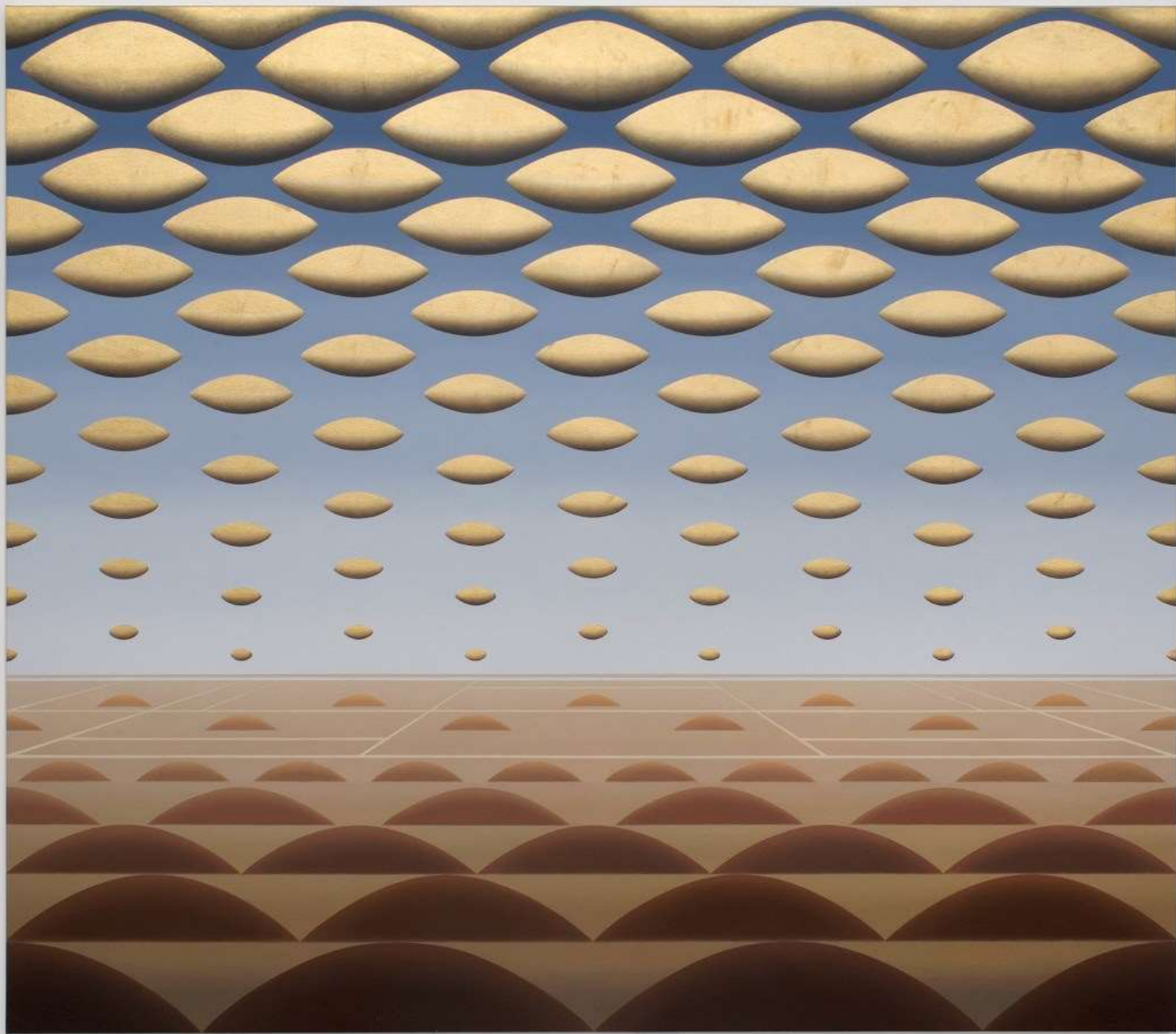
Takako Yamaguchi

Takako Yamaguchi is an artist and painter who has been based in Los Angeles since 1978. Moving between the United States, Japan and France in the early years of her practice, Yamaguchi developed a uniquely syncretic approach to art making well before the term “globalism” became commonplace. She has long been sensitive to the tension between an ostensibly race-neutral kind of International Modernism on the one hand, and the aesthetics of local, national and ethnic identity, on the other. Rebuffing the formal reductivism of European abstraction and the austerity of American Protestantism as simplifications of difference, Yamaguchi turned instead to what she once dubbed, “the trash-heap of discarded ideals.” There she focused her attention on such disfavored subjects as decoration, fashion and beauty, sentimentality, empathy and pleasure; a collection of forms and values she holds all the more dear for the ease with which they were displaced by modernity.

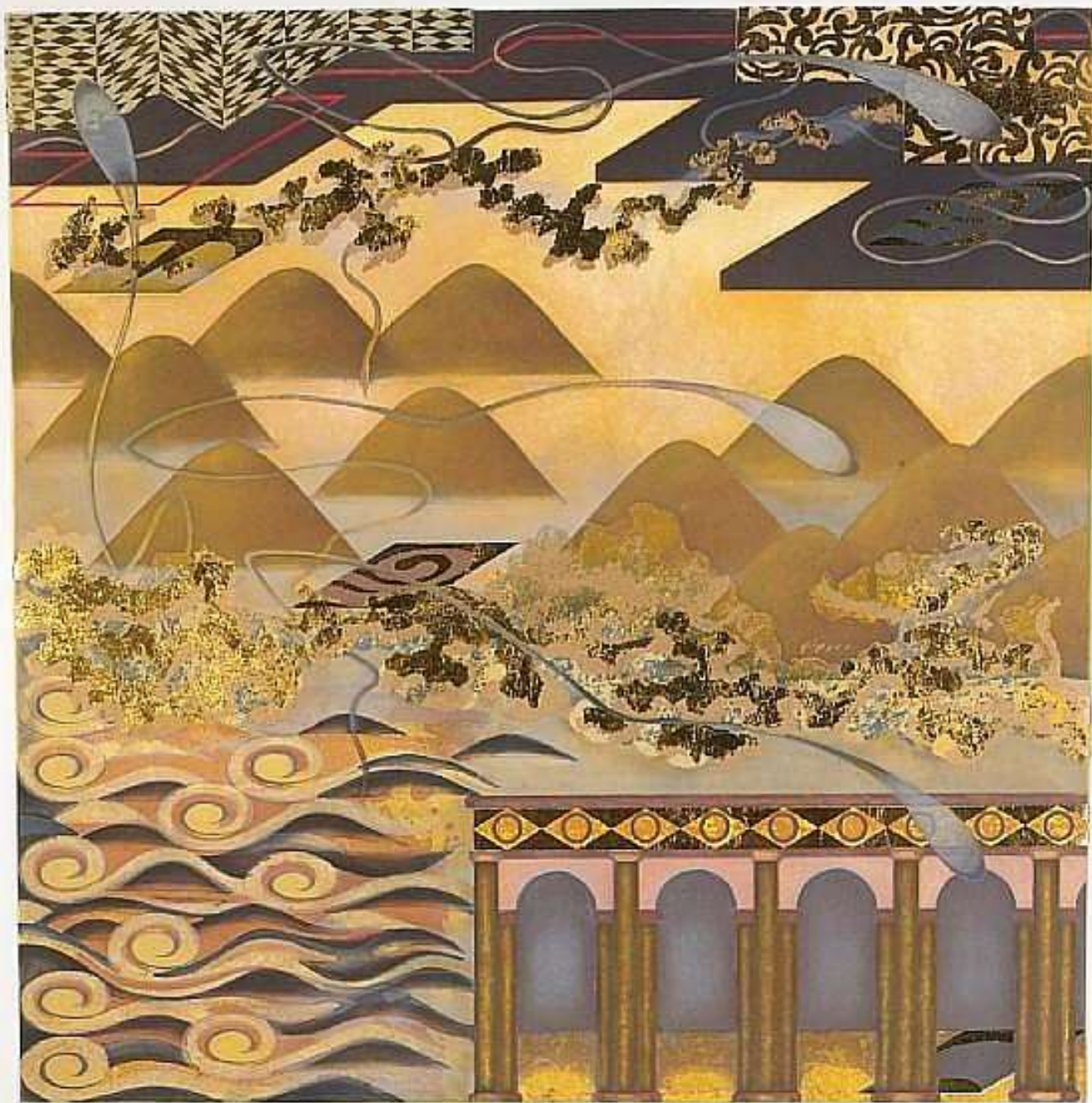
From the beginning, and intermittently over the course of her career, Yamaguchi has developed a repertoire of motifs sourced from her native Japan—images drawn from decorative screens, woodblock prints, kimono patterns, commercial graphic design—and deployed these in a manner she has dryly characterized as “self-orientalizing.” The artist’s “Japonisme,” so to speak, is further complicated by her engagement with other visual traditions intentionally outside of the current artistic zeitgeist, including European Romanticism, American Transcendentalism, Mexican Socialist murals, Art Nouveau, and Photorealism. Reveling in what has historically been deplored as fickle and superficial, and thus inevitably as feminine—as well as often racialized—the work manages to uncover commonalities between widely differing styles through Yamaguchi’s singular hand.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HTm7U--8t48&t=16s>









Takako Yamaguchi



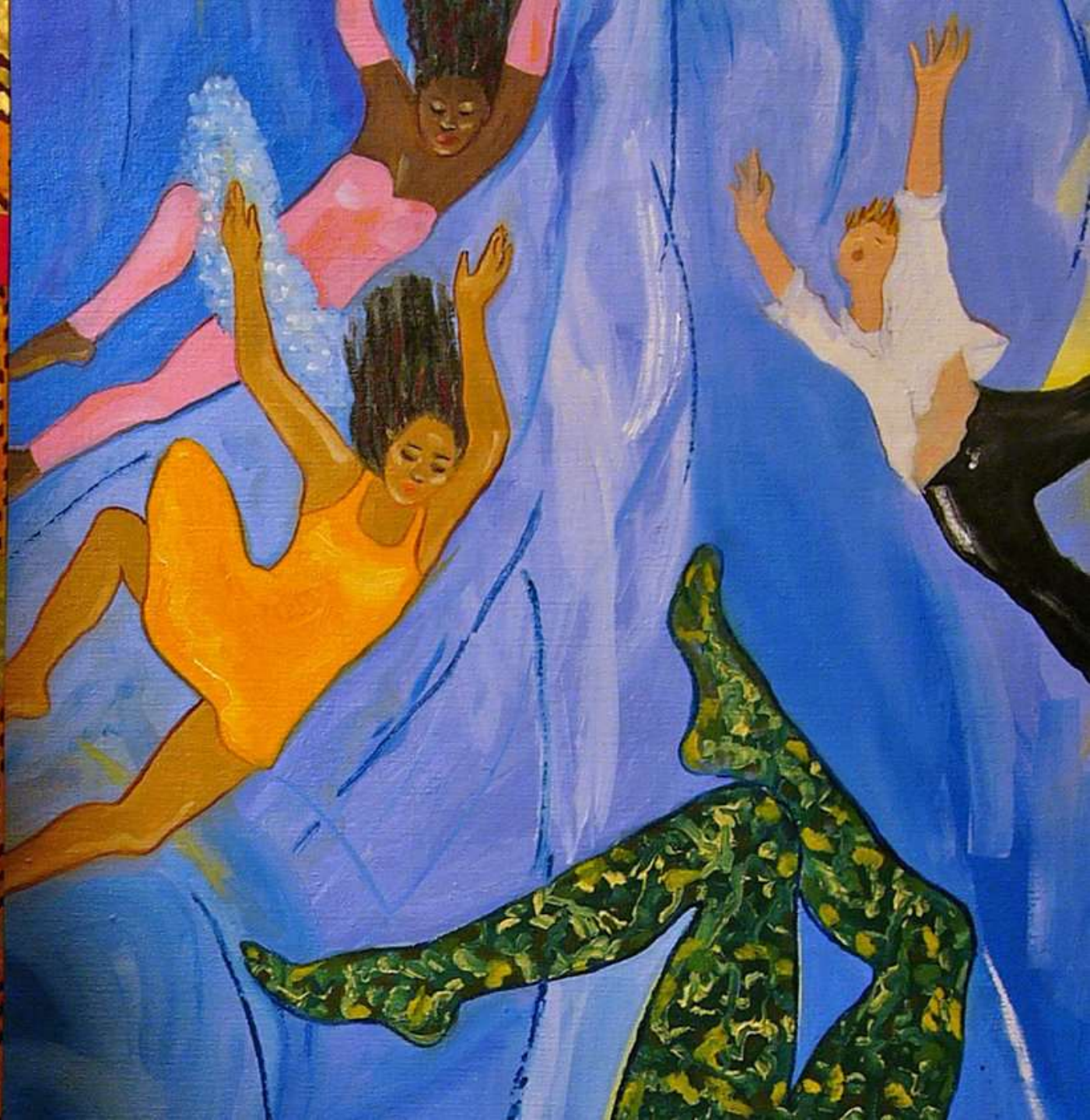


Emma Amos

Emma Amos was a postmodern African-American painter and printmaker.

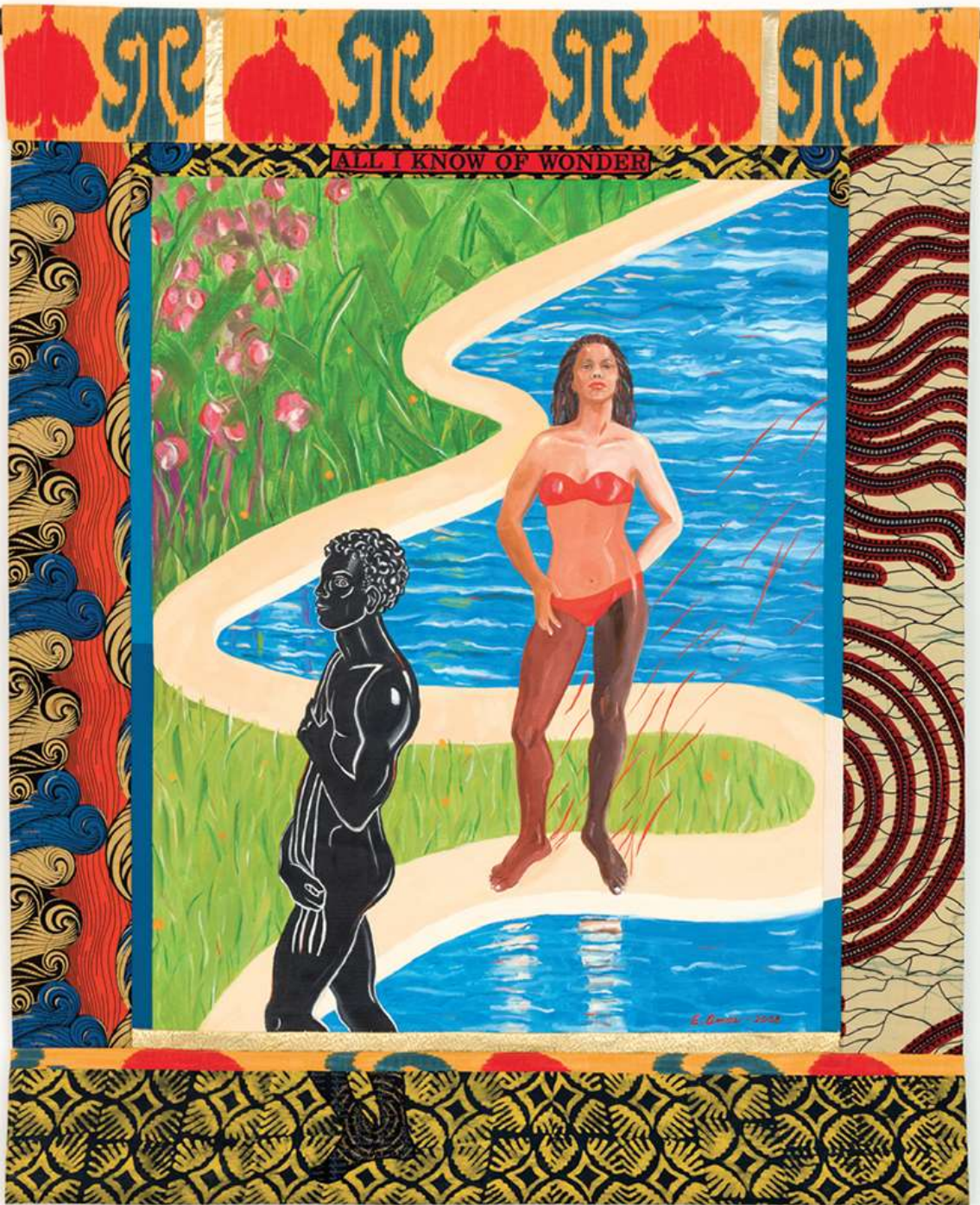
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ixaRmzDEPUw&t=9s>

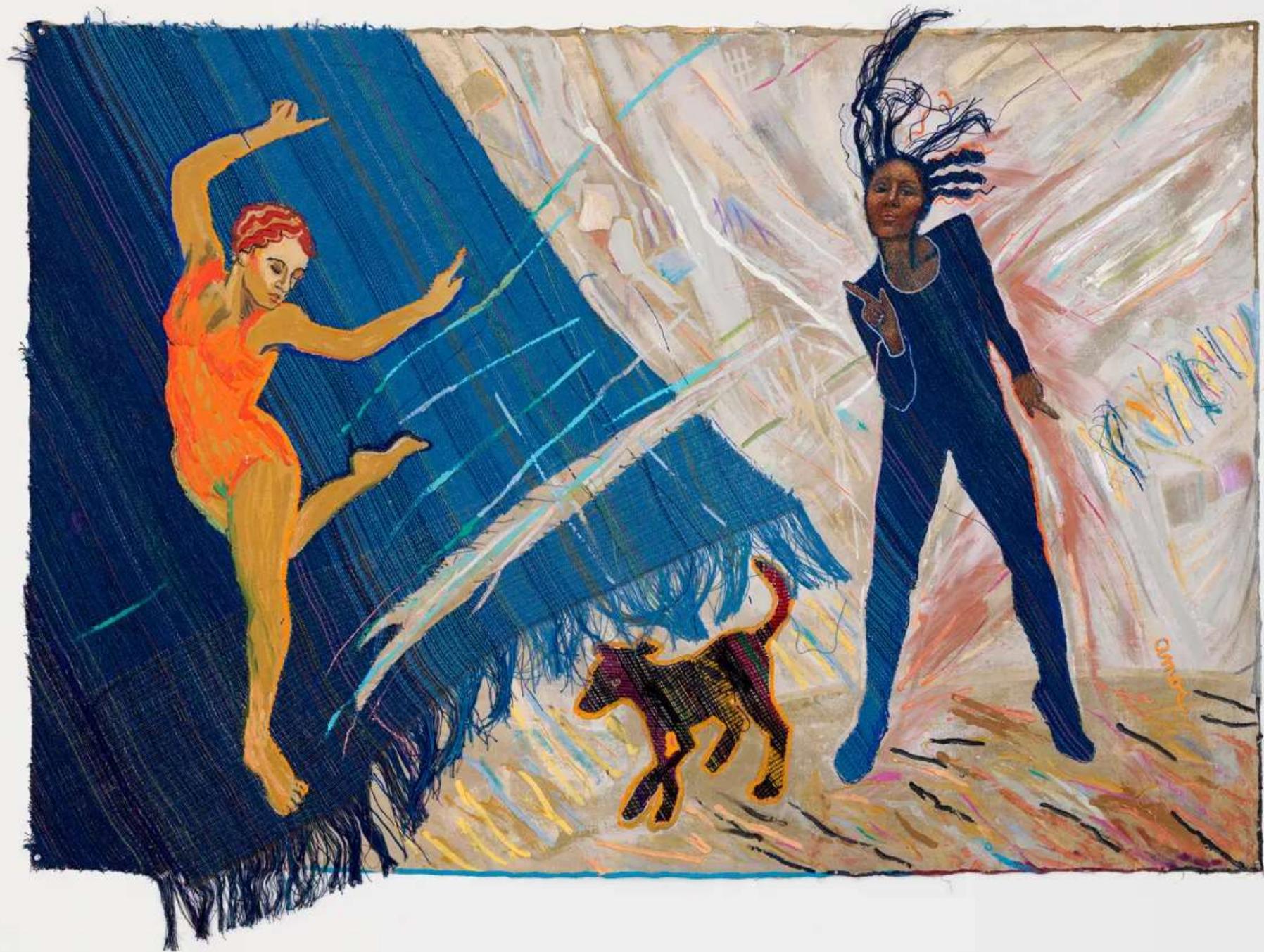
<https://ryanleegallery.com/artists/emma-amos/>











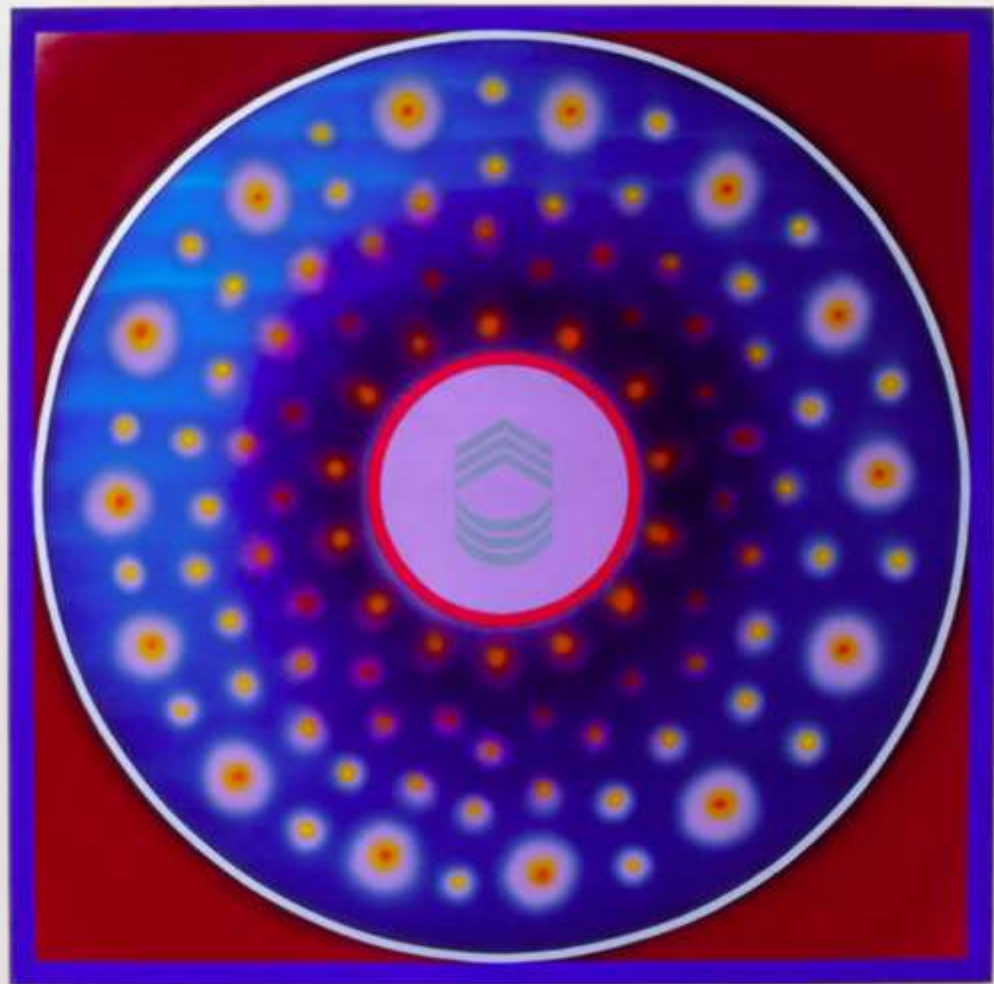
Billy Al Bengston

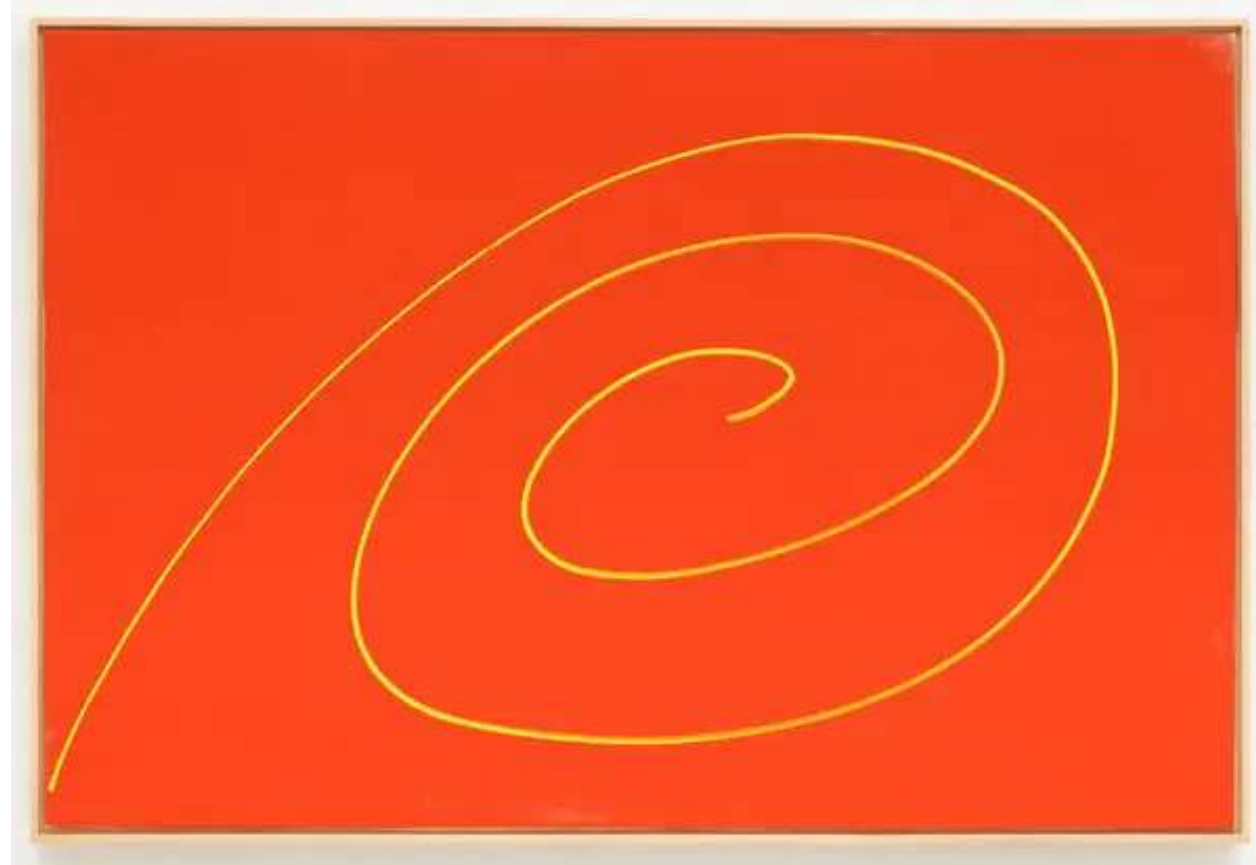
Billy Al Bengston was a contemporary American artist perhaps best known for his radical use of the aesthetics of Californian “Kustom Kar” and motorcycle culture of the late 1950s. Working in both painting and sculpture, his psychedelically colorful works feature mandala-like shapes with imagery derived from symbols, chevrons, and iris flowers. Bengston often used the industrial tools of custom car makers, particularly spray paint and lacquer applied to sheets of aluminum. Born on June 7, 1934 in Dodge City, KA, the artist studied under [Richard Diebenkorn](#) and [Saburo Hasegawa](#) at the California College of Arts and Crafts before moving to Los Angeles. There, Bengston began showing at the famed Ferus Gallery and established himself as part of a group that rejected the stereotype of the artist as a tormented individual, alongside famed Californian artists like [John McCracken](#), [Robert Irwin](#), and [Ed Ruscha](#).

<https://www.pbs.org/video/billy-al-bengston-on-his-art/>









Al Loving

Alvin D. Loving Jr., better known as Al Loving, was an African-American abstract expressionist painter. His work is known for hard-edge abstraction, fabric constructions, and large paper collages, all exploring complicated color relationships.

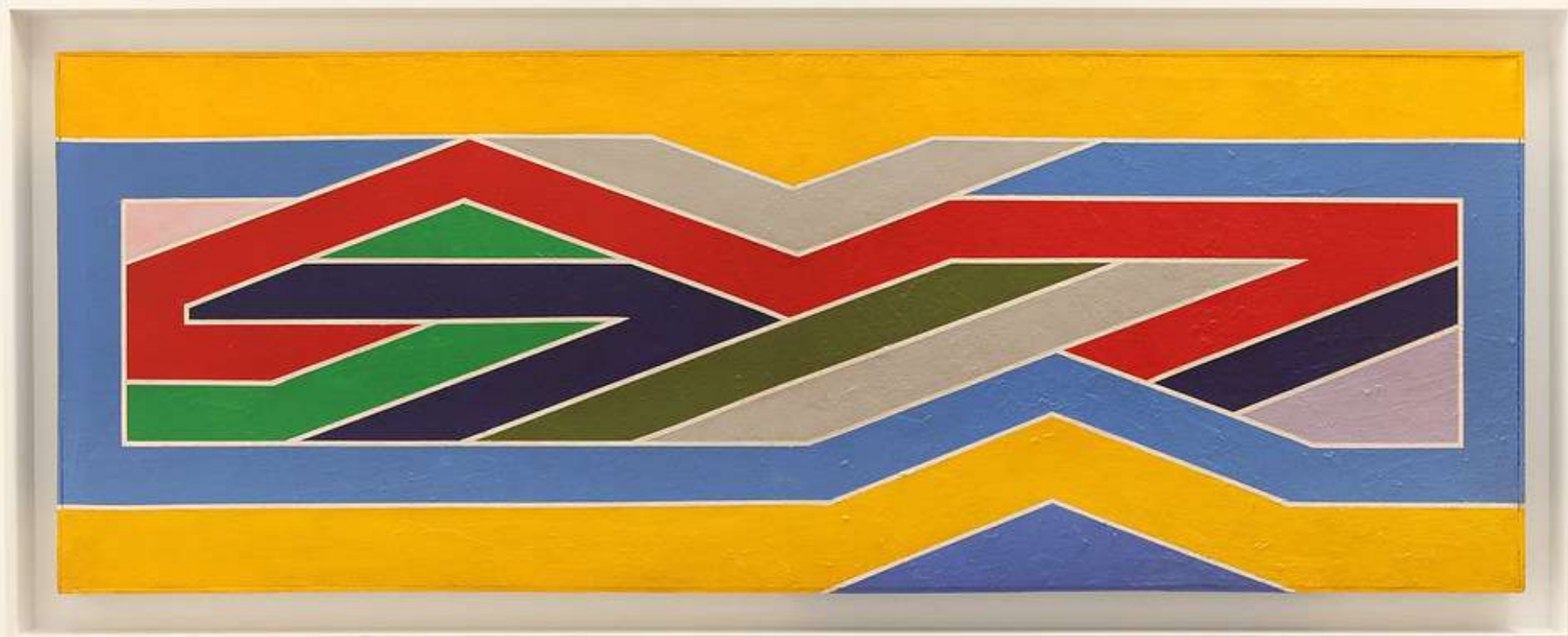
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZuqAnPVF0U&t=21s>













Betty Woodman

Betty Woodman (1930–2018) is recognized as one of the most important voices in postwar American art, having synthesized sculpture, painting, and ceramics in a highly original and immediately recognizable formal vocabulary. Her embodied readings of a diversity of ancient and modern art historical traditions, as well as her fearless pursuits of visual pleasure, posited her as a boldly contemporary figure whose work proves revelatory in discussions about gender, modernism, craft, architecture, and domesticity. She began as a precocious studio potter in the 1950s; over the subsequent decades, she created a radical new vision of how ceramics could function in a contemporary art context. Beginning in the early 2000s, she took on the legacies of Modernist masters like Matisse and Picasso in increasingly direct fashion, incorporating canvas in multimedia works and rendering interior scenes with the breadth and drama of epic history painting.

- <https://www.craftcouncil.org/magazine/article/masters-betty-woodman>
- <https://www.studioartsboulder.org/betty-woodman> (19 mins)







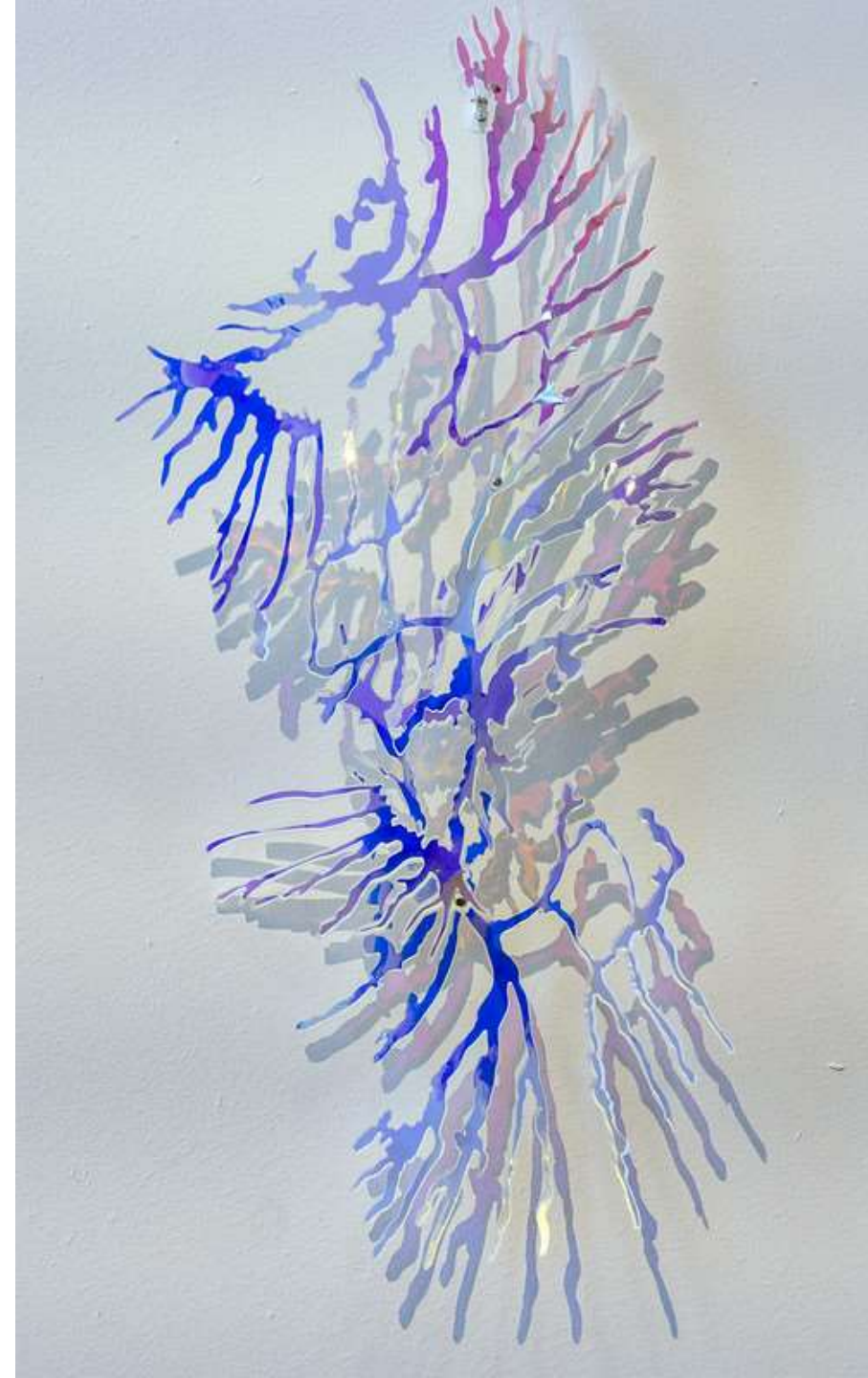




Barbara Zucker

Barbara M. Zucker is an American artist known for her sculpture. As of 2018 she was Professor Emerita, University of Vermont, and based in Burlington, Vermont. Born in Philadelphia, Zucker received a Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Michigan before receiving a Master of Arts from Hunter College.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7SkUBRmYB58&t=55s>

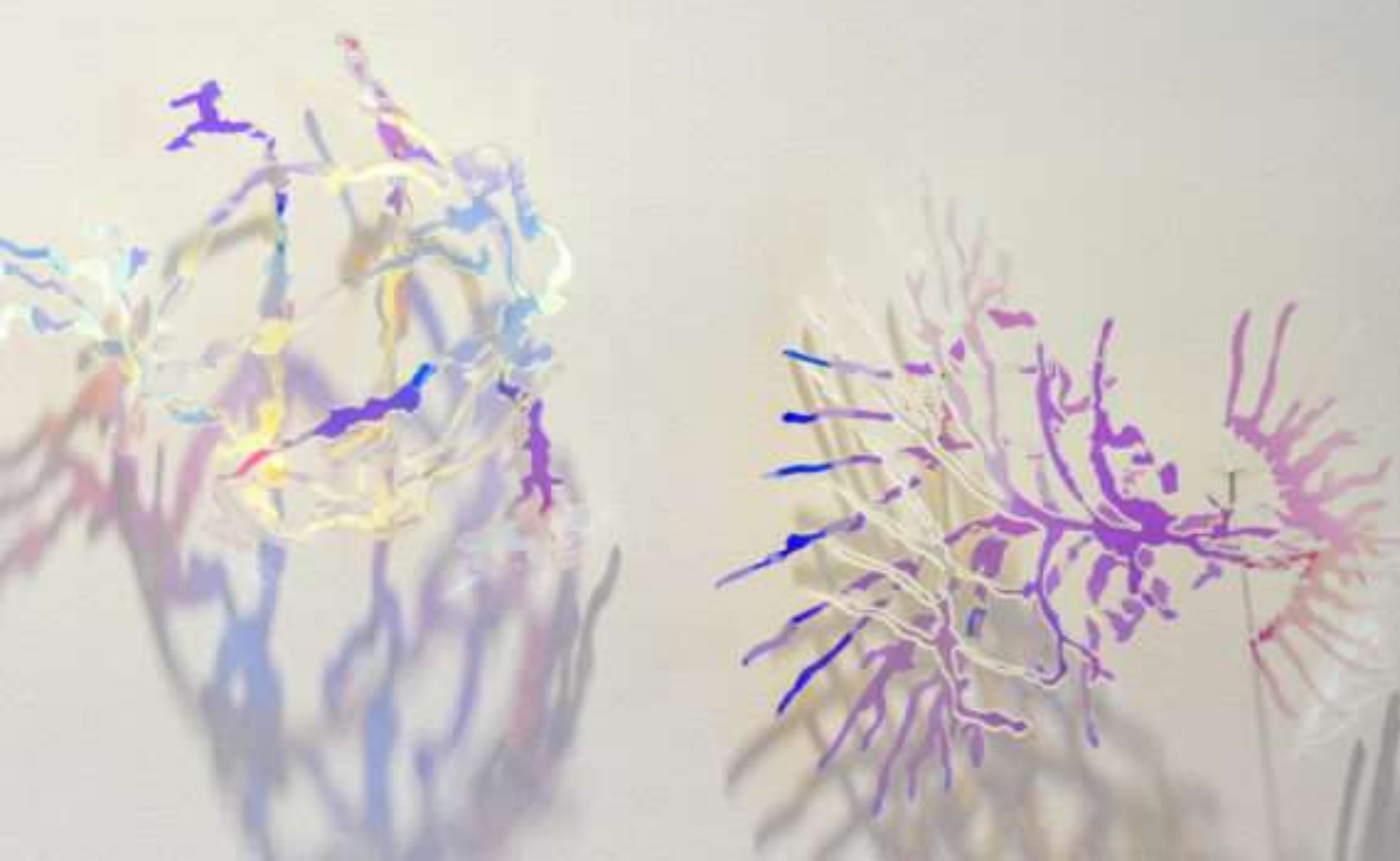






Time Signatures, Inuit Woman





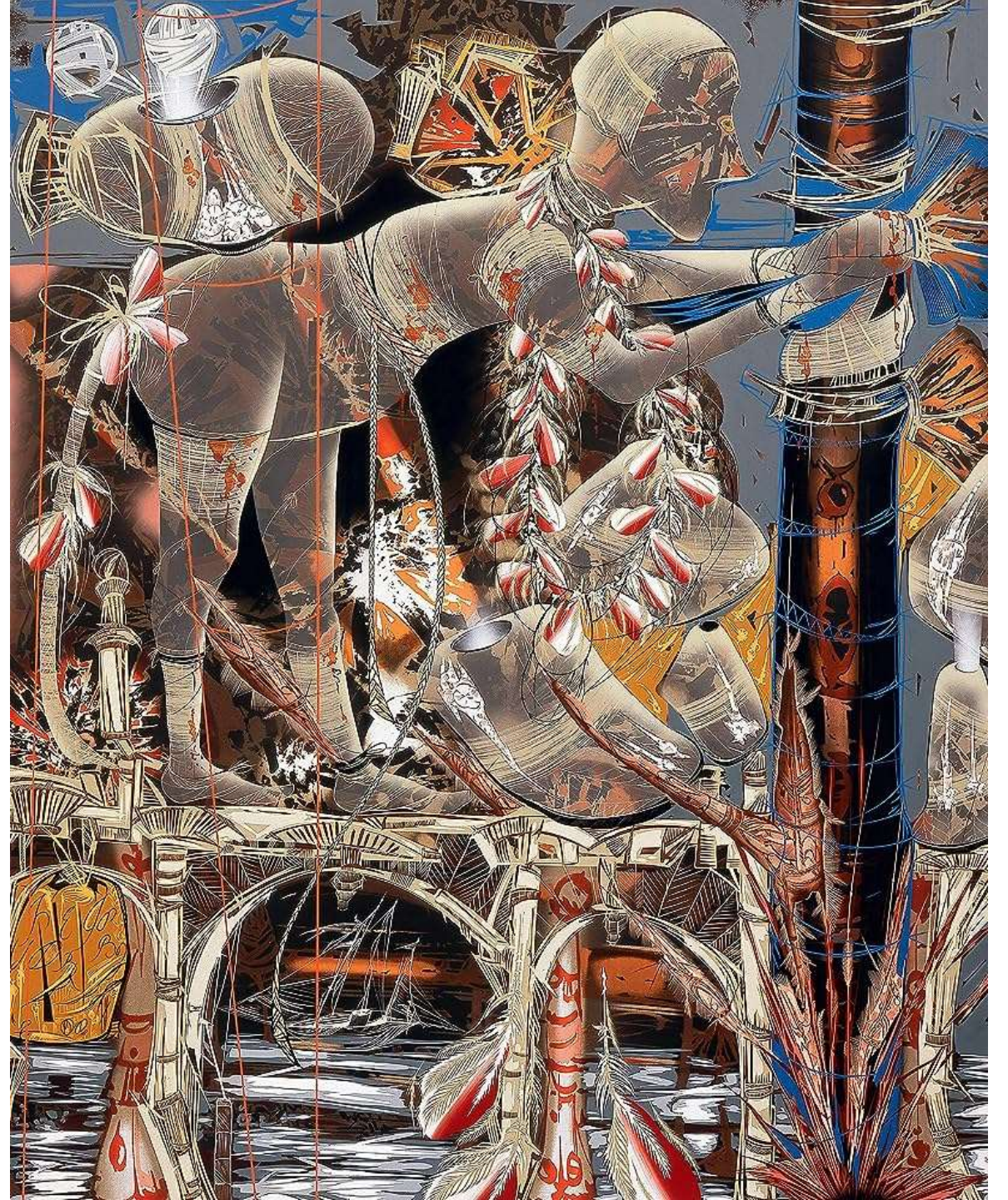
Lari Pittman

It is his maximalist messiness — his embrace of difference, however awkward or confounding — that connects Pittman's paintings to the beauty of Los Angeles.

Pittman celebrates the cacophonous exuberance and hopeful potential of the urban experience in his upcoming exhibition [*Sparkling Cities With Egg Monuments*](#), which opens next month at Lehmann Maupin Gallery in New York. The nine paintings in the exhibition depict imaginary fragmented city symphonies: soaring towers, tessellated brick facades, bridges, street lights, and abstracted roadways, joined together by dazzling fields of decorative ornament. Into these scenes, Pittman has inserted large “egg monuments” — ovoid forms that counter traditional phallic, grandiose memorials to captains of industry and war with symbols of open-ended, feminine possibility.

- <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=539652876800070>









Assignment Suggestions...

- Play with pretty patterns.
- Incorporate swatches of fabric into an artwork.
- Lay pattern on pattern.
- Sample some of your old artworks.