DRAWN
TO ABSTRACTION
Prints from the 1960s and 70s
SORDONI
ART GALLERY
WILKES UNIVERSITY

Drawn to Abstraction: Prints from the 1960s and 70s

March 31 - May 17, 2020

Artists:
Joseph Albers
Richard Anuszkiewicz
Lee Bontecou
Dan Christensen
Sister Corita (Kent)
Allan M. D'Arcangelo
Piero Dorazio
Max Ernst
Sorel Etrog
Helen Frankenthaler
Adolph Gottlieb
Charles Hinman
Robert Indiana
Paul Jenkins
Ellsworth Kelly
Reiji Kimura
Roy Lichtenstein
Vincent Longo
Conrad Marca-Relli
Joan Miró
Robert Motherwell
Robert Natkin
Claes Oldenburg
Robert Rauschenberg
Omar Rayo
Larry Rivers
Ed Ruscha
Pierre Soulages
Frank Stella
Victor Vaserly
Jack Youngerman
Adja Yunkers
Larry Zox

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This exhibition is organized by the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

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Designer: Lisa Reynolds, M.F.A.

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Cover image credit: Frank Philip Stell, *Black Adder,* 1968; Ed Ruscha, *Brews,* 1970; Robert Indiana, *Number 2,* 1968; Patrick Caulfield, *Interior: Night,* 1970

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Drawn to

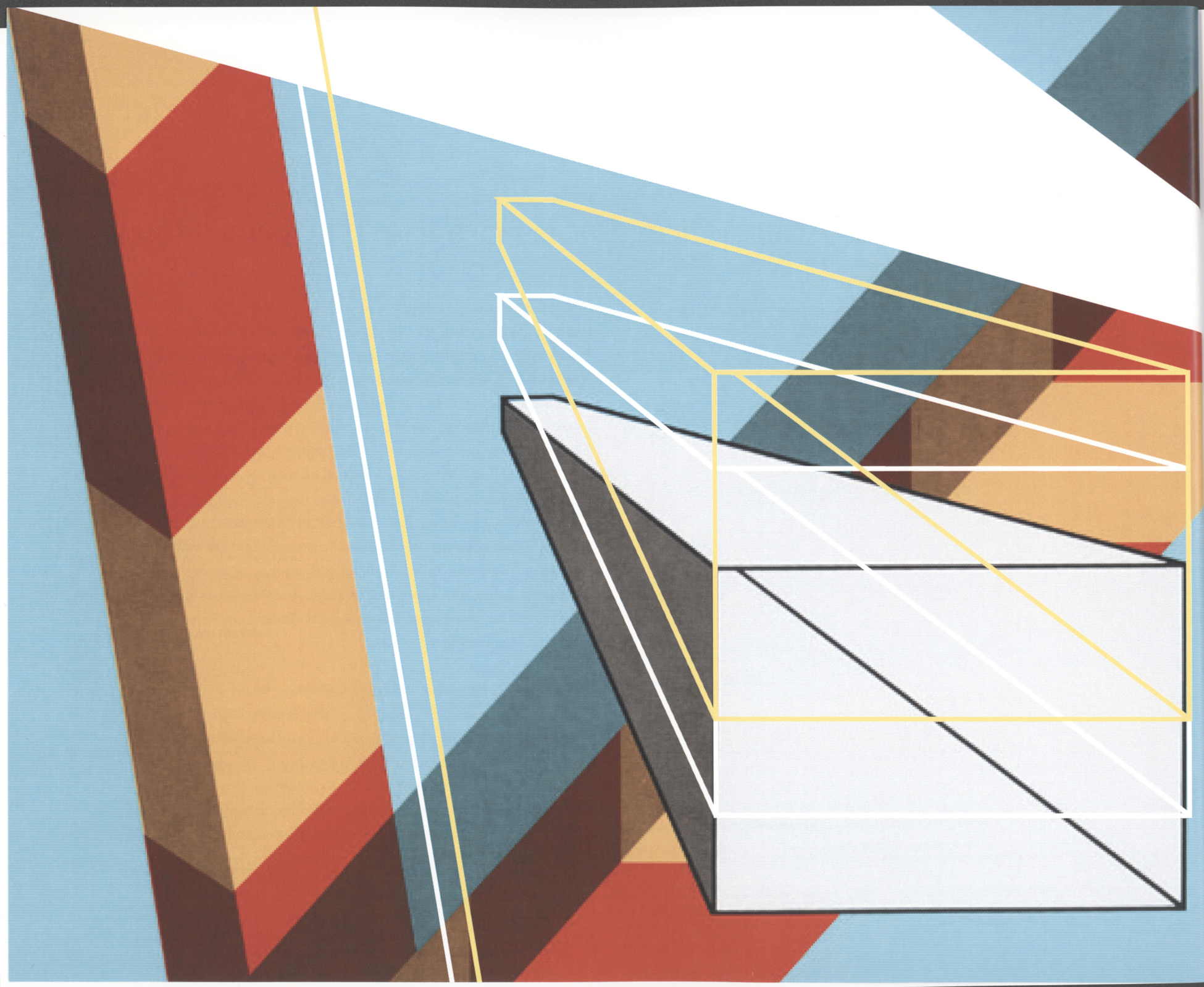
Contributed Text

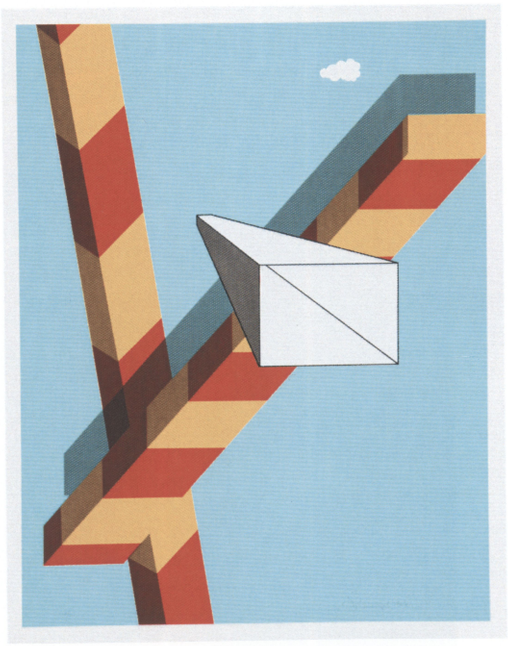
Drawn to Abstraction: Prints from the 1960s and 70s

Contributed Text

The mid- to late-20th century in America was a time of boundary testing and social critique. Artists, too, challenged accepted techniques and subject matter while critically examining the role of art in society. Abstract Expressionism—America's first home-grown, avant-garde art movement—attempted to heal the traumas of post-war society, emerging from a sense that American society was losing touch with a spiritual core. In the 1960s and '70s, the art scene continued to fracture, stylistically and philosophically, as some artists continued to explore the techniques of action painters and color field artists. Meanwhile, other artists, identified as "Minimalist," reacted by returning to push the boundaries of a reductive impulse initiated earlier in the century. Experimentation with placing the emphasis on the experience of the viewer led to Op Art. And Pop Artists spurned the earnest emotionality and psychological alienation at the core of Abstract Expressionism.

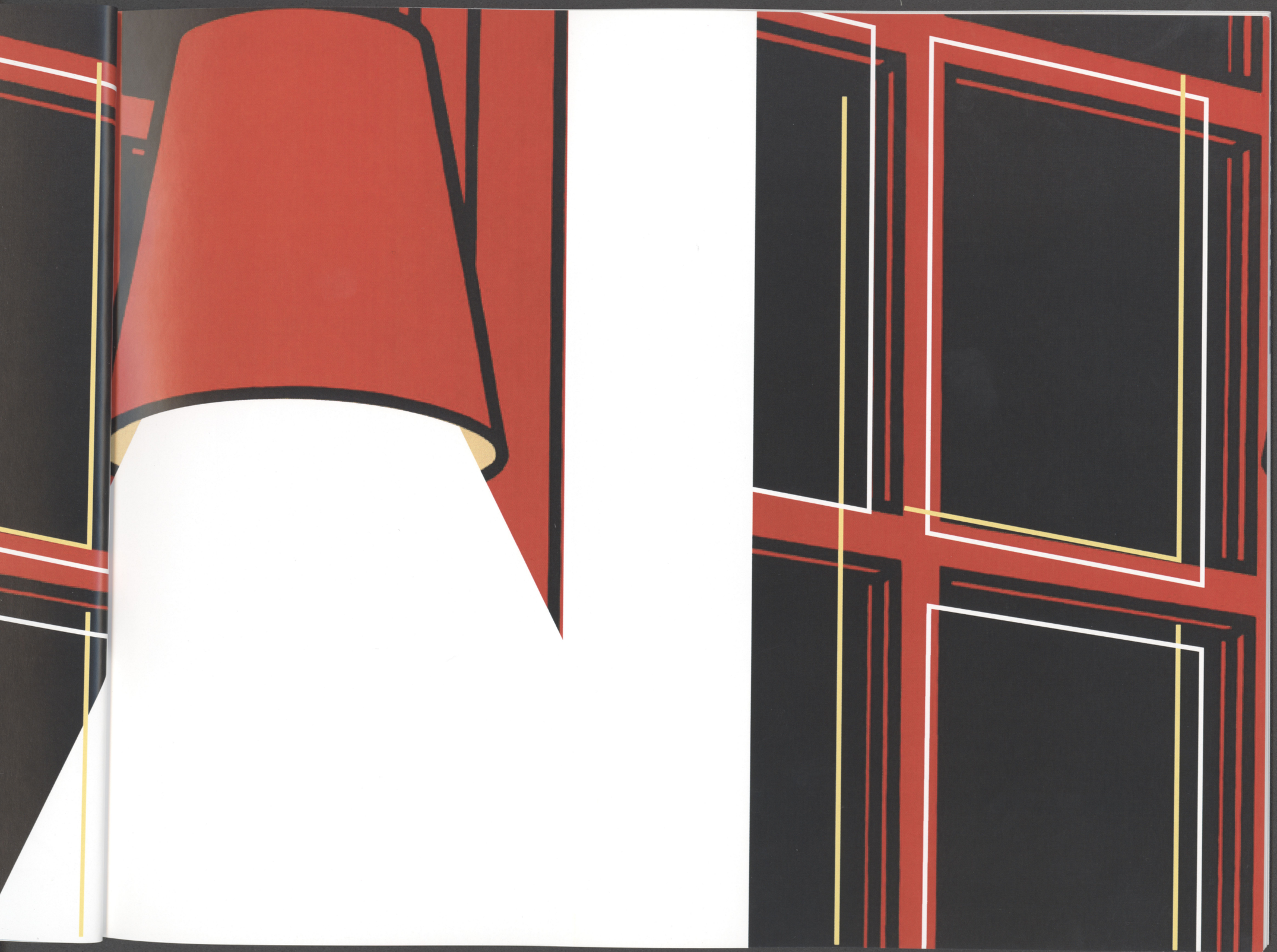
Printmaking brought the excitement of the New York and International art scene within reach of a wider range of collectors. The works in this exhibition capture the vibrancy of the emerging abstract movements during this time, including Abstract Expressionism, Minimalism, Op Art, and Pop Art. This exhibition features an extraordinary collection of works on paper by artists now widely recognized as giants of 20th-century art: Josef Albers, Helen Frankenthaler, Robert Rauschenberg, Roy Lichtenstein, Claes Oldenburg, Frank Stella, and others.



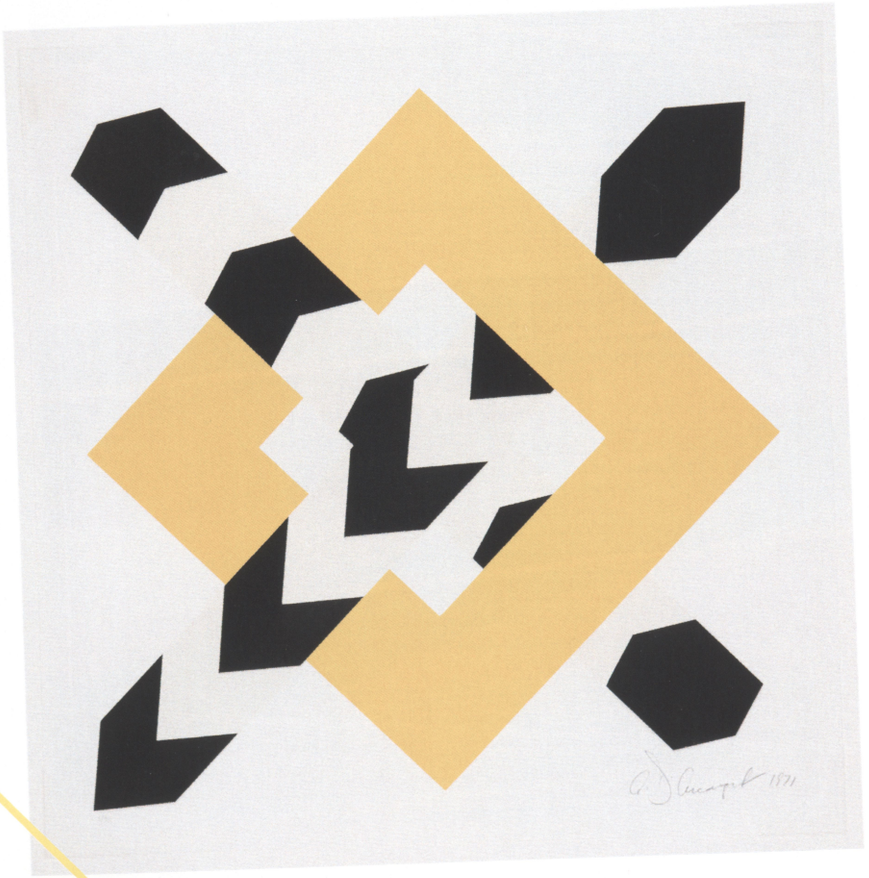


Allan M. D'Arcangelo
American, 1930-1998
Landscape, 1968
screenprint
image (flush): 27 7/8 x 21 7/8 in. (70.8 x 55.6 cm)
sheet: 27 7/8 x 21 7/8 in. (70.8 x 55.6 cm)
mat: 40 x 30 in. (101.6 x 76.2 cm)
Gift of Mr. & Mrs. Robert Youngman

Patrick Caulfield
British, 1936-2006
Interior: Night, 1970
screenprint
image flush: 28 x 23 in. (71.1 x 58.4 cm)
Gift of Dr. Milton F. Campbell



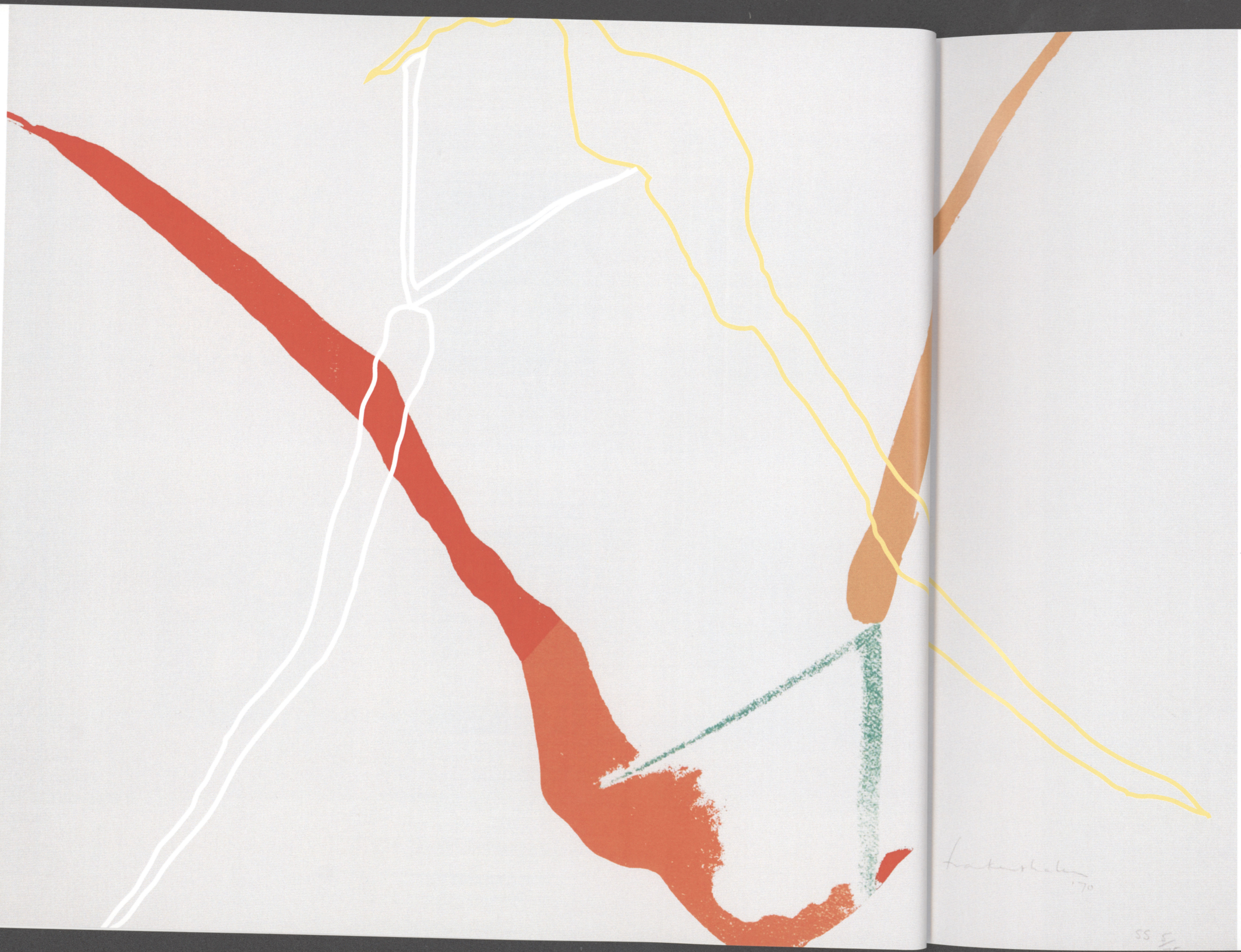
Lee Bontecou
American, 1931-
Etching One, 1967
etching
sheet: 25 3/4 x 19 1/2 in. (65.4 x 49.5 cm)
image: 17 3/4 x 11 7/8 in. (45.1 x 30.2 cm)
Bequest of Charlotte Collins from the
Charles and Charlotte Collins Collection

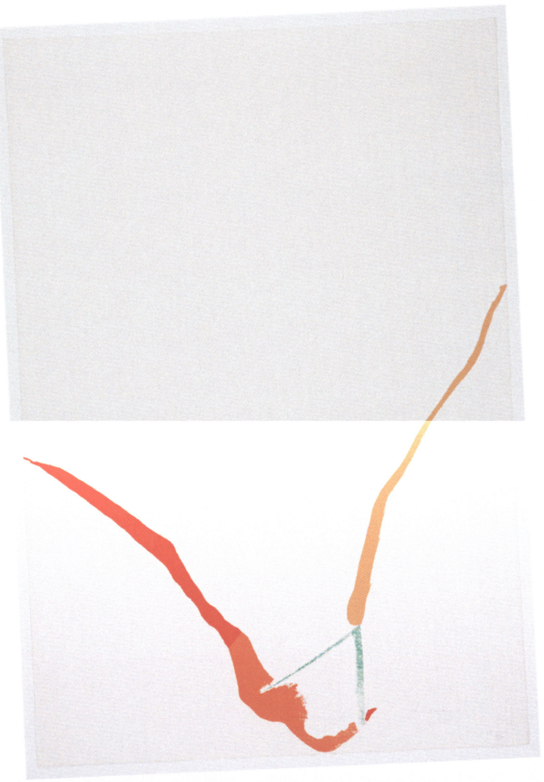


Allan M. D'Arcangelo
American, 1930-1998
Constellation IV, 1971
screenprint
sheet: 26 x 26 in. (66 x 66 cm)
image: 24 x 24 in. (61 x 61 cm)
Bequest of Charlotte Collins from the Charles and Charlotte Collins Collection

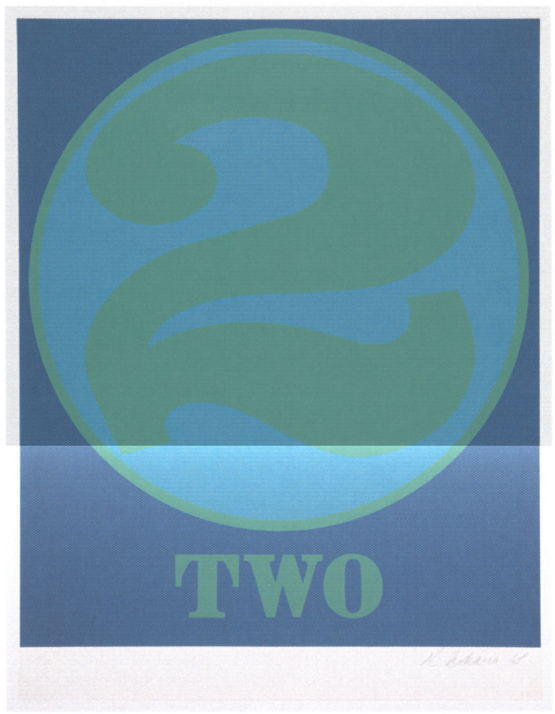
Piero Dorazio
Italian, 1927-2005
Fenice, 1968
aquatint
sheet: 25 1/2 x 19 3/4 in. (64.8 x 50.2 cm)
image: 11 3/4 x 9 3/4 in. (29.8 x 24.8 cm)
Bequest of Charlotte Collins from the Charles and Charlotte Collins Collection

Helen Frankenthaler
American, 1928-2011
Solarium, 1964
lithograph
sheet: 25 3/4 x 19 1/2 in. (65.4 x 49.5 cm)
image: 18 x 14 in. (45.7 x 35.6 cm)
Bequest of Charlotte Collins from the Charles and
Charlotte Collins Collection

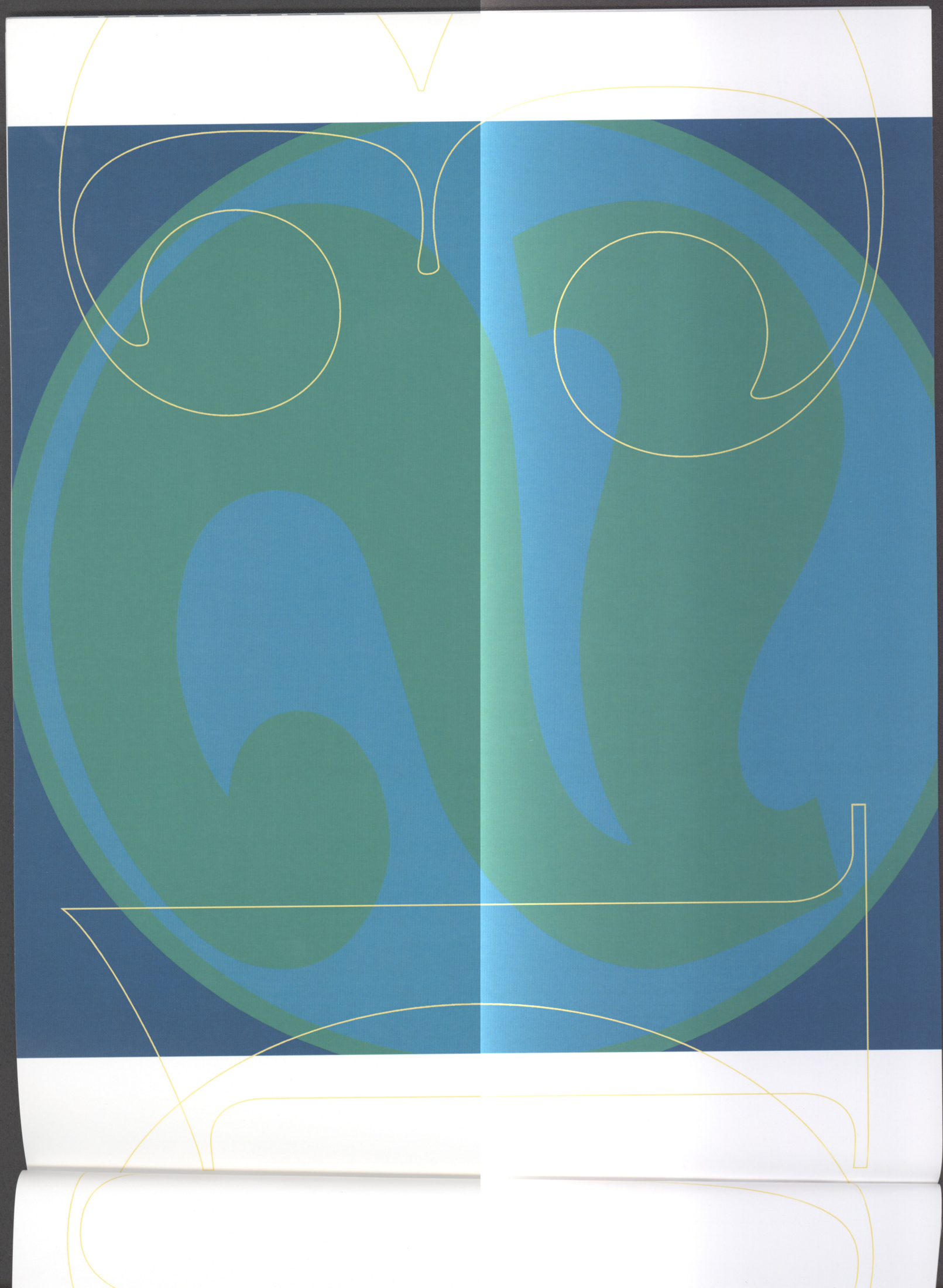


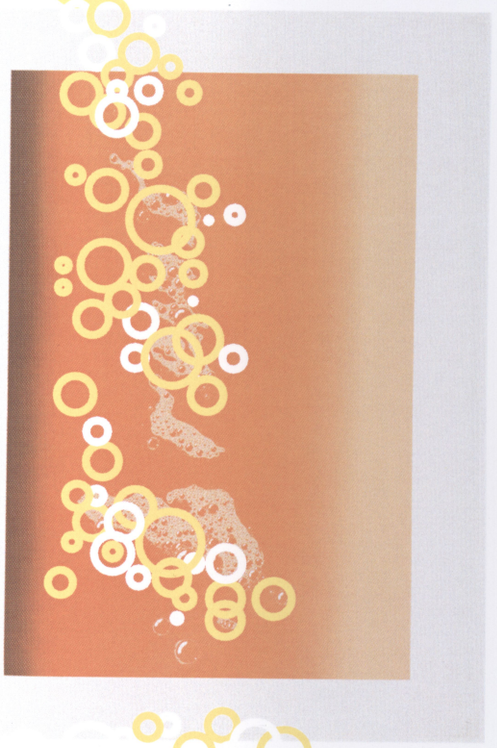


Helen Frankenthaler
American, 1928-2011
What Red Lines Can Do, 1970
screenprint
image: 38 3/8 x 26 1/8 in. (97.5 x 66.4 cm)
Bequest of Charlotte Collins from the Charles
and Charlotte Collins Collection

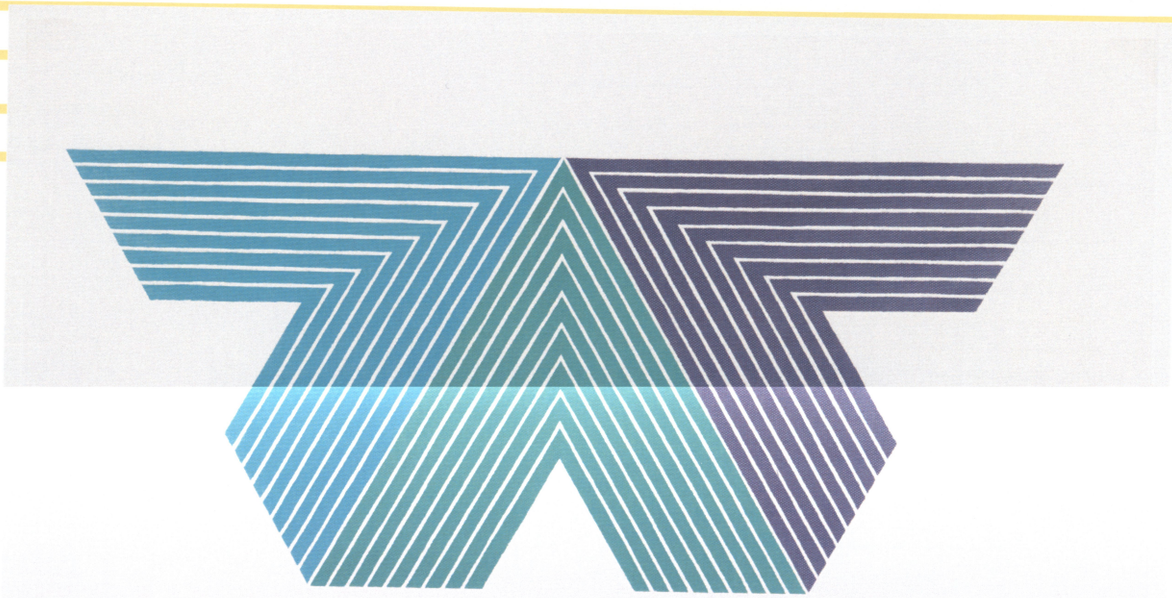


Robert Indiana
American, 1928-2018
Number 2, 1968
screenprint
image: 25 1/4 x 19 3/4 in. (64.1 x 50.2 cm)
Bequest of Charlotte Collins from the
Charles and Charlotte Collins Collection





Ed Ruscha
American, 1937-
Brews, 1970
screenprint
sheet: 23 x 32 in. (58.4 x 81.3 cm)
image: 18 x 27 in. (45.7 x 68.6 cm)
Bequest of Charlotte Collins from the
Charles and Charlotte Collins Collection



Frank Philip Stella
American, 1936-
Black Adder, 1968
lithograph
image: 16 1/4 x 29 in. (41.3 x 73.7 cm)
Bequest of Charlotte Collins from the
Charles and Charlotte Collins Collection

Claes Oldenburg
American, 1929-
Proposal for a Colossal Monument in the form of a Typewriter Eraser for Alcatraz Island, 1975
offset lithograph
image: 31 1/4 in. x 24 in. (79.4 x 61 cm)
mat: 40 x 30 in. (101.6 x 76.2 cm)
Elisabeth Claire Lahti Fund Purchase

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The mission of the Sordoni Art Gallery is to encourage an appreciation of the arts and an understanding of its role in society through direct engagement with art. Our main focus is to present high-quality exhibitions, related programming, and publications in a wide range of media, topics, cultures, and time periods.

The vision of the Sordoni Art Gallery is to be a recognized and respected center for the creation of innovative learning environments and programs for the appreciation and study of visual art benefiting the academic and cultural community of Wilkes University and the surrounding Region.

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Paige Gallagher, *Member Support*
Jessica Morandi, *Student Designer*

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