

Addison Rowe Gallery

Lawrence Calcagno & Louis Catusco
Not Famous But Important

Exhibition Catalog 2016

Addison Rowe Gallery

This exhibition focuses on the unique expressions of artists Lawrence Calcagno (1913 – 1993) and Louis Catusco (1927 – 1995). Although the two had strikingly different lives and approaches to art, they shared an unwavering dedication to their individual artistic expression. Also, they both spent a significant amount of time painting in Taos, New Mexico. Lawrence Calcagno attracted much attention as a painter throughout his life. He began his formal art training at the California School of Fine Art. His instructors included Clyfford Still, Ed Corbett, Richard Diebenkorn, and visiting professors Mark Rothko and Ad Reinhardt. He showed with Martha Jackson Gallery in New York City for several decades, beginning with his first one-man show in 1955. He taught at numerous universities over the course of his career, including The Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh Pennsylvania. His works are included in over forty public collections, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and The National Gallery. He is impossible to categorize regionally; he lived all across the united states, from Hawaii to New York, and spent time in England, France,

Germany, Russia, and Mexico. Much of his artistic inspiration came from the friends he made during his travels. In contrast to this, Louis Catusco created his work in almost total isolation. His approach to art was monastic, he denied himself many pleasures, including any form of social life. This self-discipline was central to his art. As a young man, he attended high school in Brooklyn and joined the US Navy in 1943. He used the GI Bill to study art at the Brooklyn Museum Art School and the Taos Valley Art School. In the early '60s he moved permanently to Taos. He was invited to join the Taos Art Association cooperative and won almost every art award the state of New Mexico had to offer. During this period, he became even more introverted and stopped showing and selling his work entirely. However, he never stopped painting. In reference to Catusco, Taos artist RC Gorman said, "What I like about his work is that I can't paint like that, and I wish I could. I can't understand it. He is one of Taos' finest abstract painters." Neither Catusco nor Calcagno are household names, but each artist was influential and important to the progression of Art as a whole.

Lawrence Calcagno (1913 – 1993)



Timeless Landscape with Red. Oil on canvas, A: 48 x 100 B: 12 x 100 inches. S:V



Fog Bank, 1964. Acrylic on board, 12 x 20 inches. S&D:V



Sun Painting, 1979. Acrylic and oil on board, 18 x 24 inches. S&D:V



Dark Sunbands, 1968. Mixed media on paper, 16 x 28 inches. S:LR



Sunbands No. 1, 1968. Acrylic on paper, 20 x 30 inches. S&D:LR



Untitled No. 1, 1962. Oil and crayon on canvas, 19 15/16 x 14 15/16 inches. S&D:LR



Untitled No.2, 1962, Oil and crayon on canvas. 19 15/16 x 14 7/8 inches. S&D:LR





Pacifica II, 1971. Oil on canvas. 37 x 42 inches. S&D:V



Earth Legend. Acrylic on canvas, 28 x 40 inches. S:V



Taos IV, 1972. Oil on canvas, 28 x 40 inches. S:V



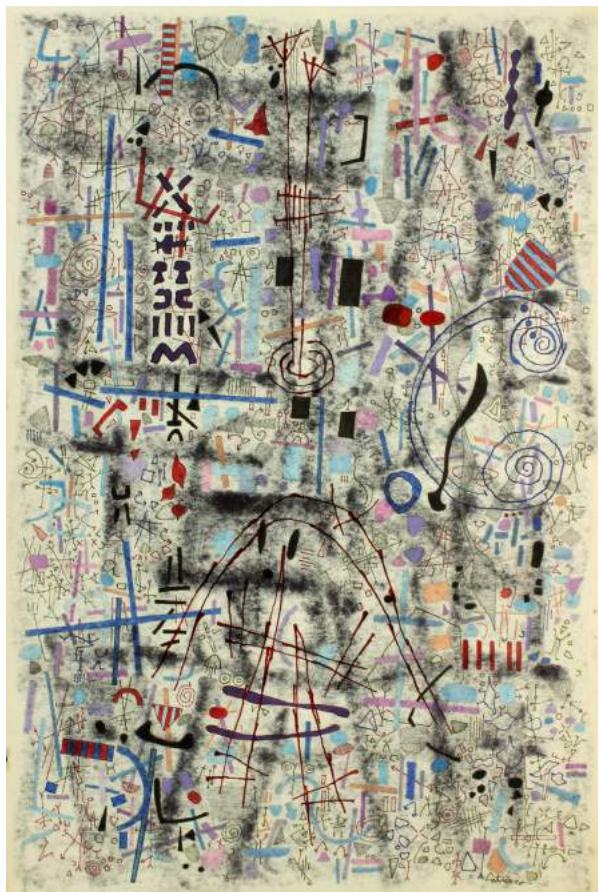
Semaphores, 1948. Oil on canvas, 40 x 32 inches. SD:LL

Louis Catusco (1927 – 1995)



Signs, 1980
Oil on canvas
52 x 45 inches
S:LR

Untitled – [C-395], 1994
Ink & conte crayon on
paper
36 x 24 inches
S:LR





Untitled – Grey/Blue
Acrylic on poster
board
28 x 21 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches
Unsigned

Portrait – Self? –
[C-133]
Mixed media on
Masonite
18 x 13 ¾ inches
S:LR





Untitled – [C-311]
Mixed media on paper
27 ½ x 20 ½ inches
S:LR



Untitled – Taos NM – [C58]. Ink & watercolor on paper. 34" x 22". S:CR



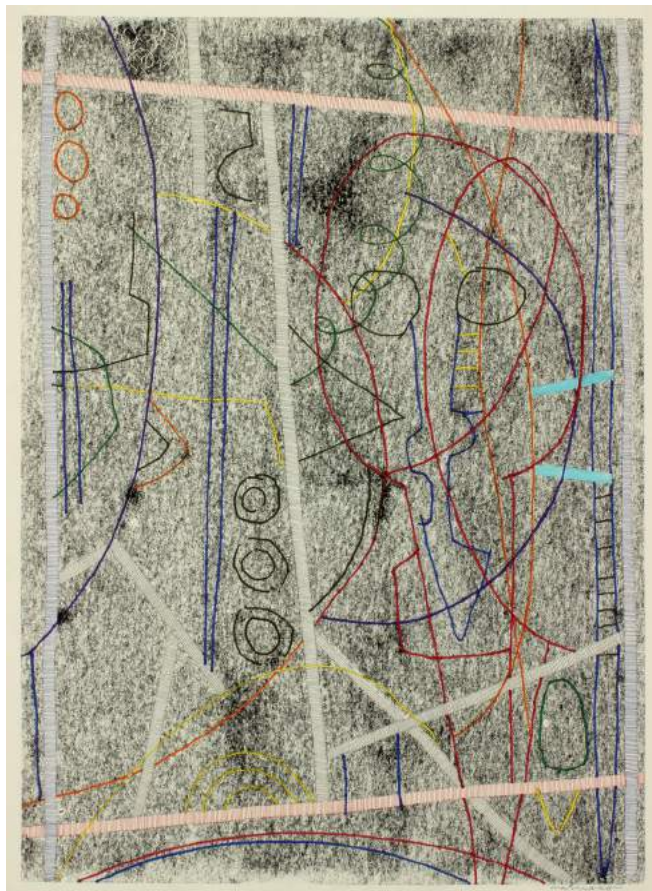
Untitled – [C-396]
Ink, watercolor &
conte crayon on paper
36 x 24 inches
S:LR



Blow Up - [C-113]
Mixed media on board
9 ½ x 7 ½ inches
S:LR



Untitled – [C408]
Mixed media
20 x 14 inches
Signed: lower right



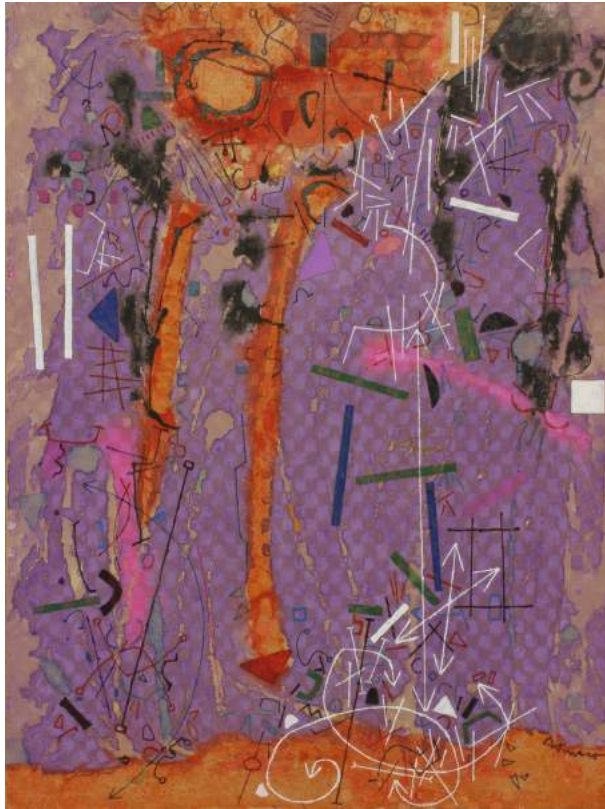
Untitled – Taos, NM
[C310], 1987
Colored ink on paper
30 x 22 inches
S:LR



Untitled – [C381]
1994
Ink & conte crayon on
paper
28 x 22 inches
S:LR

Untitled – [C387]
1994
Ink on paper
36 x 24 inches
S:LR





Untitled – [C-282]
Acrylic on Japanese
lace paper
28 x 22 inches
S:LR



Games II
Oil on canvas
72 x 50 inches
S:LR

I am very excited to show the work of these wonderful artists side-by-side. Each has a unique style of art which I find captivating and powerful. I enjoy the intricate detail in Catusco's active pieces and the calmness of Calcagno's canvases. Both found solace and inspiration in the mountains and blue skies of NM and express it in very different ways. This show of selected works by Louis Catusco and Lawrence Calcagno is in keeping with my gallery's mission to bring to light the important work done in NM during the post WWII era. I celebrate the talent and dedication of these wonderful artists

-Victoria Addison

In an interview he gave the *Taos News*, Lawrence noted that, because he had been invited to tour the Soviet Union, many people asked him if he was a famous artist. He replied that he “wasn’t a famous artist but an important one.”

-Journey Without End: the Life and Art of Lawrence Calcagno