

PAINTERLY PASTED PICTURES

Curated by E.A. Carmean, Jr.

OPENS THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2013

FreedmanArt is pleased to present the exhibition *Painterly Pasted Pictures* opening February 21, 2013. This show features collages on loan from important private collections, with a concentration on works by the artists of the Abstract Expressionist generation as well as several artists of the broader successive movements. We are pleased to have on loan a 1960 de Kooning collage from Yale University Art Gallery, gift of Richard Brown Baker.

The exhibition will feature rare collages by Willem de Kooning, Helen Frankenthaler, Ellsworth Kelly, Franz Kline, Al Leslie, Robert Motherwell, Anne Ryan, Kurt Schwitters, Frank Stella, Jack Youngerman, and others.

Painterly Pasted Pictures focuses on a broad and major change in the collage medium beginning in the later 1940s. Earlier collages, starting with the very first cubist compositions of a century ago, had mostly used paper shapes cut into forms with crisp profiles, perhaps most familiarly defined by the color elements found in Henri Matisse's decoupages of the late 1940s. To be sure, some key exceptions took place earlier, including the richly textured collages made in the 1920s by Kurt Schwitters, and those made with torn, or even crumpled, paper introduced in the 1930s by Jean Arp.

Beginning in the later 1940s in New York, the Abstract Expressionist's paintings—and those of other contemporaneous artists—became more loosely constructed with bold brushstrokes in fluid gestures. So too, echoing this stylistic change, their new collages began to employ papers (and sometimes other materials), often in complex, counterpointed layers assembled of papers with torn or ragged edges. Other collages of this time used crisply cut shapes set into contrasting painted gestures, or melded torn papers and gestural abstractions in other media. Finally, a few works set “painterly” elements within contrasting situations.

E.A. Carmean, Jr. organized the previous exhibition *Pasted Pictures: Collage and Abstraction In the Twentieth Century* at Knoedler & Company in 2000. *Painterly Pasted Pictures* is a successor show to that presentation and will be one of the first exhibitions to focus on this distinctive feature of modern collages.



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Kurt Schwitters (1887-1948)

Wanted's Hair, 1947

Collage

8 5/8 x 7 3/16 inches



Helen Frankenthaler (1928-2011)

Bingo, 1962

Collage, paint, paper, “Bingo” board

18 1/2 x 24 3/4 inches



Franz Kline (1910-1962)

Black, White, Brown, circa 1959-1960

Oil and ink on paper, collage on board

11 5/16 x 8 1/4 inches