

**Paul
Frets**

A Retrospective

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Paintings

Prints

Drawings

Sculpture

Essay: Arthur Jones

Editor: Steve Arbury

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Flossie Martin Gallery

Radford University Art Museum

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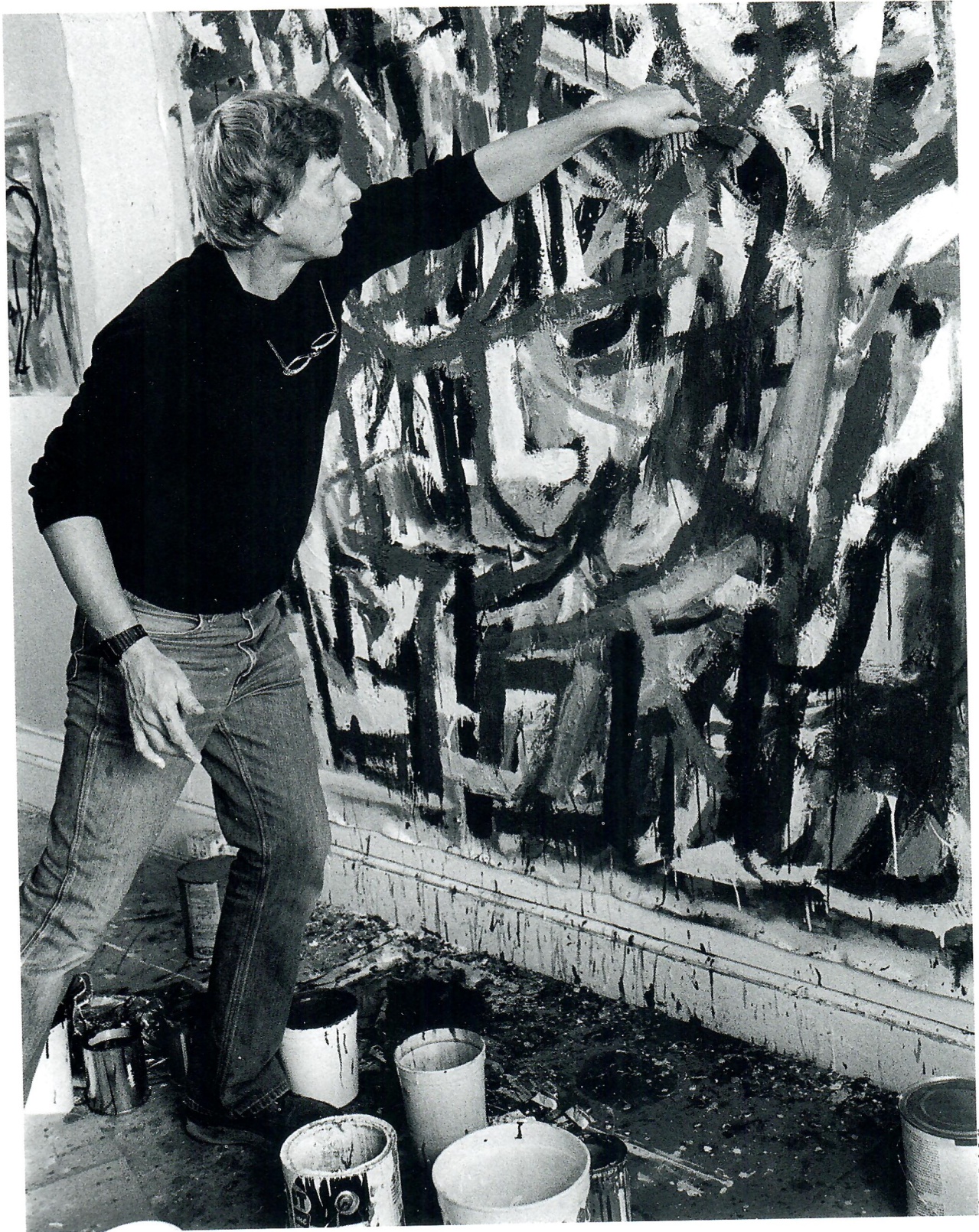


photo: Jack Jeffers

Paul Frets painting in his downtown Radford studio in 1985.

Paul Frets

A Retrospective

I first met Paul Wiley Frets in 1993, when I came to Radford University to serve as the Chair of the Art Department. For the next three years Paul and I were close colleagues (although he often accidentally called me "Art Smith" instead of "Art Jones"). As we got to know each other better, I often visited his painting studio in downtown Radford, where many afternoons were spent discussing art—particularly his then ongoing series of *Silent Earth* paintings, which I jokingly referred to as his "dirty pictures" because they were built up in thick layers of indigenous Virginia earth suspended in acrylic medium. This nonrepresentational series intrigued me as I became mesmerized staring at walls filled with closely spaced canvases of various sizes. Because these original paintings were created out of the most unpretentious and oldest of materials, local soil, they revealed the artist's commitment to the idea of building paintings literally from the ground up. They also expressed his belief that the "natural stuff" has a life of its own.

It has long been Paul's view that meaning is implicit in form, or put another way, that all material reality has a core of inner meaning. Although "silent" in many cases, for Paul this core reality is still adept at revealing nourishing glimpses of the immaterial. The primeval concept of creating through undivided and focused energy, and forming—shaping matter in order to reveal the unity of the immaterial and the material—has been the artist's sincere intent.

Aside from his *Silent Earth* paintings, every other area of Paul's studio was crowded with earlier works, some of them even extending back to his childhood. One day I took the liberty to comb through his enormous studio, where his entire life story in art unfolded—from talented child to emerging young artist, from experimental art student to lifelong artist and teacher. It was at this moment that I first envisioned a Paul Frets retrospective, which has come about more than a decade after its initial spark.

The exhibition provides a comprehensive overview of an artist's emergence through the various stages of his development. It includes examples of paintings and drawings, as well as sculpture, which he

also has occasionally produced. Over the years Paul's range of styles has been extensive because he has at times explored naturalism as well as nonrepresentation. While his major emphases in painting have extended from abstract expressionism through tighter geometric abstraction and neo-expressionist figuration, he is also fully capable of rendering extremely realistic subjects—although the latter has rarely interested him.

The Artist's Life and Career

Paul Frets was born in Rector, Arkansas, in 1935. At the age of two, his family moved to Detroit, Michigan, where Paul attended elementary and middle school. His interest in painting began during his childhood in Detroit, where he was awarded a scholarship to the City Art Program for the Gifted. After his family moved back to Arkansas, Paul completed high school and then entered Arkansas State University. Not surprisingly, he majored in art, but was also involved in varsity baseball. The latter interest grew so intense that in 1957 he dropped out of college during his junior year and signed a professional baseball contract. Shortly thereafter he got married, and was then drafted into the army until being honorably discharged due to a knee injury. In 1958 he re-enrolled in college and, after receiving his bachelor's degree in 1960, became a high school art teacher.

By 1963, as a father of three, Paul sought more advanced artistic training. After graduating with a Master of Arts degree in art from the University of Missouri in 1964, he was hired to teach painting and drawing as an Assistant Professor at Radford University. The early years in Radford, from 1964 to 1969, were prolific as Paul began to exhibit his works regionally and nationally. During this period he first met New York artist Dorothy Gillespie, a Virginia native who gradually developed strong ties with Radford University, which now owns the largest institutional collection of Gillespie's art. Over the years Paul got to know Gillespie as a mentor and friend because she became a frequent visitor to the Radford campus.

In 1969, Paul received a professional development leave from Radford University and was awarded an Andrew Mellon Fellowship to pursue a Doctor of Art degree in painting at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. There he met New York painters Elaine de Kooning (1920-1989) and Gandy Brodie (1925-1975). A close relationship between the three artists soon followed as Paul worked as de Kooning's and Brodie's studio assistant. Frets learned a lot about the technical and philosophical aspects of art, as well as about the New York art scene, from these two mentors. After completing his D.A. degree in 1971, Paul returned to teach at Radford University, where he was promoted to the rank of full Professor.

Through his association with nationally acclaimed artists he had met in Pittsburgh, during the 1970's Paul began to develop connections with New York galleries and received other opportunities to show his work nationally. The death of his former mentor Gandy Brodie in 1975 prompted a series of abstract paintings, entitled *Gandy Trees*, as a eulogy. Meanwhile Elaine de Kooning continued to have a strong impact on Paul's art as his mentor. She also became his close personal friend—a relationship that endured until her death.

During the period of the 1970's through the mid-1990's, Paul continued to work at Radford University. When he retired in 1996, Paul was awarded the status of Professor Emeritus of Art. Throughout his career as a professor, he had exhibited throughout the United States and his works received numerous awards. His works were also acquired by museums and galleries, as well as by public, corporate and private collections. Since his retirement from teaching, Paul has continued to have opportunities to show his paintings in New York and Virginia.

Recently Paul undertook the huge endeavor of relocating his Radford studio—and all of the works contained within it that account for his life spent in art. After renting the second floor of a downtown commercial building as his studio for nearly three decades, he was forced to relocate after his landlord sold the building. In 2001, he purchased an unfinished shell building and has spent three years in additional construction to finish his new studio space. Many more paintings are expected to follow.

– Arthur F. Jones



photo: Vance Cox

Frets on a visit to Brooklyn, New York, in the early eighties.

Paul Wiley Frets

- 1935** Born July 1 in Rector, Arkansas, to Paul William Frets and Marie Wiley Frets.
- 1937** Frets family moved to Detroit, Michigan, where Paul attended elementary and middle school.
- Mid 1940's** First art teacher and influence was Mrs. Kaplan.
- Late 1940's** Awarded scholarship to the City Art Program for the Gifted.
- 1949** At age 14 moved back to Rector, Arkansas.
- 1953** Graduated from Rector High School, Rector, Arkansas. Enrolled at Arkansas State University. Studied painting with Ned Griner. Played varsity baseball.
- 1957** Signed minor league baseball contract with Athletics Organization. Married Jerry Beverly Glaub, July 8. Drafted into the Army mid July. Later received an honorable discharge due to severe knee injury.
- 1958** Enrolled at Arkansas State University. Son Kyle born July 23. Taught elementary school in Rector, Arkansas.
- 1960** Graduated from Arkansas State University with B.S. Ed. degree. Taught art, Kennett High School in Kennett, Missouri. Daughter Vicki born November 7.
- 1962** Daughter Valarie born July 21.
- 1963** Enrolled at the University of Missouri at Columbia in summer. Studied painting with John Weller. Awarded Graduate Assistantship in Art Department to work in University Gallery.
- 1964** Graduated from the University of Missouri at Columbia with an M.A. degree in art. Hired as Assistant Professor of Art at Radford University, Radford, Virginia, teaching painting and drawing.



photo: Jerry C. Frets

Frets with paintings from the *Silent Earth* series in his downtown Radford studio, circa 1998.

Had first two-person show at the University Gallery at Radford University.

- 1968** Met artist Dorothy Gillespie who became a long-time friend and mentor.
- 1969** Extensive local, regional, and national exhibitions during 1964-1969. Received a sabbatical from Radford University. Awarded an Andrew Mellon Fellowship to attend Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Began work on D.A. degree in painting. Worked as an assistant to Gandy Brodie. Met Elaine de Kooning, Mellon Chair recipient, and later worked as her assistant. Taught drawing in the Carnegie Museum Art Program for gifted high school students. First trip to New York. Stayed at Elaine de Kooning's studio on Broadway and E. 10th Street. Began "Genesis" series of paintings, which evolved into the "Passage" series.
- 1971** Graduated from Carnegie Mellon University in summer with D.A. degree in painting. Visited Gandy Brodie's studio in New York. Promoted to Full Professor of Art, Radford University. Established a studio in a commercial building in downtown Radford. Began the "Passage" series of paintings.
- 1974** First New York show at Saint Peters Church Gallery, New York, New York, with "Passage" series Paintings.
- 1976** Summer group show at David Findly Gallery, New York, New York.
- 1982** Continued showing regionally and nationally. Started the "Gandy" series of paintings
- 1983** Exhibited the series of paintings "Gandy Trees" as a eulogy for Gandy Brodie. The series was shown in several regional museums and galleries. Began experimenting with formulations of paint from natural materials found in his immediate environment.

Associate producer with Jerry McCarthy and WBRA Channel 15, Roanoke, Virginia, of *EdeK a Portrait*, a profile of artist Elaine de Kooning. Exhibited at Elaine Benson Gallery, Bridgehampton, New York: *Elaine de Kooning's Inadvertent Collection Exhibition*.

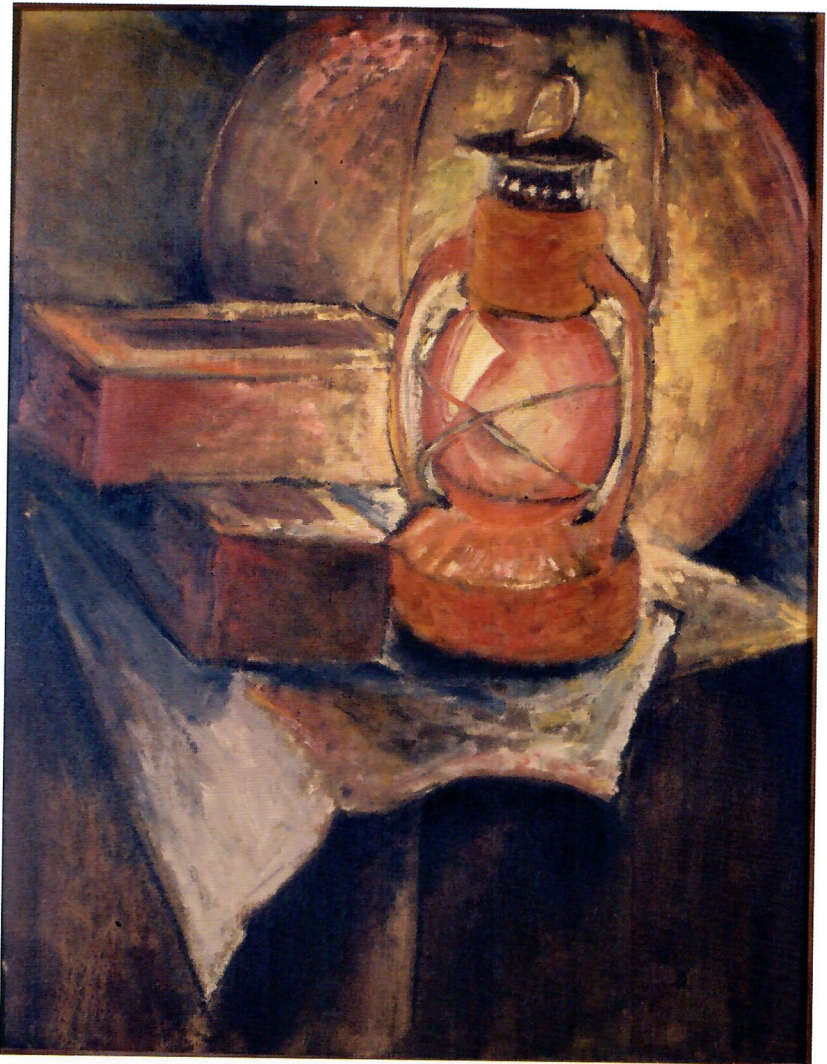
- 1984** Associate producer with Jerry McCarthy and WBRA Channel 15, Roanoke, Virginia, of *The First of May*, a profile of artist Dorothy Gillespie.
- 1985** Associate producer with Jerry McCarthy and WBRA Channel 15, Roanoke, Virginia, of *Feminist Perspectives* about Mary Beth Edelson and May Stevens with overview by Donald Kuspit. WBRA Channel 15 produced *Scenes from Within*, a profile of artist Paul Frets.
- 1986** Received second sabbatical. Began the series "Energy Motion and Color." Paintings shown at the Art Museum of Western Virginia and many regional galleries. Made many trips in spring to East Hampton, New York, assisting Elaine de Kooning.
- 1987** Curator for show of Elaine de Kooning's paintings at the Flossie Martin Gallery, Radford, Virginia, in winter.
- 1989** Temporarily stopped painting following the death of Elaine de Kooning. Started new group of paintings entitled "The Silent Earth" in her memory. This series marked a continued involvement with paint formulated from regional pigments.
- 1994** Met Roger Ricco of Ricco/Maresca Gallery, New York, in spring. Invited to take paintings to gallery in summer.
- 1995** Studio visit by Roger Ricco in spring. Included in summer group show at Ricco/Maresca Gallery.
- 1996** Retired from Radford University as Professor Emeritus. Later that summer included in group show at Ricco/Maresca Gallery.
- 1997** Ricco/Maresca Gallery group show.
- 1999** Carilion New River Valley Medical Center purchases painting *Crockett*, from the "Silent Earth" series.
- 2000** Sale of building requires all paintings and studio materials be put in storage.
- 2001** Purchased unfinished shell building for studio. Showed work at *Invitational Exhibition*, Art Museum of Western Virginia, Roanoke, Virginia.
- 2002/**
2003 Worked on finishing construction of new studio.
- 2004** *Paul Frets: A Retrospective. Paintings, Prints, Drawings, Sculpture* shown at Flossie Martin Gallery, Radford University Art Museum, Radford University, Radford, Virginia.



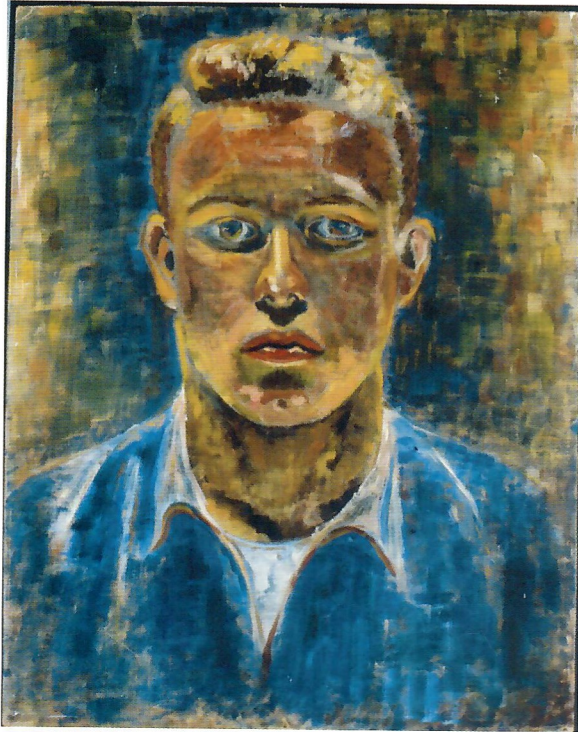
**1 Untitled • 1949 • Oil on shoe box lid
15 x 6"**



2 Untitled • 1949 • Oil on Celotex • 14 x 12"



3 Red Lantern • 1954 • Oil on Canvas Board • 20 x 16"



5 Self Portrait • 1954 • Oil on Canvas Board • 20 x 16"



4 Red Roof • 1953 • Oil on Canvas Board • 16 x 20"



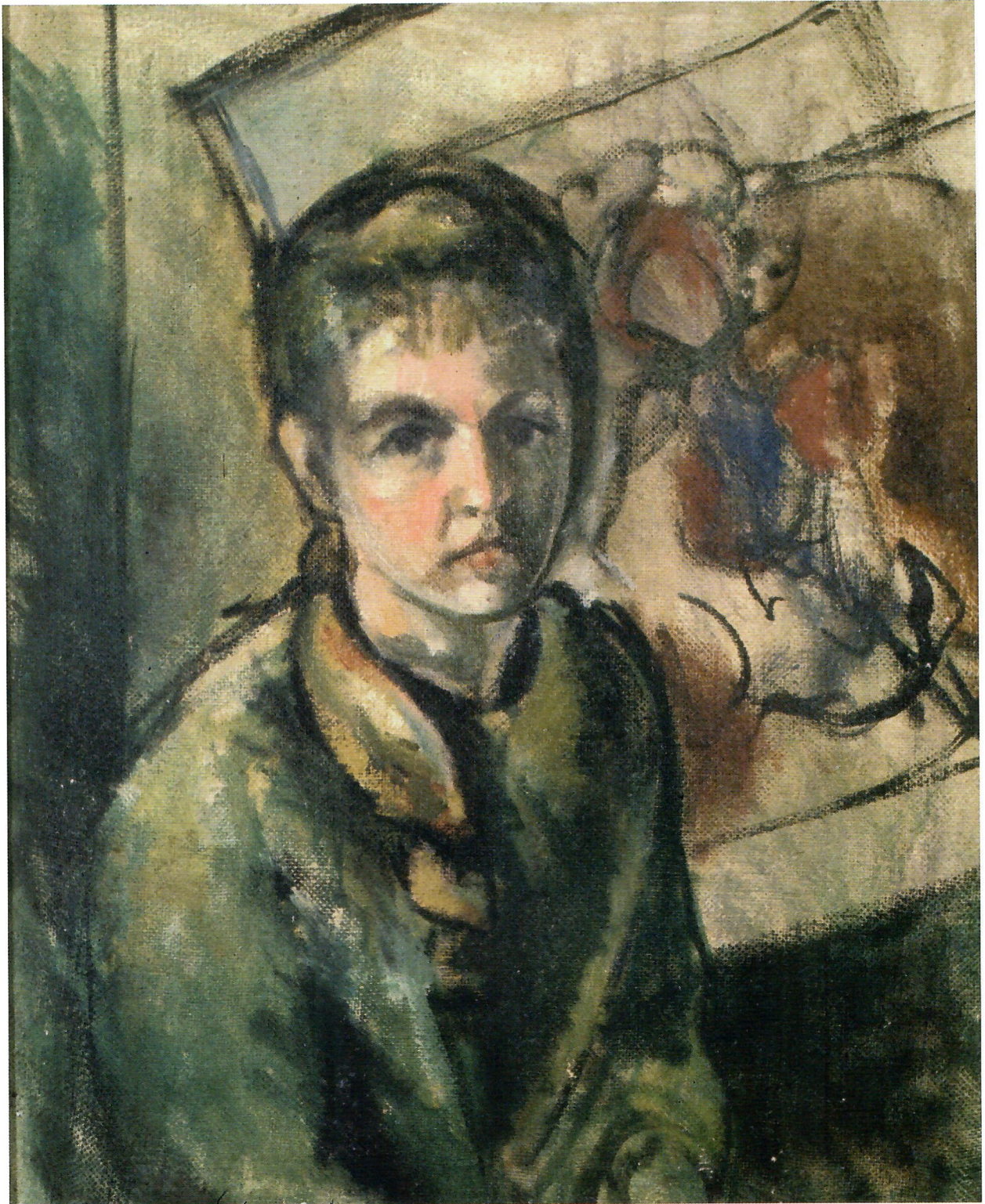
6 *Untitled* • 1962 • Oil on Canvas • 38 x 30"



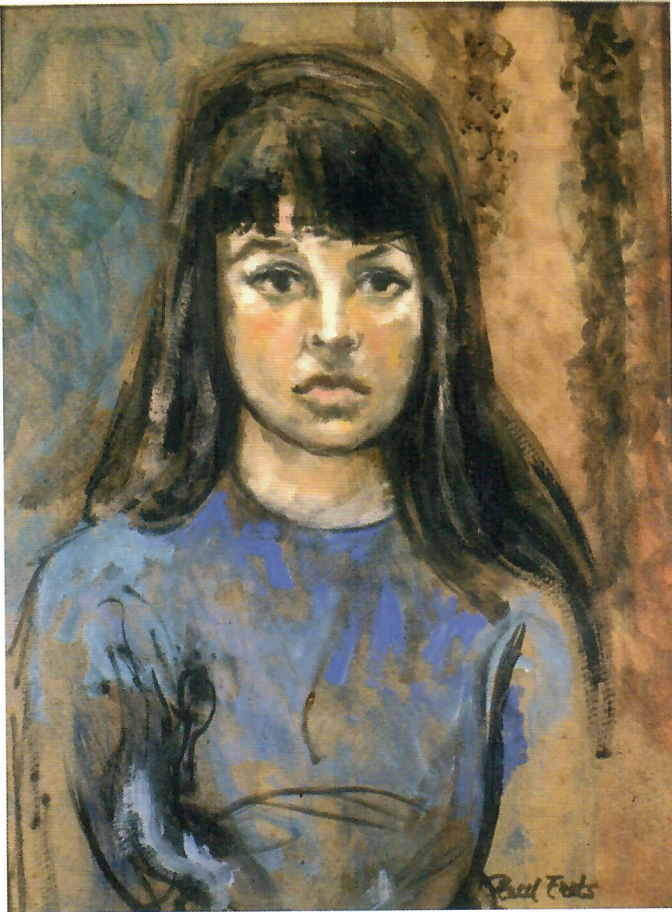
7 Still Life • 1962 • Oil on Canvas • 40 x 30"



9 Blue Sweater • 1963 • Oil on Board • 24 x 20"



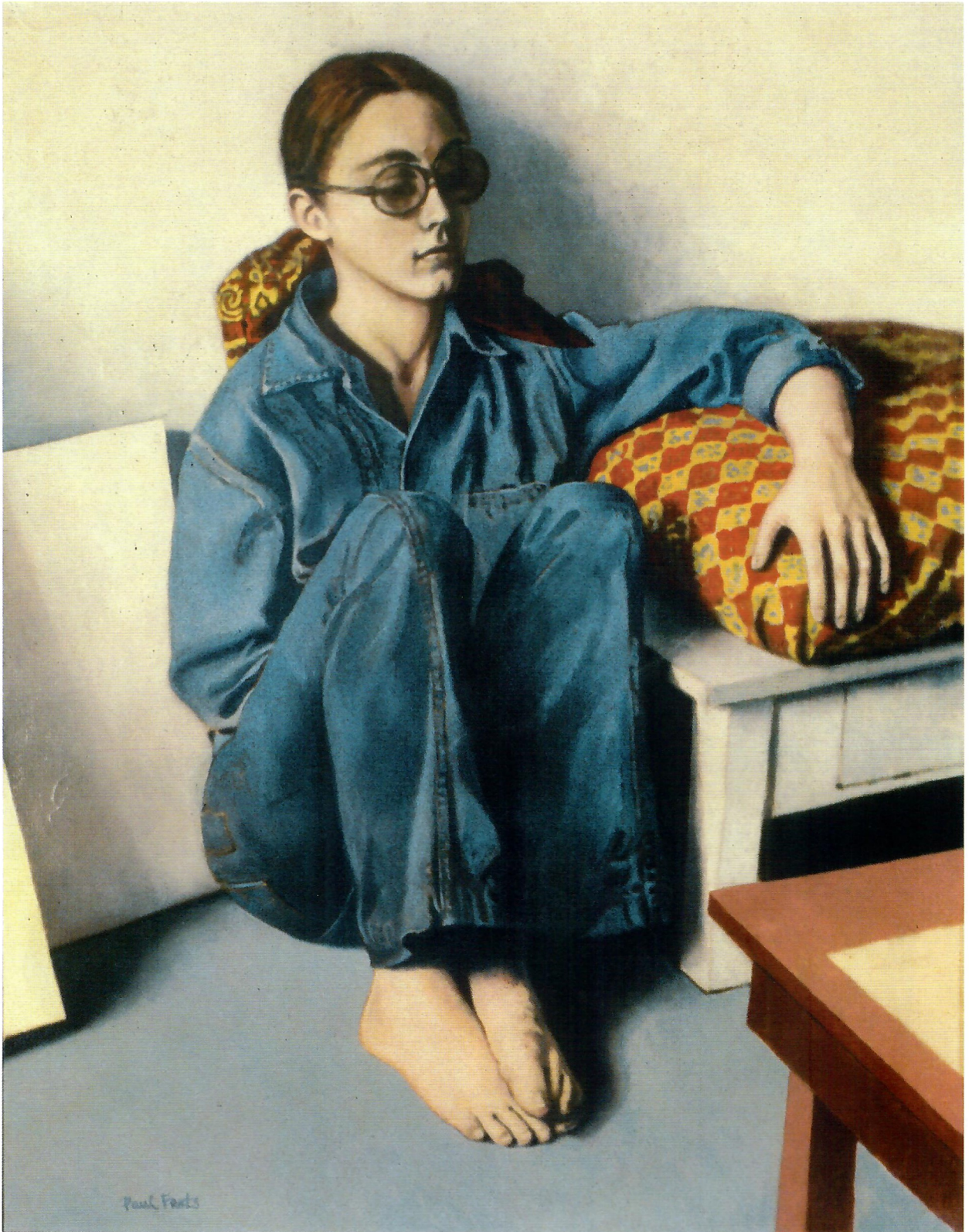
8 Girl in Green Sweater • 1963 • Oil on Canvas • 24 x 20"



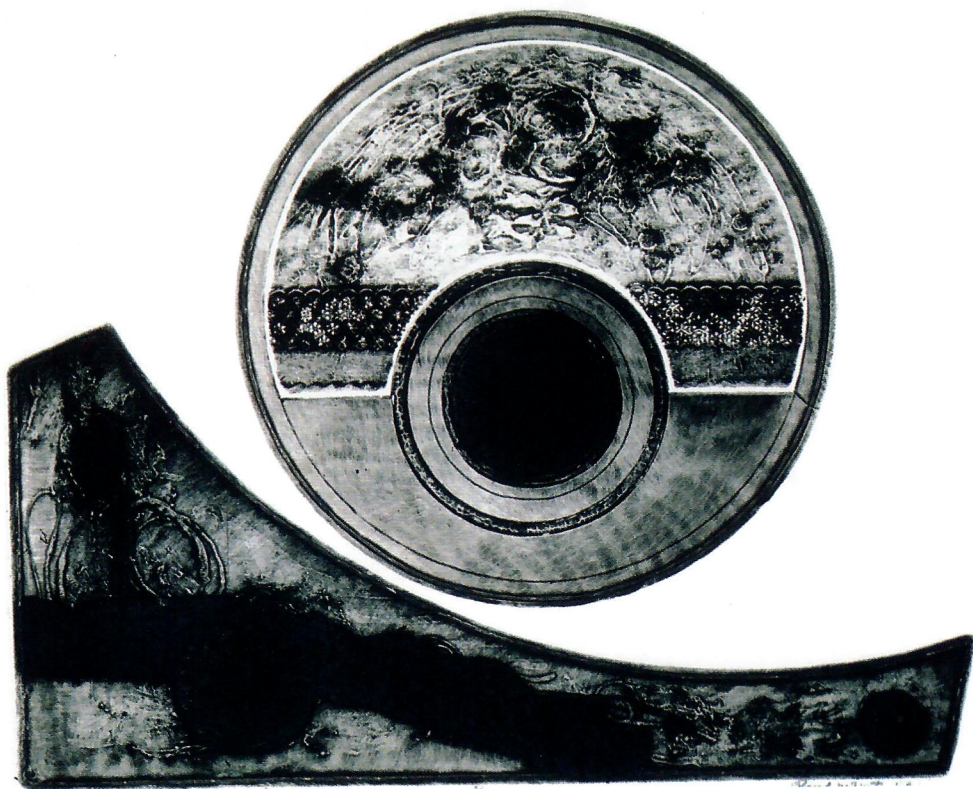
10 Untitled • 1963 • Oil on Board • 18 x 24"



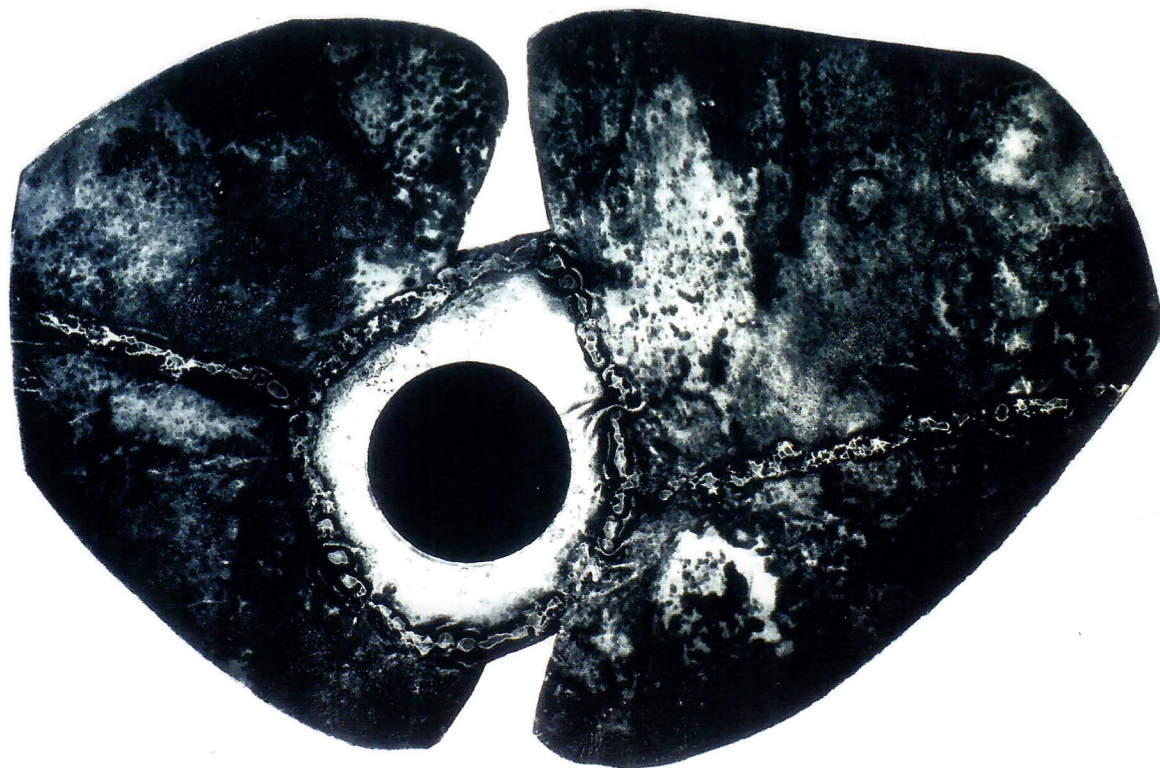
11 Once Upon a Horse • 1964 • Serigraph on Bristol Board • 24 x 18"



12 Jan in Blue • 1966 • Oil on Canvas • 54 x 42"



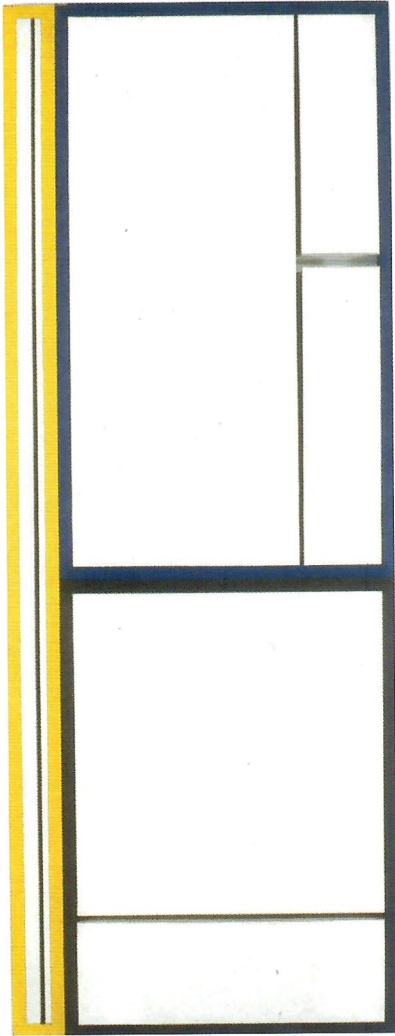
13 Gene Morph • 1968 • Intaglio Etching • 26 x 30"



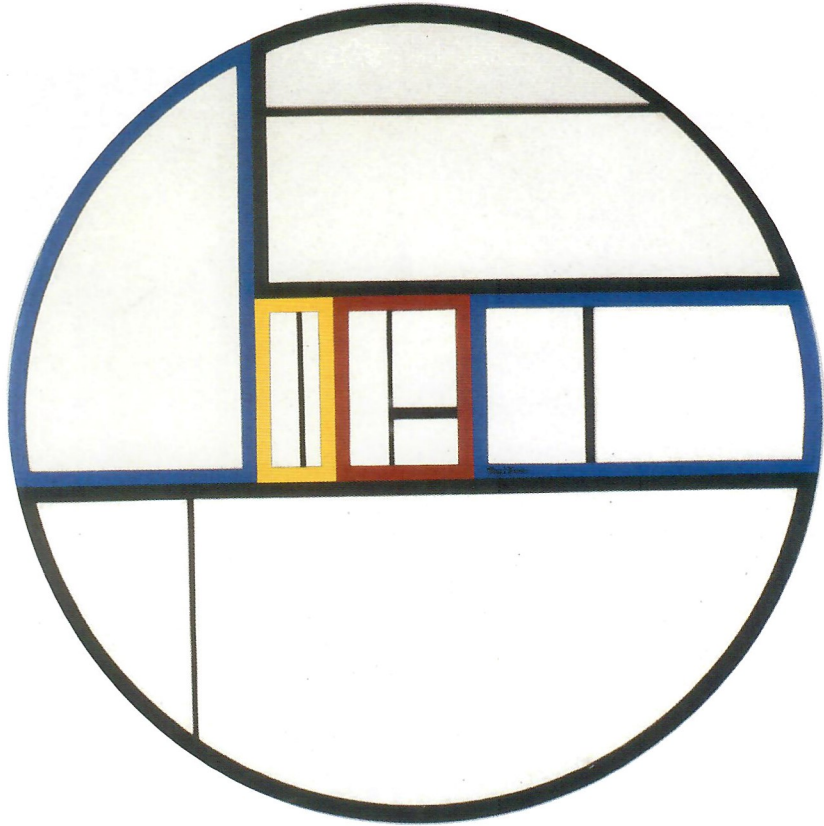
14 Uter Form Femme • 1968 • Intaglio Etching • 26 x 36"



15 *Two Women* • 1969 • Oil on Canvas • 50 x 56"

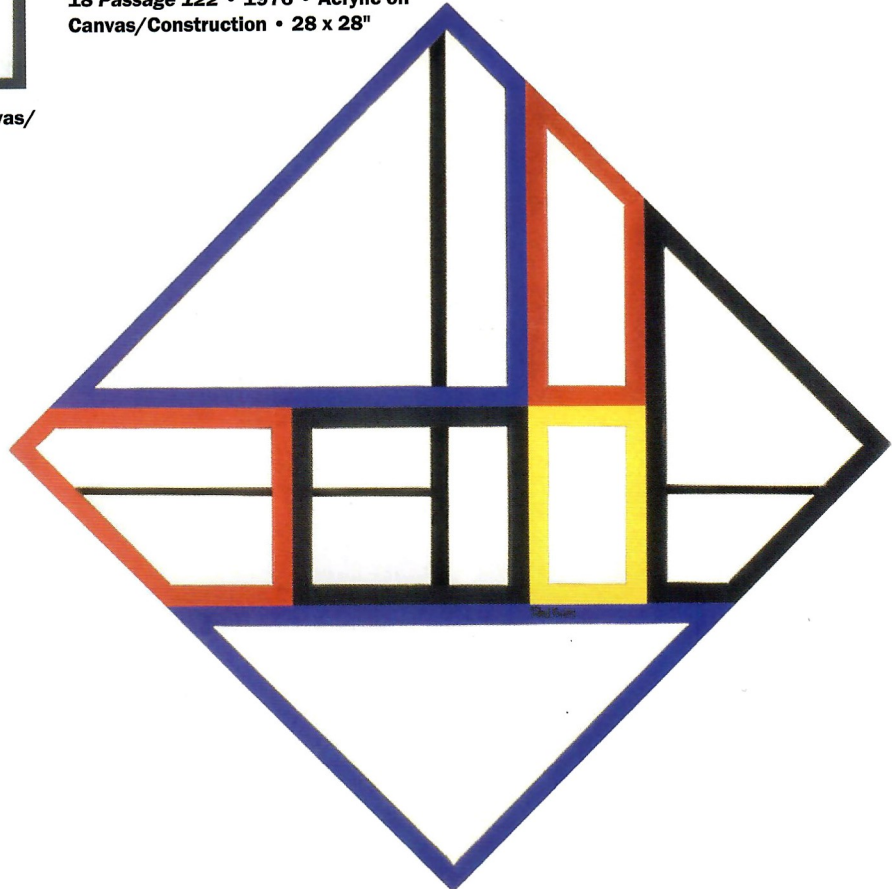


**16 Genesis 1 • 1974 • Acrylic on Canvas/
Construction • 54 x 18"**



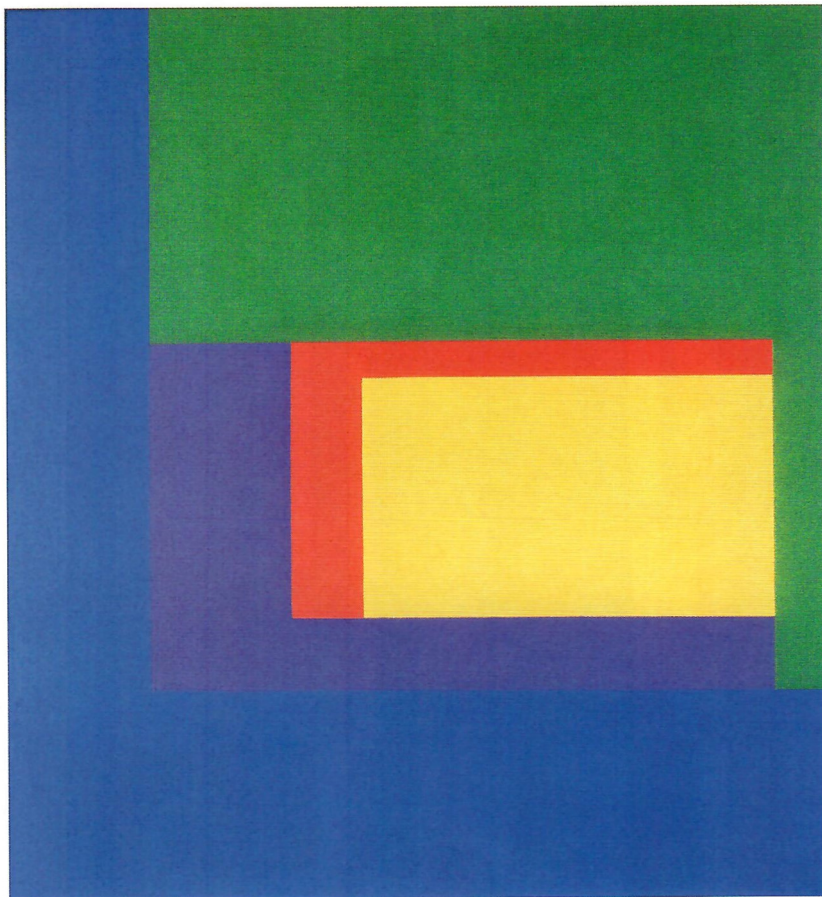
**17 Passage 166 • 1976 • Acrylic on
Canvas/Construction • Diameter 42"**

**18 Passage 122 • 1976 • Acrylic on
Canvas/Construction • 28 x 28"**

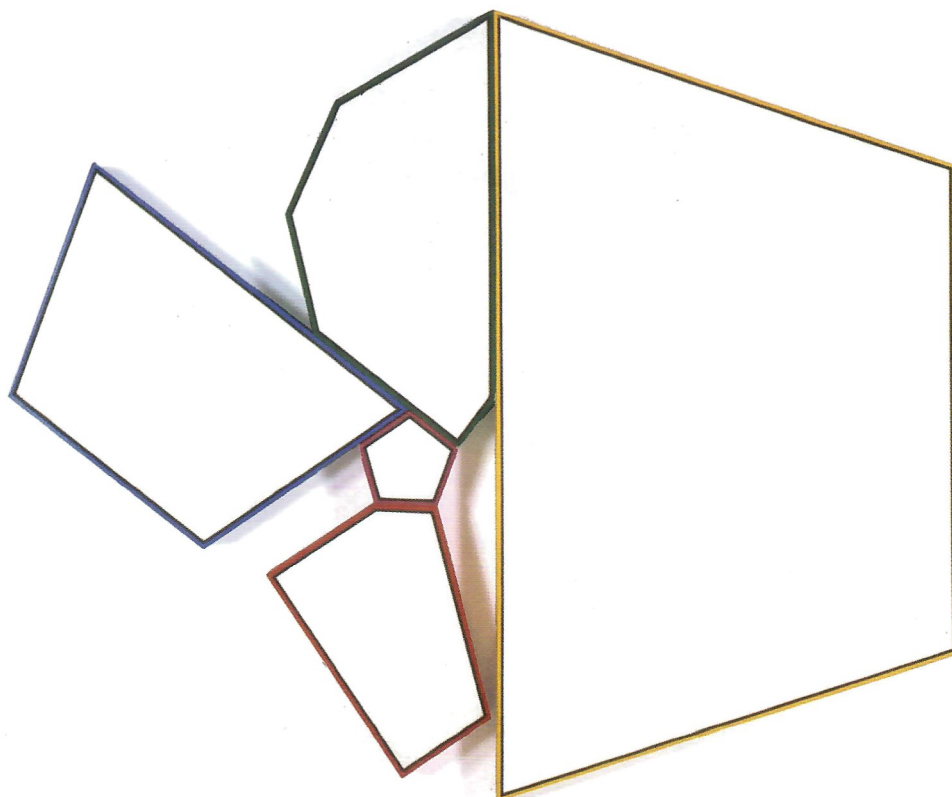




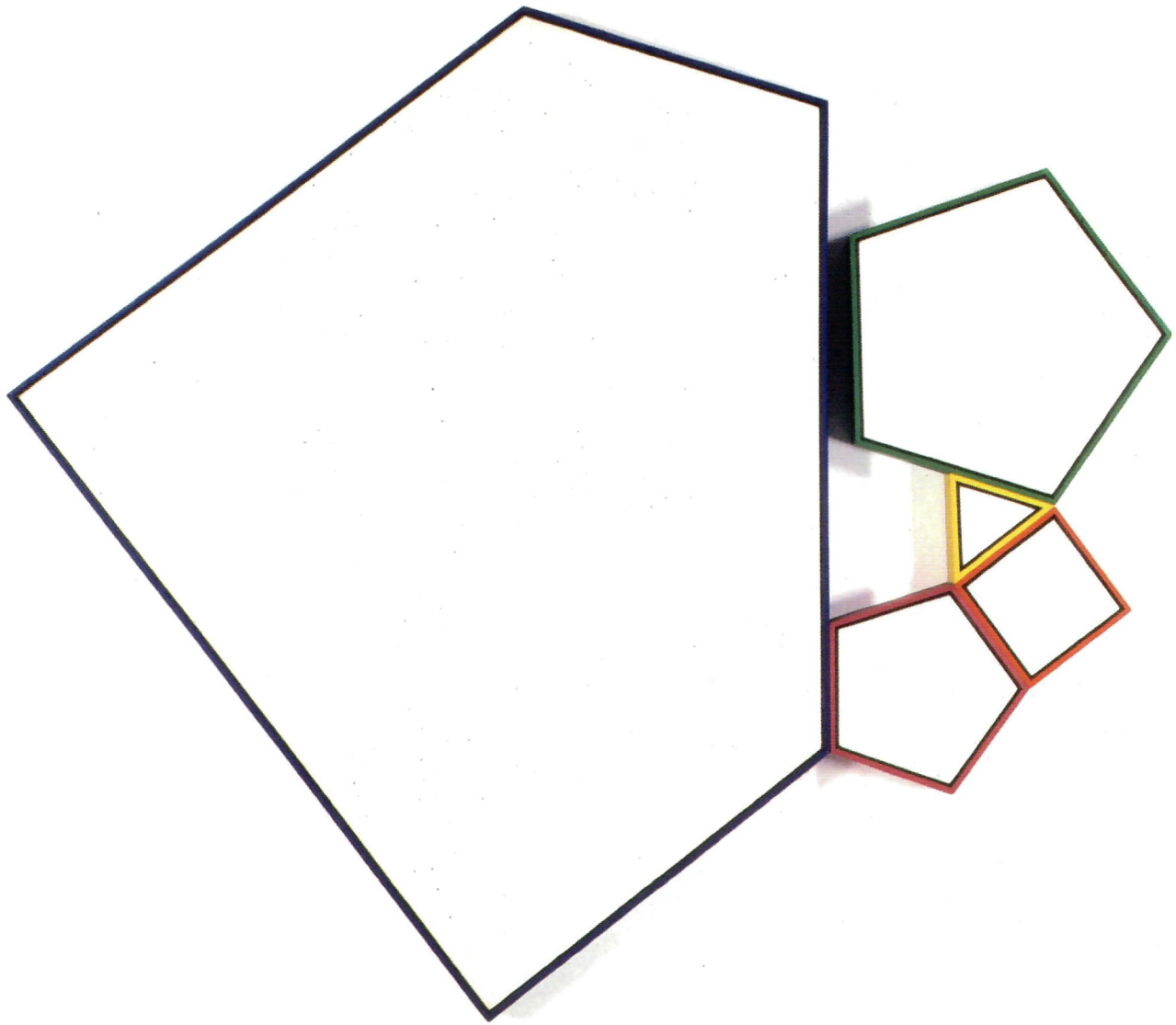
19 *Night Light* • 1977 • Acrylic on Canvas • Diameter 42"



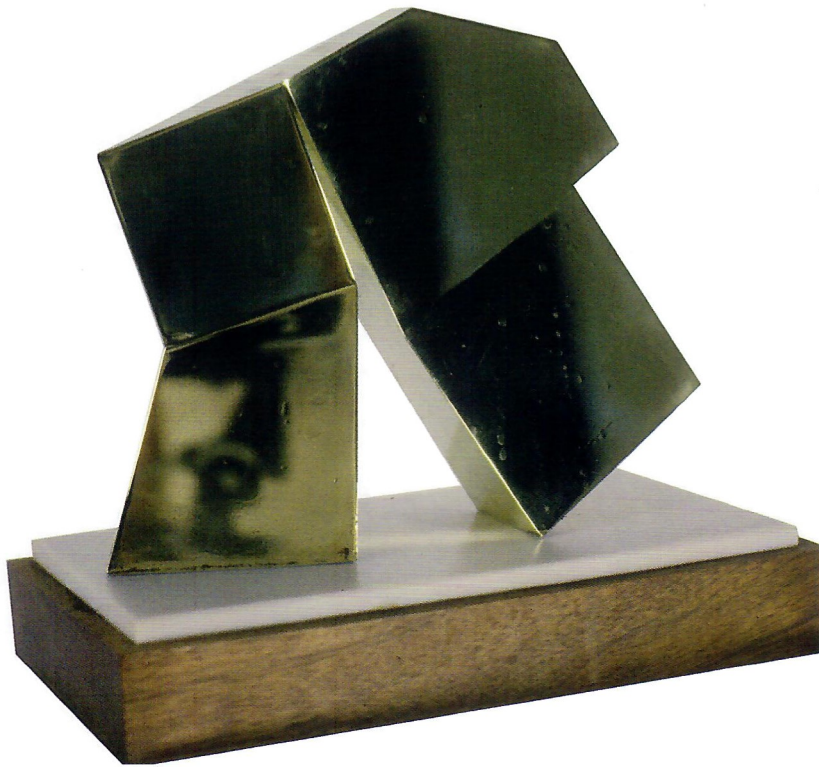
20 *Untitled* • 1978 • Acrylic on Canvas • 26 x 24"



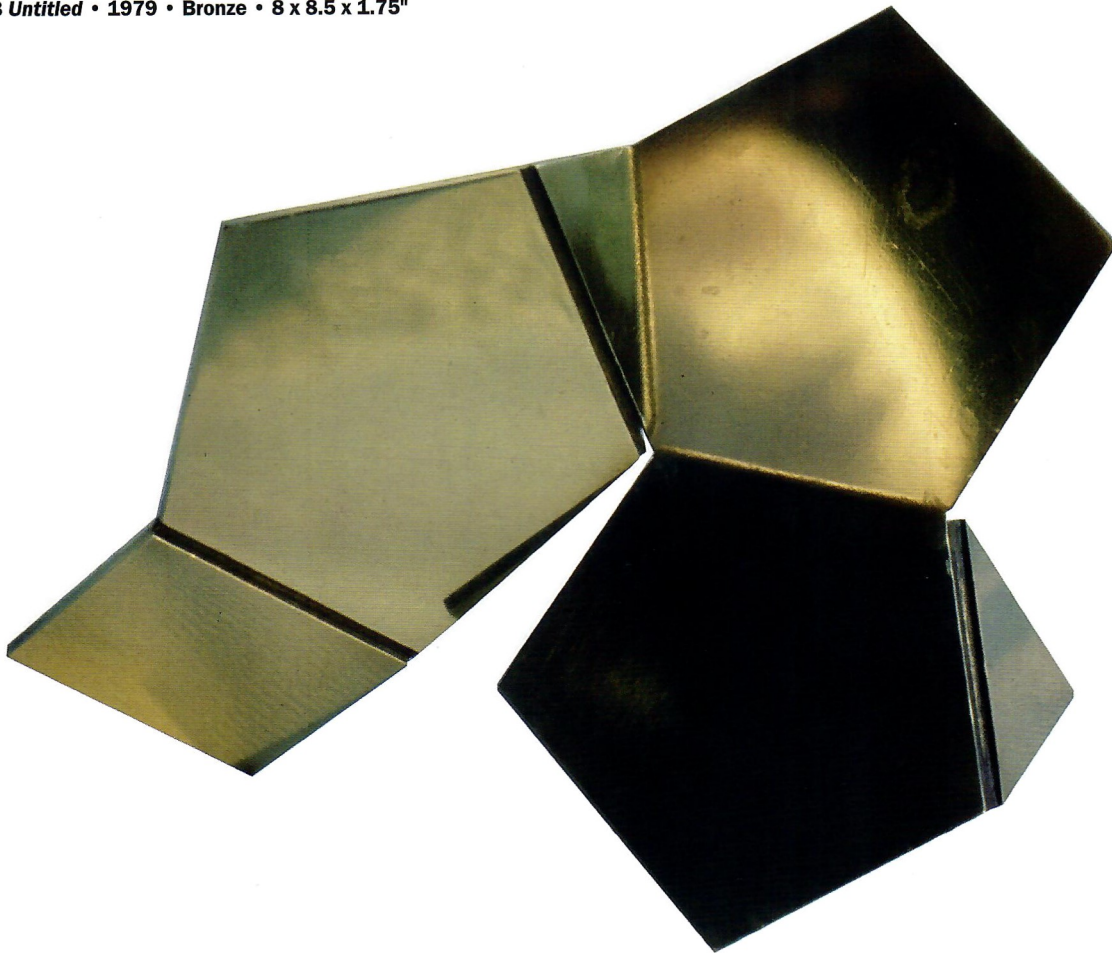
21 *Constellation Aeta* • 1979 • Acrylic on Canvas/Construction • 58 x 72"



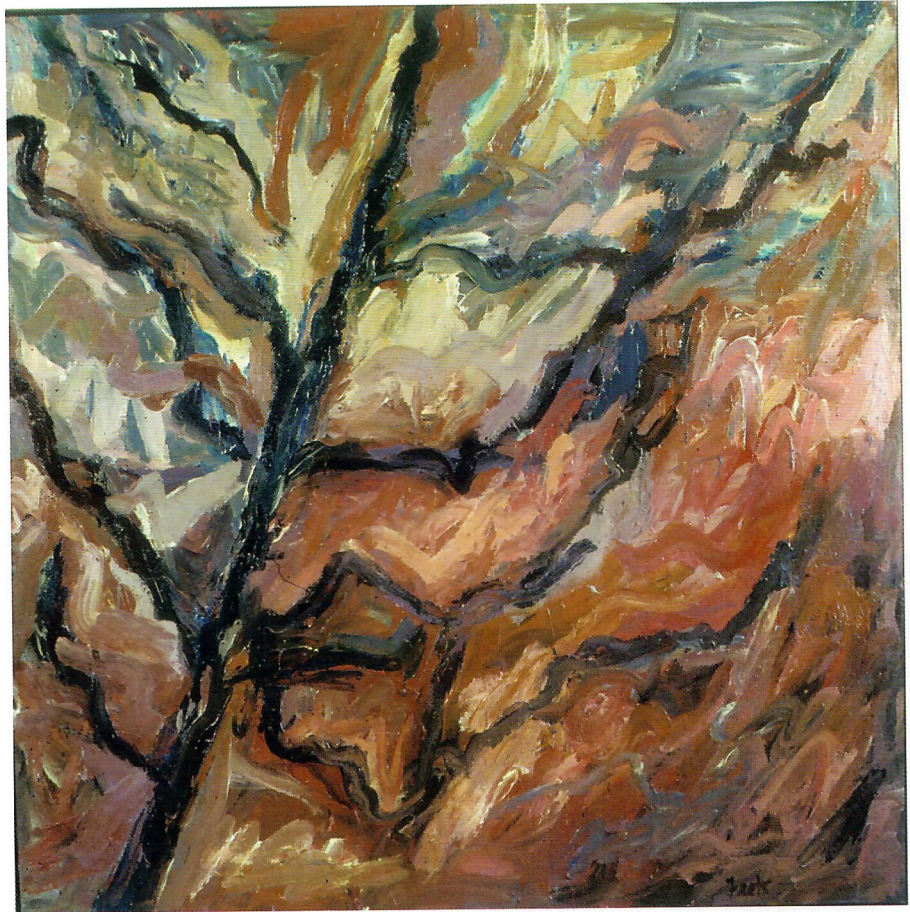
22 Constellation Katu • 1979 • Acrylic on Canvas/Construction • 50 x 54"



23 *Untitled* • 1979 • Bronze • 8 x 8.5 x 1.75"



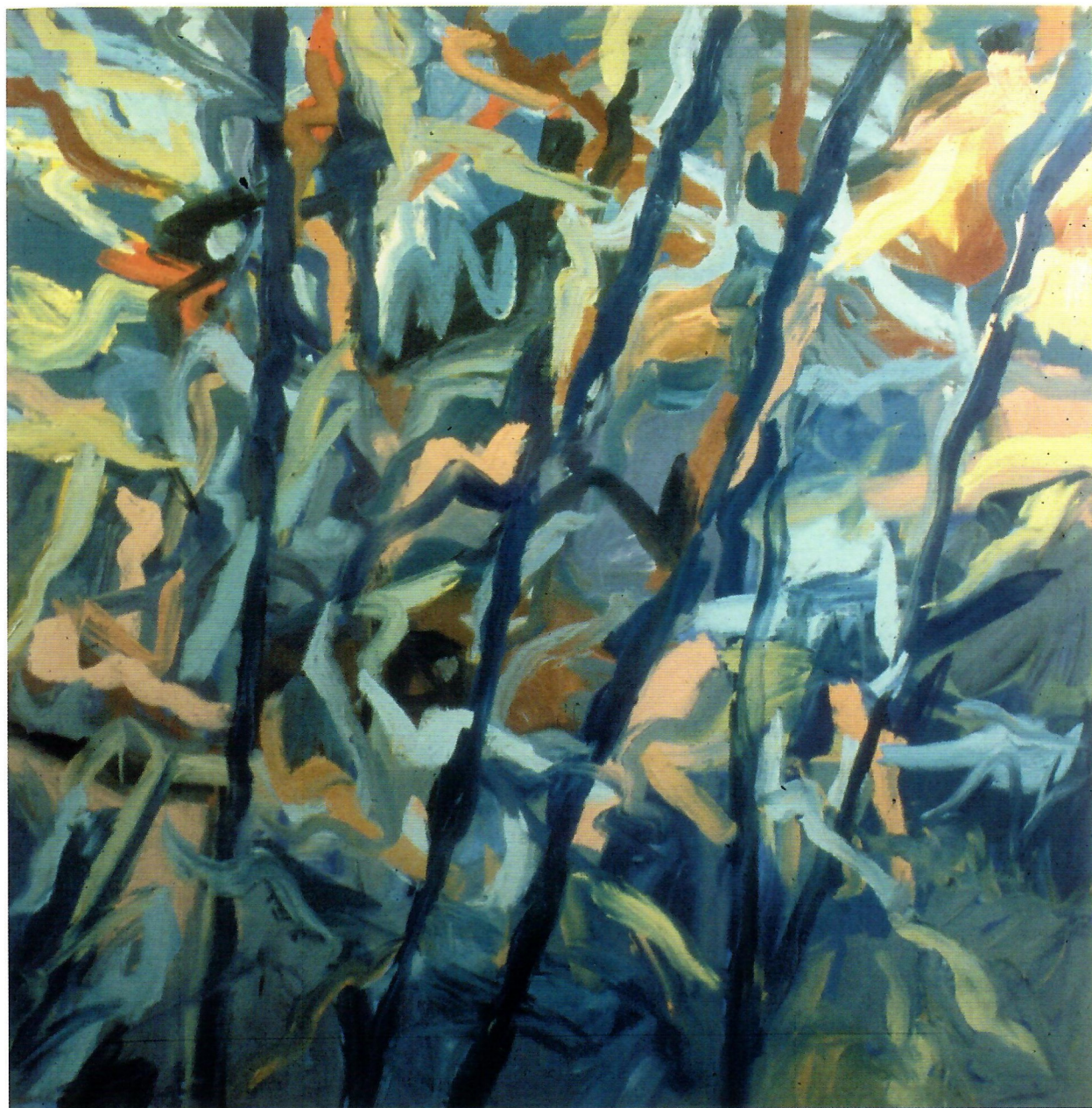
24 *Untitled* • 1979 • Bronze • 5.5 x 7 x 3"



25 Gandy Tree • 1982 • Oil on Canvas • 72 x 72"



26 Gandy Tree 1 • 1983 • Oil on Canvas • 45 x 45"



27 *Gandy Tree/Blue Thicket* • 1983 • Oil on Canvas • 72 x 72"



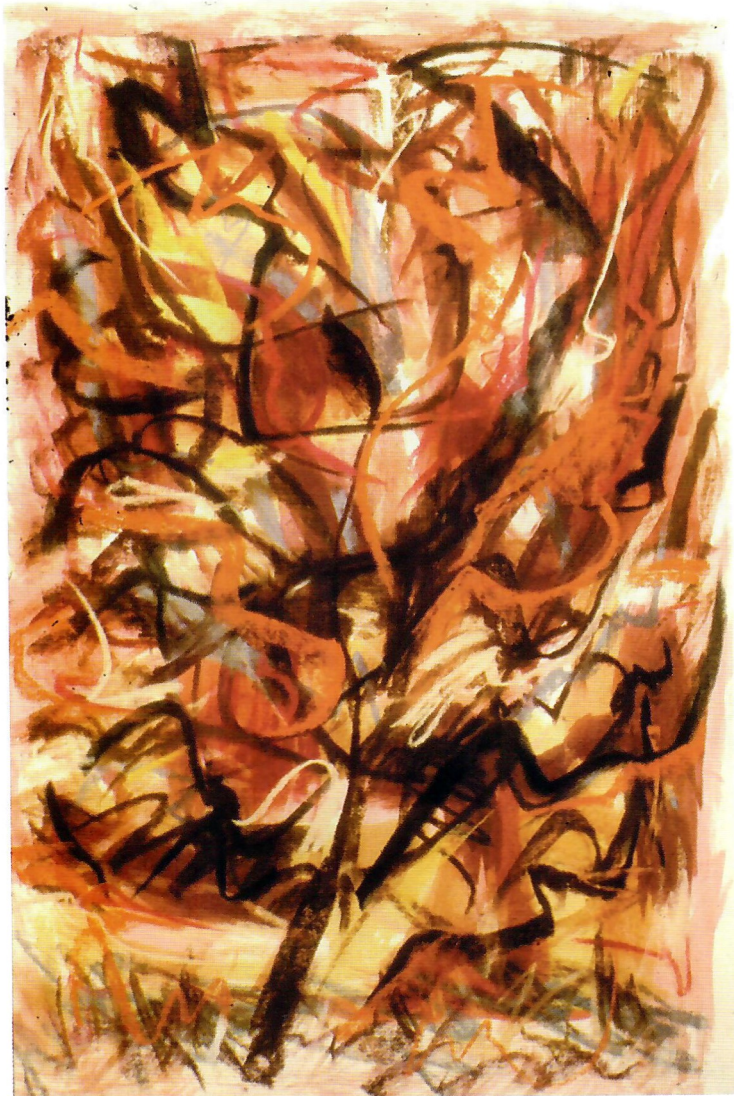
28 Gandy Tree/Thicket • 1983 • Oil on Canvas • 72 x 72"



29 Gandy Tree • 1983 • Pencil on Arches paper • 19 x 19"



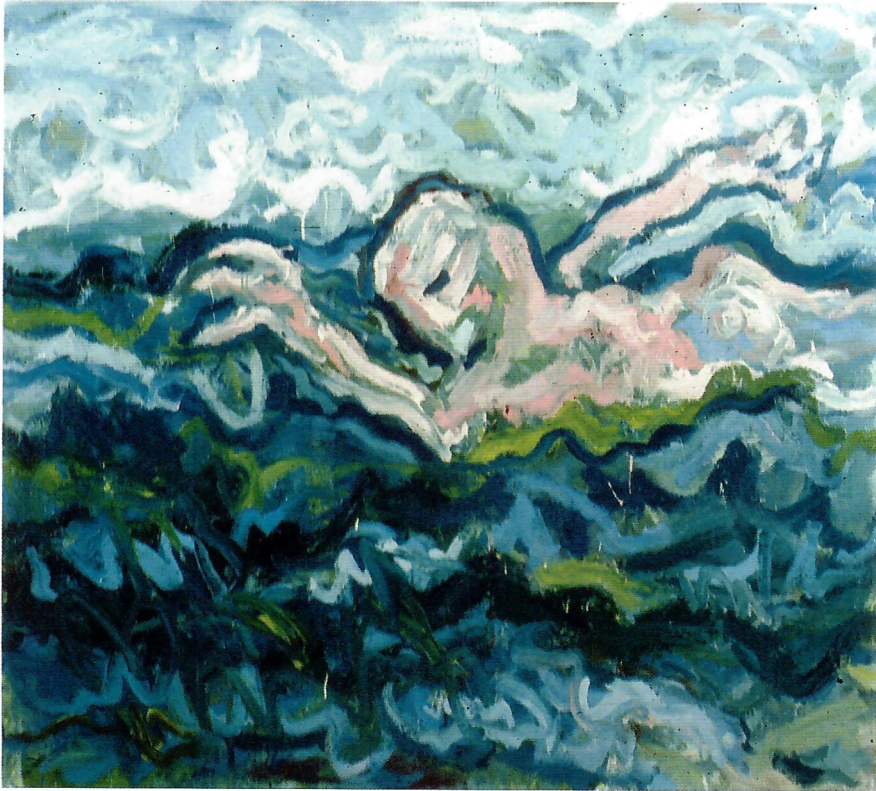
30 Gandy Tree/Leaning Tree • 1983 • Pencil on Arches paper • 19 x 19"



31 Thicket • 1984 • Pastel Chalk • 39 x 28"



32 *Thicket* • 1984 • Pastel Chalk • 39 x 28"



33 Swimmer in Rough Water • 1984 • Oil on Canvas • 60 x 67"



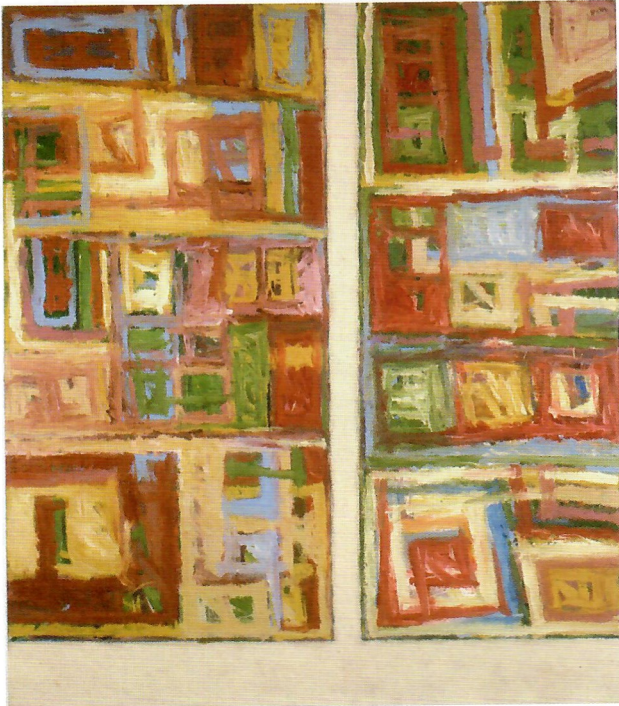
34 Beach Dance • 1984 • Oil on Canvas • 67 x 60"



35 *Summer Ascending* • 1984 • Oil on Canvas • 67 x 60"



36 *Dreamscape* • 1984 • Oil on wallpaper mounted on board • 96 x 96"



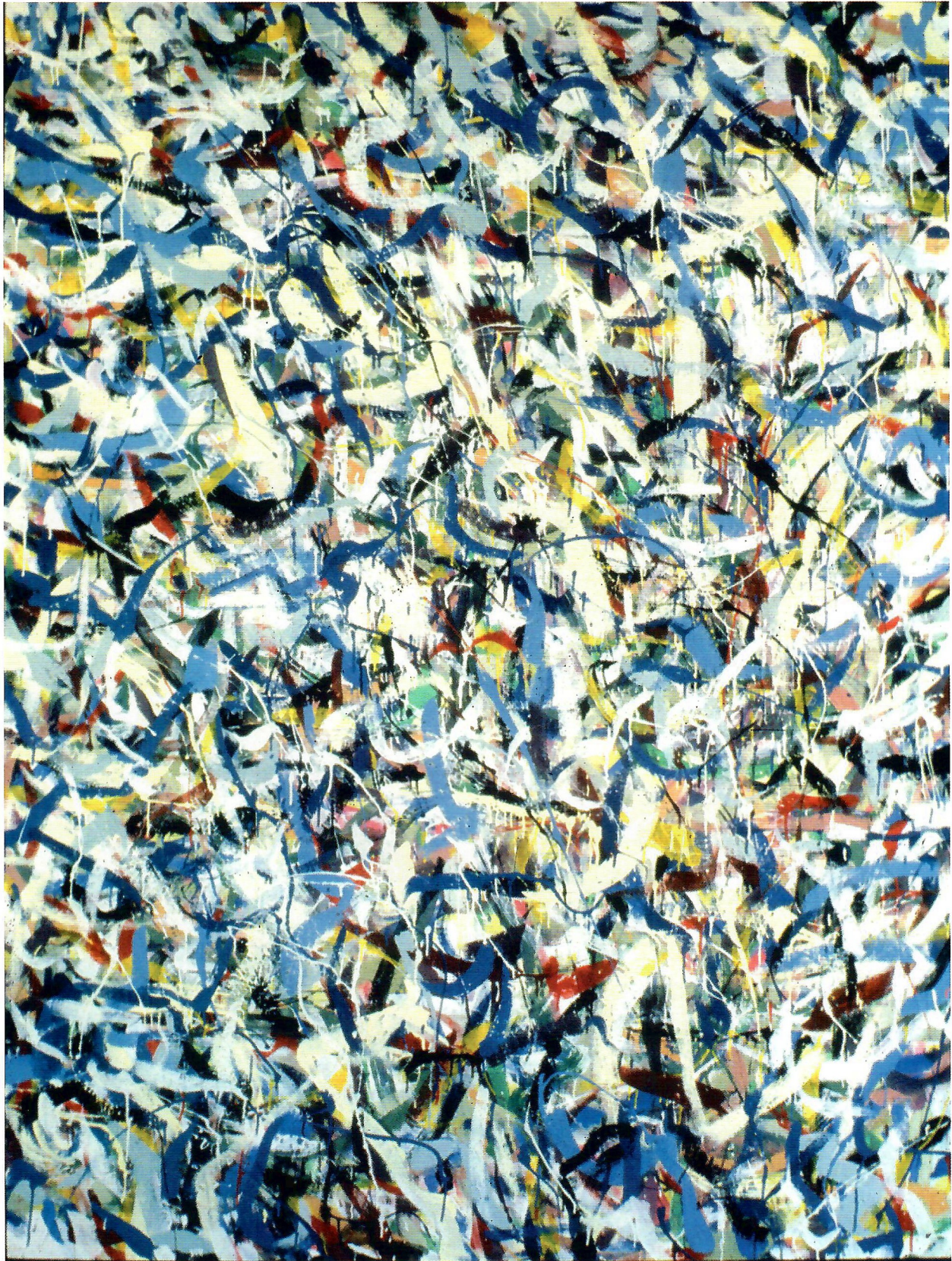
37 Blanket • 1985 • Oil on Canvas • 72 x 63"



38 Blanket • 1985 • Oil on Canvas • 67 x 60"



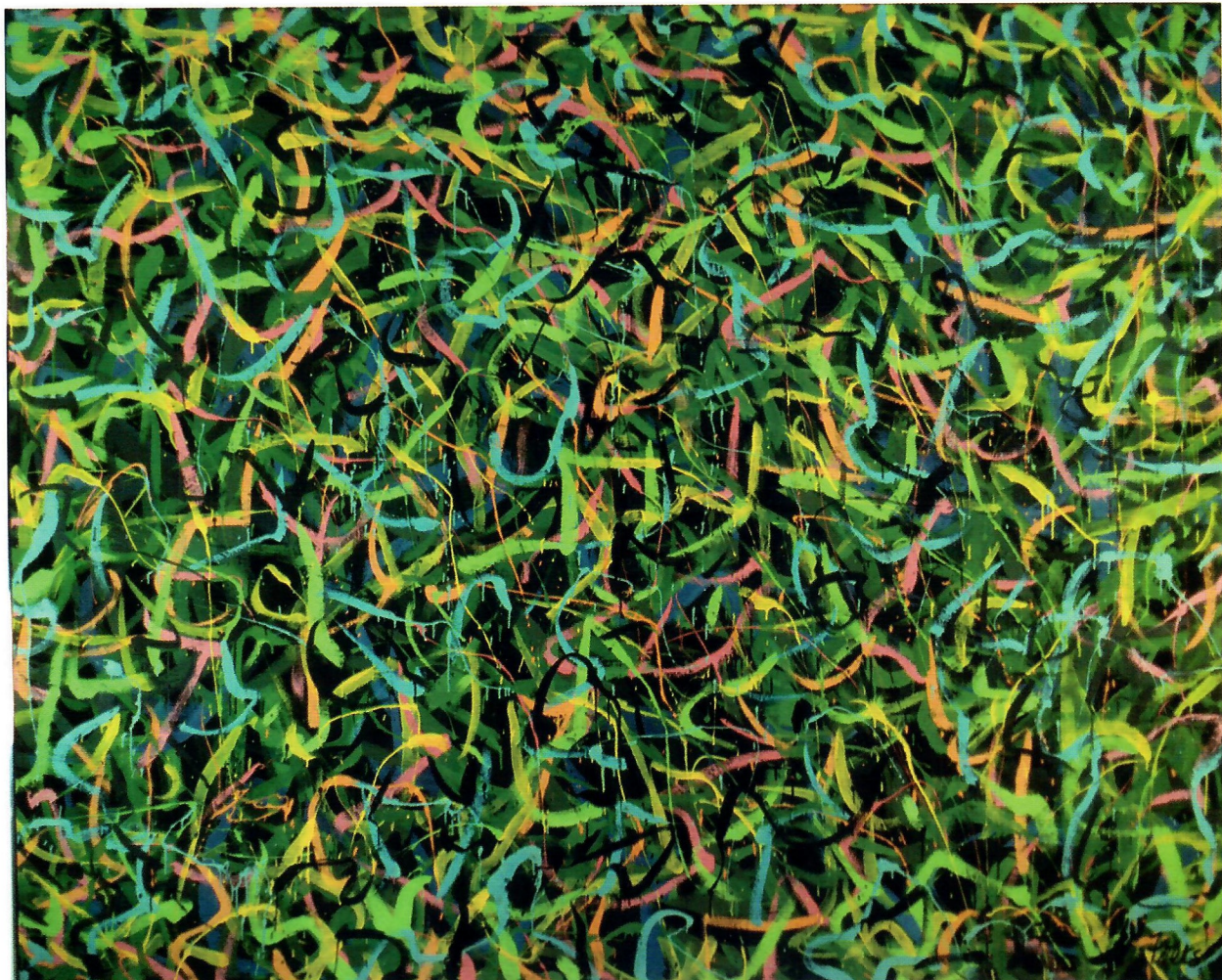
39 Red Blanket • 1985 • Oil on Canvas • 67 x 60"



40 Regatta/Scott's a Winner • 1986 • Acrylic on Canvas • 80 x 64"



41 Felicia's Orchid • 1986 • Acrylic on Canvas • 90 x 81"



42 Rain Forest • 1986 • Acrylic on Canvas • 80 x 100"



43 Untitled • 1986 • Acrylic on Arches paper • 30 x 24"



44 *Little River* • 1988 • Acrylic on Canvas • 72 x 63"



45 *Carousel* • 1988 • Acrylic on Canvas • 72 x 63"



46 Silent Earth/Adria • 1993 • Acrylic on Canvas • 20 x 16"



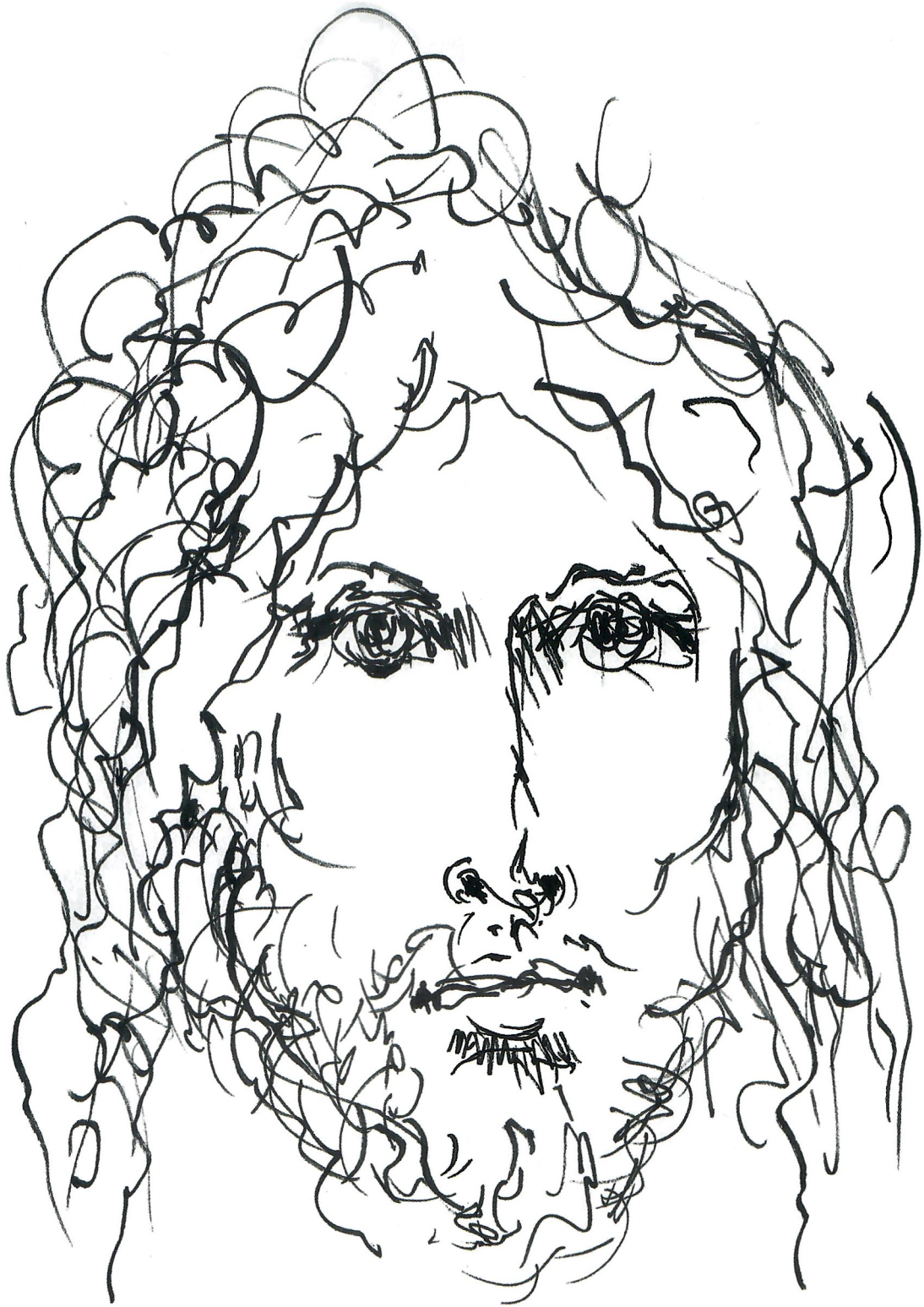
49 Silent Earth/Baywood • 1995 • Acrylic on Canvas • 24 x 24"



47 *Silent Earth/Ivanhoe* • 1993 • Acrylic on Canvas • 50 x 40"



48 Silent Earth/Alum Ridge • 1994 • Acrylic on Canvas • 72 x 63"



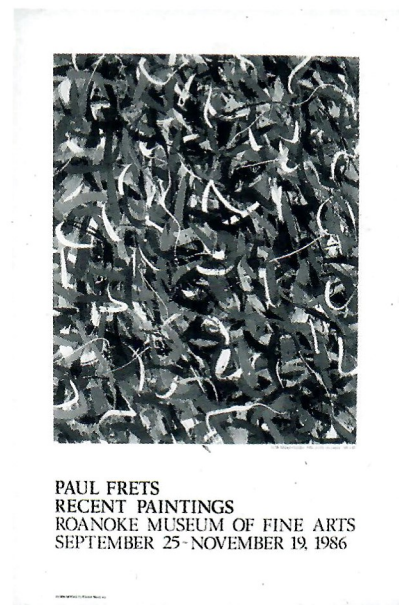
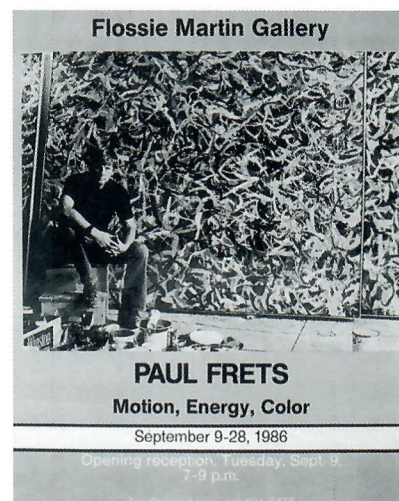
50 Steve • 2003 • Permanent Marker Ink • 14 x 11"



Selected Exhibitions

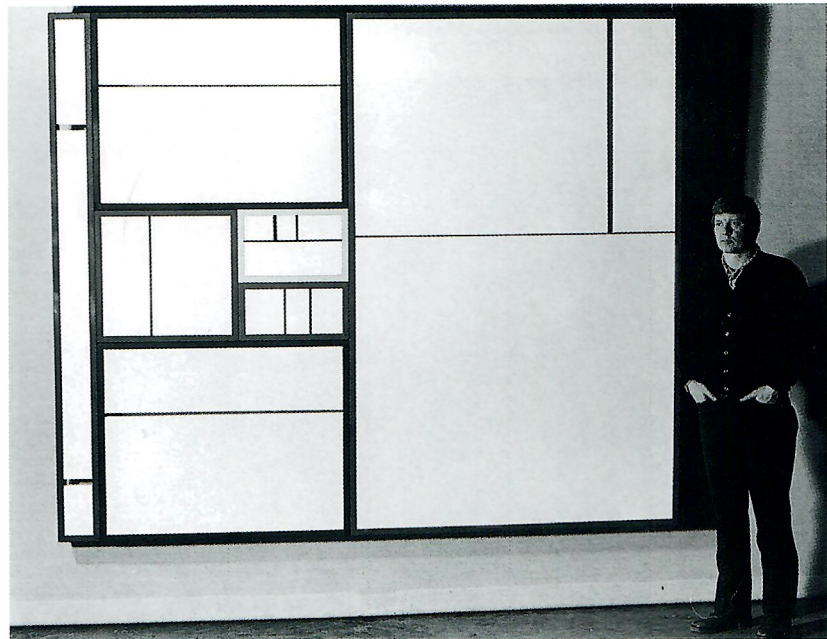
- 2004** Flossie Martin Gallery, Radford University Art Museum, Radford, VA: *Paul Frets: A Retrospective. Paintings, Prints, Drawings, Sculpture*; Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley, Pulaski, VA: *Reflections on 25 Years*, invitational group exhibition
- 2003** Saint Ann's Academy, Sumter, SC: *Night of the Arts*, group exhibition
- 2001** Art Museum of Western Virginia, Roanoke, VA: *50th Anniversary Invitational*, group exhibition, paintings from "The Silent Earth" series
- 1998** Ricco/Maresca Gallery, New York, NY: group exhibition, paintings from "The Silent Earth" series
- 1997** Ricco/Maresca Gallery, New York, NY: group exhibition, paintings from "The Silent Earth" series
- 1996** Flossie Martin Gallery, Radford University, Radford, VA: *Annual Art Faculty Exhibition*, group exhibition; Ricco/Maresca Gallery, New York NY: summer group exhibition
- 1995** Flossie Martin Gallery, Radford University, Radford, VA: *Annual Art Faculty Exhibition*, group exhibition; Ricco/Maresca Gallery, New York NY: summer group exhibition
- 1994** Huntington Museum of Art, Huntington, WV: *280 Exhibition*, juried exhibition, painting from "Passage" series exhibited; Arlington Arts Center, Arlington, VA: national juried show, juror Donald Kuspit, painting from "The Silent Earth" series exhibited; Flossie Martin Gallery, Radford University, Radford, VA: *Annual Art Faculty Exhibition*, group exhibition

- 1993** Flossie Martin Gallery, Radford University, Radford, VA: *Annual Art Faculty Exhibition*, group exhibition; Scarlet Gallery, Richmond, VA: *Time and Space*, paintings on paper from the "Motion, Energy, Color" series, one-person exhibition
- 1992** Flossie Martin Gallery, Radford University, Radford, VA: *Annual Art Faculty Exhibition*, group exhibition; Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley, Pulaski, VA: paintings from the "Motion, Color, Energy" series, group exhibition
- 1991** Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley, Pulaski, VA: *New Directions*, Paul Frets, two-person show, paintings from the "Motion, Color, Energy" series; Flossie Martin Gallery, Radford University, Radford, VA: *Annual Art Faculty Exhibition*, group exhibition
- 1990** University of Missouri, Columbia, MO: invitational exhibition, paintings from the "Motion, Color, Energy" series; Brenau University, Gainesville, GA, *Brenau National Invitational*, group show; Flossie Martin Gallery, Radford University, Radford, VA: *Annual Art Faculty Exhibition*, group exhibition
- 1989** Flossie Martin Gallery, Radford University, Radford, VA: *Annual Art Faculty Exhibition*, group exhibition; Art Museum of Western Virginia, Roanoke, VA: *Art Museum of Western Virginia Invitational Exhibition*, painting award
- 1986** Art Museum of Western Virginia, Roanoke, VA: *Scenes from Within*, recent paintings, one-person exhibition; Flossie Martin Gallery, Radford University Art Museum, Radford, VA: *Motion, Energy, Color*, one-person exhibition; Art Museum of Western Virginia, Roanoke, VA: *Over the Blue Ridge*, invitational exhibition, painting award; Flossie Martin Gallery, Radford University, Radford, VA: *Annual Art Faculty Exhibition*, group exhibition
- 1985** Jewish Museum of Art, Norfolk, VA: *Jewish Museum of Art Invitational Juried Exhibition*, painting exhibited; Flossie Martin Gallery, Radford University, Radford, VA: *Inaugural Show*, faculty group exhibition; Virginia Western Community College, Roanoke, VA: *The Gandy Trees*, one-person exhibition; Slocum Gallery, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN: *Paul Frets and Betty Branch: Recent Paintings and Sculpture*; Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson, MS: *The Gandy Trees*, one-person exhibition; Anthony Gallery, Roanoke, VA: *Gallery Artists*, group exhibition; Art Museum of Western Virginia, Roanoke, VA: juried



exhibition, painting award, Juror John Henry III, Curator, Mississippi Museum of Art; Flossie Martin Gallery, Radford University, Radford, VA: *Annual Art Faculty Exhibition*, group exhibition

- 1984** University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS: *The Gandy Trees*, one-person exhibition; Squires Art Gallery, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA: *The Genesis Series*, paintings and constructions, one-person exhibition; Kent Gallery, Radford University, Radford, VA: *Annual Art Faculty Exhibition*, group exhibition; North Cross School, Roanoke, VA: *Artemis VIII, Artists and Writers*; Art Museum of Western Virginia, Roanoke, VA: *29th Biennial Exhibition*, painting award
- 1983** Elaine Benson Gallery, Bridgehampton, NY: *Elaine de Kooning's Inadvertent Collection*, group exhibition, paintings from "Passage" series; Art Museum of Western Virginia, Roanoke, VA: *The Last Picture Show Invitational*, group exhibition, first place painting award; Kent Gallery, Radford University, Radford, VA: *Annual Art Faculty Exhibition*, group exhibition
- 1981** Art Museum of Western Virginia, Roanoke, VA: invitational group show; Kent Gallery, Radford University, Radford, VA: *Annual Art Faculty Exhibition*, group exhibition



Paul Frets with "Passage" series in mid 1970's.

- 1980** Art Museum of Western Virginia, Roanoke, VA: "The Passage Series," one-person exhibition; James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA: exchange faculty group exhibition; Kent Gallery, Radford University, Radford, VA: *Annual Art Faculty Exhibition*, group exhibition
- 1979** Roanoke College, Salem, VA: invitational group exhibition; Winston-Salem Gallery of Fine Art, Winston-Salem, NC: juried exhibition; Kent Gallery, Radford University, Radford, VA: *Annual Art Faculty Exhibition*, group exhibition
- 1978** Kent Gallery, Radford University, Radford, VA: "The Passage Series," one-person exhibition; Kent Gallery, Radford University, Radford, VA: *Annual Art Faculty Exhibition*, group exhibition
- 1977** Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, Winston-Salem, NC: *Southern Images*, group show; Art Museum of Western Virginia, Roanoke, VA: juried exhibition; Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk, VA: *Irene Leache Memorial Exhibition*, painting purchase award, juror Hilton Cramer, Critic New York Times; Kent Gallery, Radford University, Radford, VA: *Annual Art Faculty Exhibition*, group exhibition
- 1976** Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA: traveling print show, group exhibition; Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk, VA: *Irene Leache Memorial Exhibition*, painting selected for collection, juror Knaston McShine, Curator of Painting, Museum of Modern Art, New



photo: Jack Jeffers

Frets working on his "Gandy Tree" series in 1985.

- York, NY; Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA: *Virginia Artists Juror's Choice*, award of distinction, juror Lawrence Alloway, Critic and Professor of Art History, SUNY, Stony Brook; David Findly Gallery, New York, NY: summer group show; Spar Museum, Shreveport, LA: *Spar National Art Exhibition*, merit award for painting, juror Elaine de Kooning; Yeatts Gallery, Roanoke, VA: *The Passage Series*, one-person show; Donaldson Brown Center, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA: *The Passage Series*, one-person show; Art Museum of Western Virginia, Roanoke, VA: *The Passage Series*, one-person show; Appalachian Corridors, Charleston, WV: *Appalachian Corridors Art Biennial 4*, print award; The College of Emory and Henry, Emory, VA: faculty exchange group exhibition; Roanoke Fine Arts Center, Roanoke, VA: juried exhibition; Genesis Gallery, Roanoke, VA: *Paintings and Drawings by Paul W. Frets*; Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA: *Maryann Harmon and Paul Frets*; Kent Gallery, Radford University, Radford, VA: *Annual Art Faculty Exhibition*, group exhibition
- 1975** Appalachian Corridors, Charleston, WV: *Appalachian Corridors Biennial*, purchase award for painting, juror Gordon Mansell
- 1974** Saint Peters Church Gallery, New York, NY: *The Passage Series*, one-person show; Charleston Gallery of Sunrise, Charleston, WV: juried exhibition, purchase award for print; Art Museum of Western Virginia, Roanoke, VA: *Virginia Artists*, juried exhibition, merit award for painting, Virginia Arts and Humanities Council, Richmond, VA, purchase award for painting; Carroll Reece Museum, Johnson City, TN: *The Prints and Paintings of Paul Frets*, works from the "Genesis" series, one-person show
- 1973** Yeatts Gallery, Roanoke, VA: *Gallery Artists*, group exhibition; Genesis Gallery, Roanoke, VA: *Drawing from Poems*, group exhibition; Carroll Reece Museum, Johnson City, TN: *Carroll Reece Museum Invitational*, juror H. Lester Cooke, Curator of Painting, National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC
- 1972** The University Gallery, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Blacksburg, VA: *Shape to Color to Form*, one-person exhibition; Carroll Reece Museum, Johnson City, TN: *Carroll Reece Museum Invitational*, paintings from "Genesis" series, painting award, painting included in permanent collection
- 1970** Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA: student group show; Donaldson Brown Center, Virginia

- Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA: *Donaldson Brown Center Invitational*, purchase award, painting included in permanent collection; Roanoke College, Salem, VA: *Roanoke College Invitational*, painting award
- 1971** Greenville Museum of Art, Greenville, SC: *Greenville Museum Invitational*, painting award, curator Elaine de Kooning
- 1969** Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA: traveling print group exhibition; Roanoke College, Salem, VA: *Roanoke College Invitational*, paintings/ constructions; Roanoke Artists Association, Roanoke, VA: group exhibition of members; Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA: *Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Invitational*, group exhibition; Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA: faculty exchange exhibition
- 1968** Twentieth Century Gallery of Art, Williamsburg, VA: *Recent Prints*, one-person exhibition; Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA: *Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Invitational*, group exhibition
- 1967** Jaro House Gallery, Roanoke, VA: *Prints and Drawings by Paul Frets*, one-person show; First Excursion Gallery, Richmond, VA: *Impressions*, exhibition of prints, one-person exhibition; Hunter Museum, Chattanooga, TN: *Hunter Museum Annual*, traveling group exhibition; Winston-Salem Gallery of Contemporary Art, Winston-Salem, NC: group show
- 1966** The University Gallery, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA: *Abstract Paintings of Paul Frets*, one-person exhibition; Hunter Museum, Chattanooga, TN: *The Hunter Museum Annual*, group exhibition; Mint Museum, Charlotte, NC: *Mint Museum Invitational*, group show; Orange Coast College, Orange, CA: *A National Exhibition of Original Prints*, juried show, print award; Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA: *Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Invitational Show*, group show; The Parthenon Gallery, Nashville, TN: *Central South States Exhibition*, print award, juror Diane Waldman, curatorial staff, Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY; Winston-Salem Gallery of Contemporary Art, Winston-Salem, NC: group show
- 1965** Jaro House Gallery, Roanoke, VA: *Figure Paintings and Drawings of Paul W Frets*, one-person exhibition; Kent Gallery, Radford College, Radford, VA: *New Figurative Paintings*, one-person exhibition; Hunter Museum, Chattanooga, TN: *The Hunter Annual*, juried show; Mint Museum, Charlotte, NC: *Mint Museum Invitational*,

juried exhibition; Winston-Salem Gallery of Fine Arts, Winston-Salem, NC: group exhibition

1964 Founders Hall Gallery, Radford College, Radford, VA: *Recent Paintings and Drawings of Paul Frets*, one-person exhibition; The Wesley Foundation, Radford, VA: *New Paintings and Drawings*, one-person exhibition; Winston-Salem Gallery of Fine Arts, Winston-Salem, NC: juried exhibition

1963 University of Missouri, Columbia, MO: graduate show, two-person exhibition



photo: Jerry G. Frets

Paul Frets with works from his "Motion, Energy, Color" series in 1986.

Public and Corporate Collections

Museum of Western Virginia, Roanoke, Virginia
Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson, Mississippi
Virginia State Department of Education, Richmond, Virginia
Hitachi Corporation, Gift to Inland Motors, Radford, Virginia
Phillip Morris Corporation, Richmond, Virginia
Chrysler Museum, Norfolk, Virginia
Saint Peter's Church Gallery, New York, New York
Colonial American National Bank, Roanoke, Virginia
Appalachian Corridors, Charleston, West Virginia
Charleston Gallery at Sunrise, Charleston, West Virginia
Carroll Reece Museum, Johnson City, Tennessee
Hart Associates, Roanoke, Virginia
Donaldson Brown Center, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and
State University, Blacksburg, Virginia
Radford University Art Museum, Radford, Virginia
Carilion New River Valley Medical Center, Radford, Virginia

Video Productions

- 1985** *A Feminist Perspective*, profile of artists Mary Beth Edelson and May Stevens • Overview: Donald Kuspit, Producer: Jerry McCarthy, Associate Producer: Paul Frets, WBRA Channel 15, Roanoke, VA
- 1985** *Scenes from Within*, profile of artist Paul Wiley Frets • Producer: Jerry McCarthy, WBRA Channel 15, Roanoke, VA
- 1984** *The First of May*, profile of artist Dorothy Gillespie • Producer: Jerry McCarthy, Associate Producer: Paul Frets, WBRA Channel 15, Roanoke, VA
- 1983** *EdeK a Portrait*, Profile of artist Elaine de Kooning • Producer: Jerry McCarthy, Associate Producer: Paul Frets, WBRA Channel 15, Roanoke, VA

