

NEWS

from the Worcester Art Museum

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ABSTRACT EXPRESSIONIST PRINTS @ WAM



Norman Bluhm, American, 1920-1999, *Untitled*, 1974,
Screenprint on cream wove paper, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. James N. Heald II, 2006.577

(WORCESTER, Mass., December 22, 2007) – The Worcester Art Museum is pleased to present **Abstract Expressionist Prints** — on view December 22, 2007 through March 16, 2008 — curated by David A. Acton, Curator of Prints, Drawings and Photographs.



Edith Posel, American, 1923-, *Untitled*, 1953,
Lithograph on cream wove paper, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. James N. Heald II, 2005.256

Since the presentation of *The Stamp of Impulse* in 2000, the Worcester Art Museum has come to be identified around the world with avant-garde American printmaking in of the 1940s and 1950s. This reputation is well founded, for since the time of the exhibition the Museum has continued to collect Abstract

Expressionist prints by gift and acquisition. This exhibition presents a selection of this work that has never been exhibited in Worcester. Among the artists represented are Grace Hartigan, Hedda Sterne, Alexander Liberman, Joan Mitchell, Robert Motherwell, Milton Resnick and Jackson Pollock.

The prints represented the entire stylistic array, which we now characterize as Abstract Expressionism, including Abstract Surrealism, biomorphism, painterly gesture and calligraphy. The works in the show exemplify a wide variety of printmaking media, and range in scale from miniature drypoints to mural-sized screenprints.



Sam Francis, 1923-1994, *Coldest Stone*, 1960,
Lithograph on cream wove paper, National Endowment for the Arts Museum Purchase Plan, 1977.79

About the Worcester Art Museum

The Worcester Art Museum, which opened to the public in 1898, is world-renowned for its 35,000-piece collection of paintings, sculpture, decorative arts, photography, prints, drawings and new media. The works span 5,000 years of art and culture. View paintings by Cassatt, Gauguin, Goya, Monet, Sargent and Whistler; admire floor mosaics from the ancient city of Antioch; see cutting-edge contemporary art; and discover the Museum's many other treasures. Special exhibitions showcase the masterworks, seldom-seen gems, and important works on loan. Enjoy a delectable lunch in the Museum Café, and browse the Shop for unique gifts and mementos.

Dedicated to the promotion of art and art education, the Museum offers a year-round studio art and art appreciation program that enrolls over 7,000 adult and youth students each year. Public tours are offered Saturdays at 11 a.m. and Sundays at 1 p.m., September through May. Audio tours are also available in English and Spanish.

Museum hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 11am-5pm, Third Thursdays of every month, 11am-8pm, and Saturday, 10am-5pm. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and full-time college students with current ID, and FREE for Members and all youth 17 and under. Admission is also FREE for everyone on Saturday mornings, 10am-noon (sponsored by Fidelity Investments, The TJX Companies, Inc. and National Grid).

The Museum is located at 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, Mass., easily accessible from the Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90), Route 290 and Route 9. Free parking is available near entrances on Salisbury, Lancaster and Tuckerman streets. For more information, call (508) 799-4406 or visit the Museum web site at www.worcesterart.org.

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ABSTRACT EXPRESSIONIST PRINTS

December 22, 2007 through March 16, 2008

Object Checklist

1. Norman Bluhm, American, 1920-1999, *Untitled*, 1974, Screenprint on cream wove paper, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. James N. Heald II, 2006.555
2. George R. Bunker, American, 1923-1991, *Garden Theme*, 1962, Lithograph on cream Rives RFK wove paper, 12/35, Gift from the George R. Bunker Living Trust, 1996.8.4
3. Jay De Feo, American, 1929-1989, *Untitled*, 1950, Drypoint on cream wove paper, Helen Sagoff Slosberg Fund, 1997.133
4. Roy De Forest, American, born in 1930, *Untitled*, 1957, Lithograph on cream wove paper, 1/8, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. James N. Heald II, 2006.582II
5. Willem de Kooning, American, 1904-1997, *Landscape at Stanton Street*, 1971, Lithograph on white wove paper, 23/60, National Endowment for the Arts Museum Purchase Plan, 1977.14
6. Claire Falkenstein, American, 1908-1997, *The Moving Point*, 1965, Lithograph on cream Rives BFK wove paper, 4/20, Richard A. Heald Fund, 1999.50
7. Sam Francis, 1923-1994, *Coldest Stone*, 1960, Lithograph on cream wove paper, National Endowment for the Arts Museum Purchase Plan, 1977.79
8. Helen Frankenthaler, American, born in 1928, *Connected by Joy*, 1969-1973, Etching and aquatint on brown Jeff Goodman handmade paper, printer's proof, Anonymous gift, 1987.73
9. Sam Glankoff, American, 1894-1982, *Untitled*, 1972, Monotype with casein, Gift of the artist's estate, 2003.179
10. Robert Goodnough, American, born in 1917, *Dinosaur*, 1958, Painted aluminum, Gift of Suzanne Lubell, 2006.484
11. Robert Goodnough, American, born in 1917, *Dinosaur*, 1965, Lithograph on cream Rives BFK wove paper, Gift of the artist, 1997.17
12. Adolph Gottlieb, American, 1903-1974, *Untitled*, 1972, Aquatint on cream wove paper, 5/75, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. James N. Heald II, 2006.583
13. Grace Hartigan, American, born in 1922, *In the Campana*, 1962-1966, Lithograph on white Italia handmade wove paper, special edition 5/10, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. James N. Heald II, 2005.241
14. Clinton Hill, American, born in 1922, *Tall Figure*, 1956, Woodcut on cream Japan paper; printed on two sheets, joined horizontally in the center, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. James N. Heald II, 2004.233

15. Reuben Kadish, American, 1913-1992, *Untitled*, 1961, Lithograph on cream Arches wove paper, Richard A. Heald Fund, 2000.20
16. James Kelly, American, 1913-2003, *Plexus*, 1953, Lithograph on white wove paper, 4/6, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. James N. Heald II, 2006.588II
17. Alfred Leslie, American, born in 1927, *Working Proof for the cover of Permanently*, 1959, Screenprint, Richard A. Heald Fund, 1995.67.6II
18. Frank Lobdell, American, born 1921, *Untitled*, 1948, Lithograph on cream Warren's Olde Style wove paper, 3/8, Gift of Frank Lobdell, Paula Z. Kirkeby and Phillip Kirkeby, 1992.93
19. Eleanore Lockspeiser, American, 1900 - 1986, *Untitled*, about 1961, Soft ground etching and drypoint on cream wove paper, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. James N. Heald II, 2006.589
20. Dorothy McCray, American, 1915 -, *Par coeur*, 1954, Lithograph on cream wove paper, Gift of the artist, 2007.000
21. George McNeil, American, 1908-1995, *Abstraction 4-47 (Crowded Red and Black)*, 1947, Screenprint on cream wove paper, 4/47, Thomas Hovey Gage Fund, 2006.14II
22. Joan Mitchell, American, 1926 - 1992, *Untitled*, 1959-60, Screenprint on cream wove paper, 10/18, Richard A. Heald Fund, 1995.67.60II
23. George Miyasaki, American, born in 1935, *February*, 1958, Lithograph on cream wove paper, 8/10, Helen Sagoff Slosberg Fund, 1988.210
24. Lee Mullican, American, born in 1919 or 1921, *Untitled*, 1950, Softground etching, aquatint, etching and drypoint on white wove paper, artist's proof, Helen Sagoff Slosberg Fund, 1997.38
25. Louise Nevelson, American, 1899-1988, *Untitled*, 1963, lithograph on cream Rives BFK wove paper, Tamarind proof, 2007.163
26. Ray Parker, American, twentieth century, *Untitled (CP 208)*, Lithograph on cream Arches wove paper, 31/60, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. James N. Heald II, 2004.238
27. Jackson Pollock, American, 1912-1956, *Untitled (Black Painting Number 22)*, 1951, Screenprint on cream Strathmore wove paper, 5/30, Eliza S. Paine Fund, 2001.102
28. Edith Posel, American, 1923-, *Untitled*, 1953, Lithograph on cream wove paper, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. James N. Heald II, 2005.256
29. Deborah Remington, American, born in 1935, *Alice in Dixieland*, 1954, Lithograph on cream Warren's Olde Style wove paper, Richard A. Heald Fund, 2000.38
30. Milton Resnick, American, 1917-2004, *Untitled*, 1970s, Collagraph on cream wove paper, 2007.16
31. David Simpson, American, born in 1928, *Untitled*, 1955, Lithograph on cream wove paper laid down on cardboard, Gift of the artist, 1993.68II
32. David Smith, American, 1906-1965, *Untitled (The Family)*, 1954, Lithograph on cream wove paper, 1/11, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. James N. Heald II, 2005.261

33. Juliette Steele, American, 1909-1980, *Eclipsing Binaries*, 1949, Softground etching and aquatint with stencil, 2/6?, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. James N. Heald II, 101.94.5II
34. Hedda Sterne, American, born in Russia, born in 1916, *Helicopter*, 1949, Lithograph on cream wove paper, Helen Sagoff Slosberg Fund, 2003.24II
35. Ary Stillman, American, 1891-1967, #7, 1953, Woodcut on cream Japan paper, Sarah C. Garver Fund, 2007.26
36. Sylvia Wald, American, born in 1915, *Dark Wings*, 1953-54, Screenprint on cream wove paper, artist's proof, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. James N. Heald II, 1991.217
37. Julius Wasserstein, American, 1924-1985, *Untitled*, 1959, Lithograph on cream wove paper, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. James N. Heald II, 2004.241
38. Adja Yunkers, American, born in Latvia, 1900-1983, *Salt V*, 1960, Lithograph on cream Arches wove paper, 5/15, Gift of G. W. Einstein, 1990.138.5II