



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

American Abstract Artists June 5 - August 29, 2015

Missoula, MT / April 20, 2015 / Missoula Art Museum (MAM) / The American Abstract Artists (AAA) is a democratically artist-run organization founded in 1936 in New York City to promote and foster understanding of abstract and non-objective art. In 1997 they donated 40 prints to MAM, and a portion of this remarkable portfolio was exhibited. For the first time, we are thrilled to show all 40 prints at MAM. The MAM Collection Committee seized the opportunity to collect this body of work because of its relevance to the institution's mission. Several factors made this acquisition naturally attractive. The Collection Committee was also attracted to the integrity of the work and the educational nature of the AAA mission. MAM features and celebrates contemporary art and is one of the few institutions in the region that continues to feature regional abstract artists. The educational aspect of this portfolio seemed a natural extension in celebrating these artists. The gift was intended to help provide continued dialogue and expand ideas about abstract art.

AAA hosts critical panels nationally and publishes the *American Abstract Artists Journal*. AAA distributes its published materials internationally to cultural organizations, and documents its member history in the Smithsonian Archives of American Art. To date the AAA has produced more than 120 exhibitions in museums and galleries across the United States and abroad. AAA's programs have established the organization as a major forum for the exchange of ideas and exhibiting abstract art. AAA is graciously providing written educational support materials for public consumption.

Contact: For more information, please contact the Missoula Art Museum at 406.728.0447, visit the MAM website at www.missoulaartmuseum.org or contact Ted Hughes, Registrar, ted@missoulaartmuseum.org, 406.728.0447 x222.

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About MAM: FREE EXPRESSION / FREE ADMISSION. The Missoula Art Museum strives to engage artists and audience in the creative exploration of contemporary art relevant to our community, state and region. Founded in 1975 and accredited by the American Association of Museums since 1987, MAM showcases diverse and thought-provoking contemporary artwork from local and international artists. Gallery Hours: Tuesday- Saturday, 10 AM - 5 PM. Office hours: Mon-Fri, 9AM-5PM.