

The background is a watercolor painting. The top left corner features a bright yellow and orange wash, resembling a sun or a sky. The rest of the background is a mix of pale yellow, light blue, and muted green, with some darker blue and brownish streaks, suggesting a landscape or a textured surface.

# Addison Rowe Gallery

From the Transcendental Painting Group  
to the Taos Moderns:  
Florence Miller Pierce &  
Beatrice Mandelman

September - December, 2016

Beatrice Mandelman (1912-1998) and Florence Miller Pierce (1918 – 2007) played very different roles in the New Mexico art scene. Pierce originally moved to Taos in 1935 to study with Emil Bisttram for a short time. She returned in 1938 to resume her studies. This was the same year that Raymond Jonson and Emil Bisttram founded the Transcendental Painting Group. Pierce became the youngest member and one of only two women in the group. Although she was an important member of the group, she did not become an influential figure in the New Mexico art scene until the late 1960s. Throughout the first half of her life, she quit making art for years at a time and did not find her individual voice as an artist until she was in her 40s. In her later years she became very well known in New Mexico and was awarded the Governor’s award for Excellence in the arts in 2003.

Beatrice Mandelman was determined to be an artist from a young age and almost never put down her paintbrush from her first art class at the age of 12 until her death at the age of 80. Although

she and her husband, Louis Ribak, arrived in New Mexico 21 years after Pierce, their arrival sparked the formation of a new art collective that would come to be known as the Taos Moderns. Before moving to Taos in 1944, Mandelman was a WPA artist and was included in important exhibitions at the Chicago Art Institute, the Museum of Modern Art, and the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC. She and Ribak moved to Taos in 1944 and founded the Taos Valley Art School 1947. This school attracted many Abstract Expressionist artists from both the East and West Coast and served as a meeting place for many of the artists who would become part of the Taos Moderns; eventually this group would include Mandelman, Ribak, Ed Corbett, Andrew Dasburg, Agnes Martin, Oli Sihvonen, Clay Spohn, John Depuy, Cady Wells, Thomas Benrimo, Ted Egri, and Louise Ganthers. Pierce and Mandelman were essential in creating a foundation for abstract artists to flourish in New Mexico. Without their contributions, the past 7 decades of art would look very different.

# Florence Miller Pierce



*Untitled*, c.1986. Resin Relief. 32 x 62 inches



*Untitled No. 652*  
*(Red)*  
2004  
Resin relief  
16 x 16 inches



*Untitled*  
*no. 203*  
1997  
Green resin on  
mirror  
24 x 24 inches



*Untitled- No.*  
*123 (red)*  
1996  
Red resin on  
mirror  
24 x 24 inches



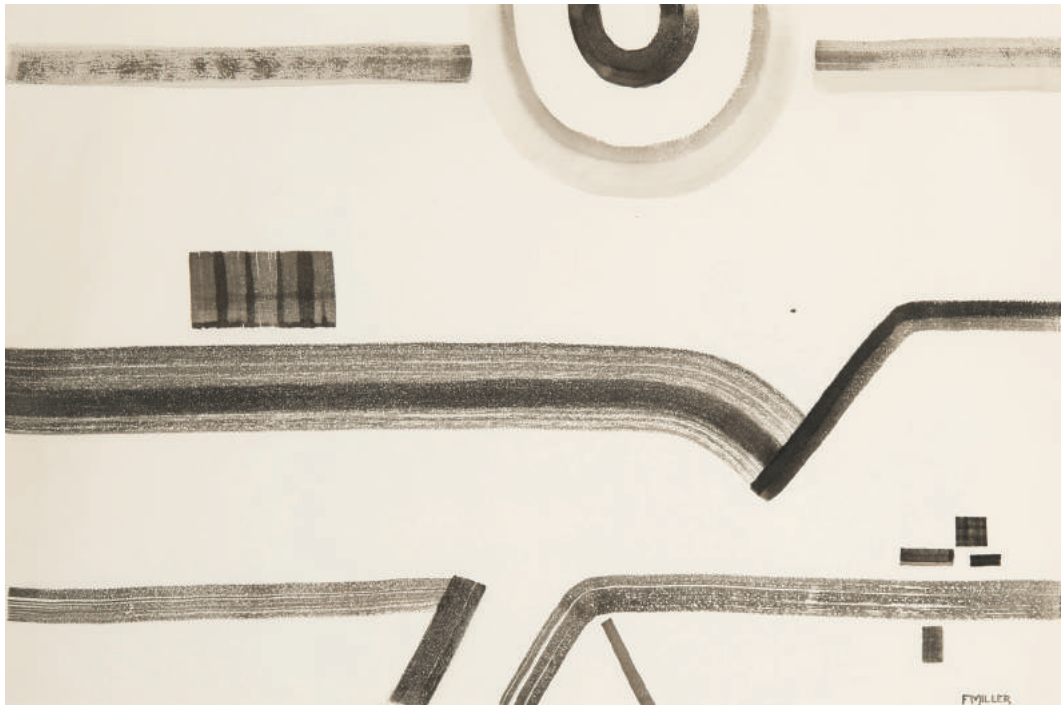
*Untitled 149*  
*(Orange)*  
1996  
Resin relief  
16 x 16 inches



*Untitled, 1970. Sumi ink on rice paper. 39 x 29 inches. FP158 (L) & FP157(R)*



*Untitled No.4*, c.1960s. 43 x 36 x 2.75 inches. Sandblasted Balsa wood. FP171

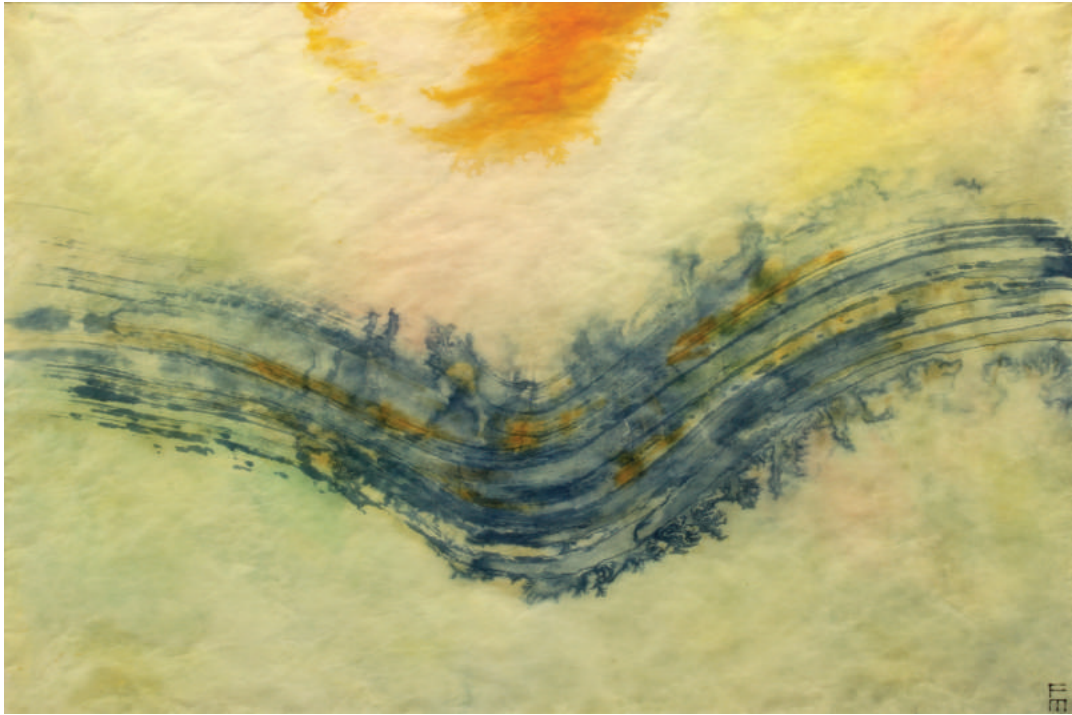


*Untitled 071*, c.1950's. Sumi ink on paper. 21 x 29 inches. S:LR



*Untitled 070*, c. 1950's. Sumi ink on paper. 29 x 21 inches. S:LR



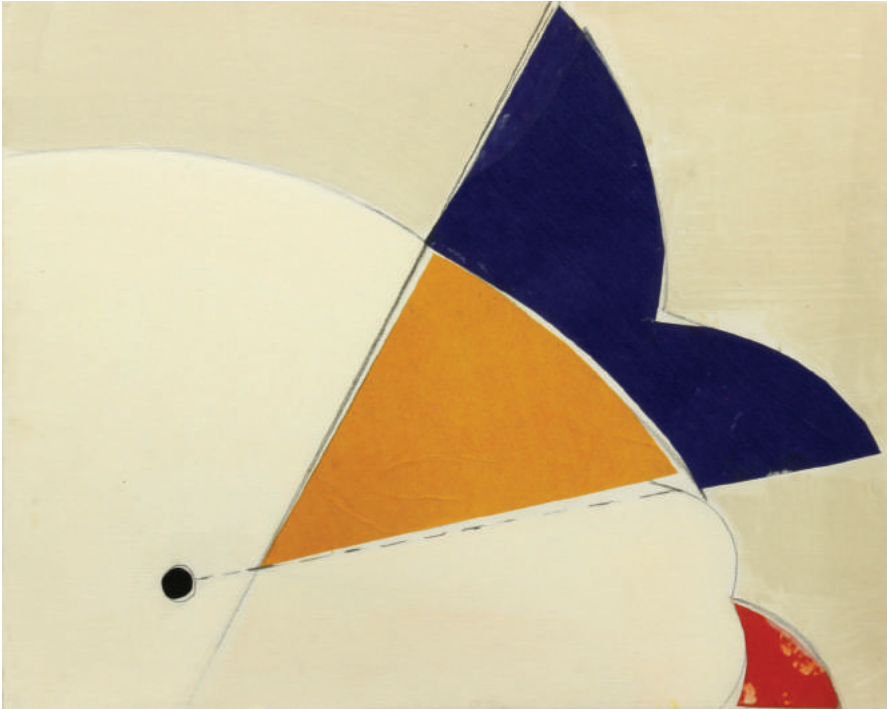


*Untitled*, c.1950s. Sumi ink on rice paper. 22 x 32 ½ inches. FP153



*Untitled, c.1985. Resin Relief. 70 x 30 inches. FPE086*

# Beatrice Mandelman



*Untitled 60-SP 1-12*, c.1960s. Collage on cardboard. 19 7/8 x 15 7/8 inches



*The Intellectual* (formerly “Moods”)  
c.1960s  
Casein with collage on cardboard  
44 x 28 inches



*Untitled 60-COL 2-06*  
1955

Gouache with collage on cardboard  
44 x 28 inches  
S:Verso



*Untitled 60-Col 2-07*  
1955  
Gouache with collage on cardboard  
44 x 28 inches



*Things That Happen at Night*, 1955. Casein with collage on cardboard. 28 x 40 inches. S:LR



*Happiness Series No. 15*, c.1974. Acrylic on canvas. 31 ½ x 23 5/8 inches S:LR





*White Time II*, c.1970's. Acrylic on canvas. 29  $\frac{3}{4}$  x 23 inches. S:LR



*Untitled*, c. 1950's. Oil and enamel on canvas panel. 12 x 16 inches



*Space Series No.35*, c.1960s. 15 5/8 x 19 5/8. S:LR

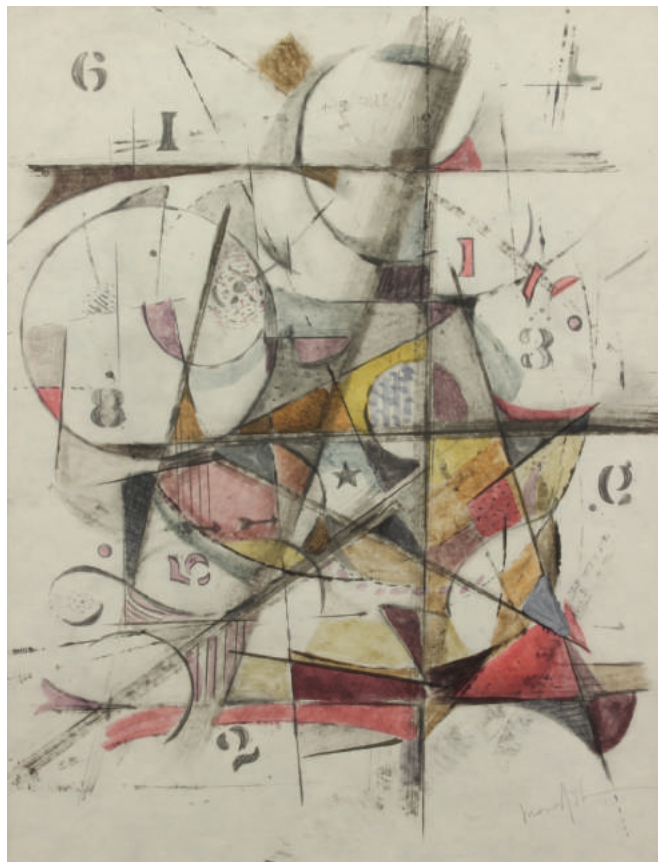




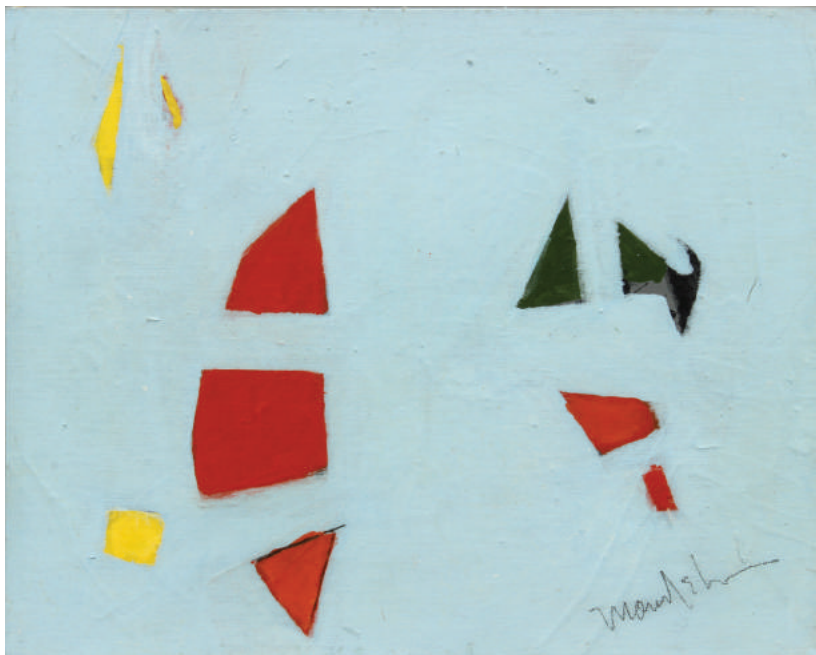
*Rain No. 1*, c.1973. Acrylic on canvas. 35 5/8 x 29 5/8. S:LR



*No. 15*, c. 1970s. Acrylic on canvas. 24 x 20 inches. S:LR



*Blue Time*. Mixed media watercolor. 21 x 16 inches. S:LR



*Sky*, c.1970's. Oil on canvas panel. 8 x 10 inches. S:LR







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