

抽象無國界

**ABSTRACTION
ATHWART WORLDS**

OPERA GALLERY

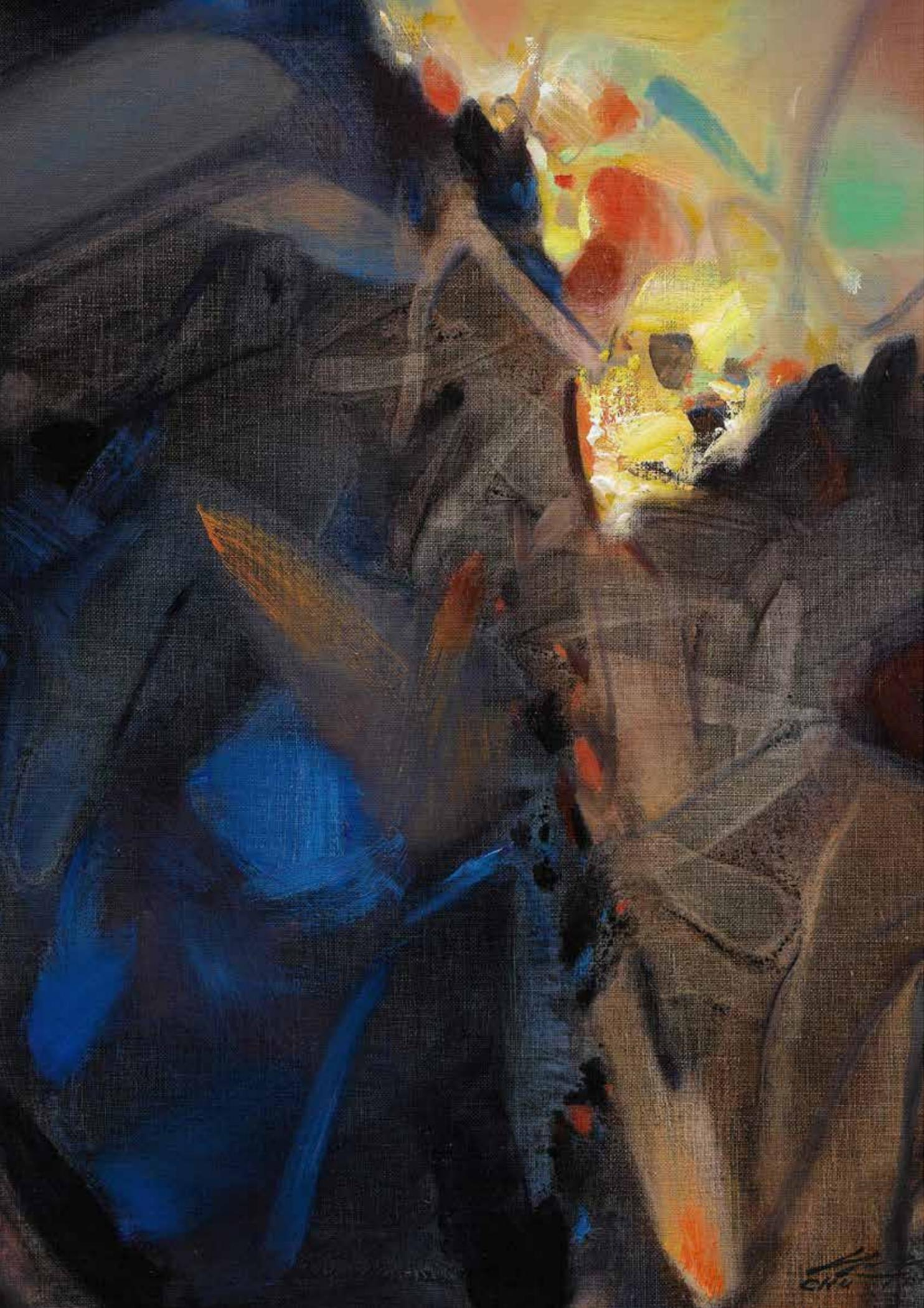


抽 象 無 國 界
連 結 現 代 世 界

ABSTRACTION ATHWART WORLDS
TIES BETWEEN MODERN WORLDS

3 - 24 OCTOBER 2019

OPERA GALLERY



前言

PREFACE

Abstraction Athwart Worlds: Ties Between Modern Worlds

Opera Gallery Hong Kong is proud to present Abstraction Athwart Worlds: Ties Between Modern Worlds, a showcase of renowned Chinese artists including Zao Wou-Ki, Chu Teh-Chun and Feng Xiao-Min, along with their Western cognates, Pierre Soulages, Hans Hartung and Jean-Paul Riopelle in a compendium of works to provoke and stimulate your imagination and interpretation. The curated exhibition of Post-War and contemporary art offers a cultural exchange, traditional techniques and exploration of ideas. The exhibition ties together abstract works that set out to uncover the rich interplay among culture, location and historic moments, allowing one to navigate and discover the artistic conversation that has developed between Eastern and Western abstract art during the artists' time spent in France. It is one of the pillars of abstract art: away from constraints and conventions, artists paint journeys of the soul where places of origin do not matter, but where marvels lie in the adventure itself.

With Abstraction Athwart Worlds: Ties Between Modern Worlds, a showcase to honour the life's works of transnational artists whose legacies will continue to influence and inspire for generations to come. Come delve into the works, and be part of this modern chapter of the conversation that links the Eastern and Western worlds.

Gilles Dyan
Founder and Chairman
Opera Gallery Group

Sharlane Foo
Director
Opera Gallery
Hong Kong

抽象无国界：连结现代世界

奥佩拉画廊·香港隆重举办“抽象无国界：连结现代世界”群展，囊括知名华人艺术家赵无极、朱德群、冯骁鸣，以及西方抽象艺术大师皮埃尔·苏拉热 (Pierre Soulages)、汉斯·哈同 (Hans Hartung) 与让-保罗·利奥佩尔 (Jean-Paul Riopelle) 的杰出创作，带来激荡想象、令人耳目一新的跨文化艺术景观。

本次展览通过战后的现代与当代艺术作品，打造文明间的交融对话，致敬传统绘画技艺并探索创作理念的无限可能。展览旨在揭示跨越文化、国界与时代的抽象作品，令观众能细意欣赏艺术家们在法国期间所形成的抽象艺术境界：远离约定俗成的规则和限制，艺术家进而得以突破其诞生地文化的桎梏，在探寻灵魂的旅程中持续绘画——这正是抽象艺术的重要支柱之一，不断进取的冒险本身即是令人惊叹的奇迹。

通过“抽象无国界：连结现代世界”群展，我们致力纪念东西方艺术巨匠的造詣与毕生创作，其源远流长的艺术遗产将持续影响与启发未来世代。欢迎细意欣赏作品，并进入连结东西方现代世界的对话之中。

吉尔·迪昂 (Gilles Dyan)
奥佩拉画廊
集团创始人及主席

符莎玲
奥佩拉画廊
香港总监

趙無極

ZAO WOU-KI

1920 - 2013



Zao Wou-Ki was born in 1920 in Beijing to an intellectual family. Shortly after the family moved to Shanghai, where Zao spent his childhood. At a young age, Zao was already learning calligraphy from his grandfather, and his artistic talent was given full freedom to bloom. Zao graduated from the China Academy of Art in Hangzhou, where he mastered the skills of drawing, sketching, Chinese traditional painting and Western oil. After graduated from the Academy, Zao stayed and worked as an assistant teacher. His work at this period was very much influenced and inspired by French artists such as Cézanne, Matisse and Picasso. In 1948, Zao moved to Paris.

There, he was warmly welcomed within the intellectual community. He befriended artists including Sam Francis, Hans Hartung and more. His earliest art exhibitions in France were met with praise from Miró and Picasso. Zao Wou-Ki's poetic Abstract art wakes scenic-cosmic associations.

In 1951 during a trip to Bern, Switzerland, Zao encountered the works of Paul Klee. Impressed and inspired by the master's art, Zao shifted from figurative painting to the Lyrical Abstract art form. Despite of all these Western influences, Zao's work is nonetheless rooted in Chinese ink painting. As a result, his works are usually dramatic yet harmonic arrangements of vibrant colours that overlap, juxtapose or blend with each other.

In 1957, Zao held an exhibition at the Galerie de France, the biggest gallery in Paris at the time, which secured his international position. His works were then exhibited in major galleries such as Tate Gallery in London and Museum of Modern Art in New York. On the Asian side, Zao's fame came some 20 years later in the 1970s to 80s, with exhibitions held in Japan, Singapore, Hong Kong and Taipei. In 2002, he was elected member of the French Académie des Beaux-Arts. An exhibition is dedicated to him last year at the Paris Museum of Modern Art.

The artist photographed by Robert Doisneau, 1956.

赵无极 (Zao Wou-Ki) 1921年出生于北京，1948年迁至巴黎定居。他深受保罗·克利(Paul Klee)与传统中国山水画的启发，寻觅从具象绘画转向抽象表达的突破口，并一跃进入抽象油画的创作中。赵无极从自然风景的主题中汲取灵感，通过和谐的色彩渲染、重叠、并置，加上戏剧性的空间观念分配，打造经典与当代兼容并蓄的绘画境界。作为跻身艺术史的大师级人物，赵无极的作品深受法国与世界各地观众的喜爱，他的艺术造诣也曾得到著名艺术家米罗 (Miró) 和毕加索 (Picasso) 的极力赞誉。2013年，赵无极逝世，享年92岁。



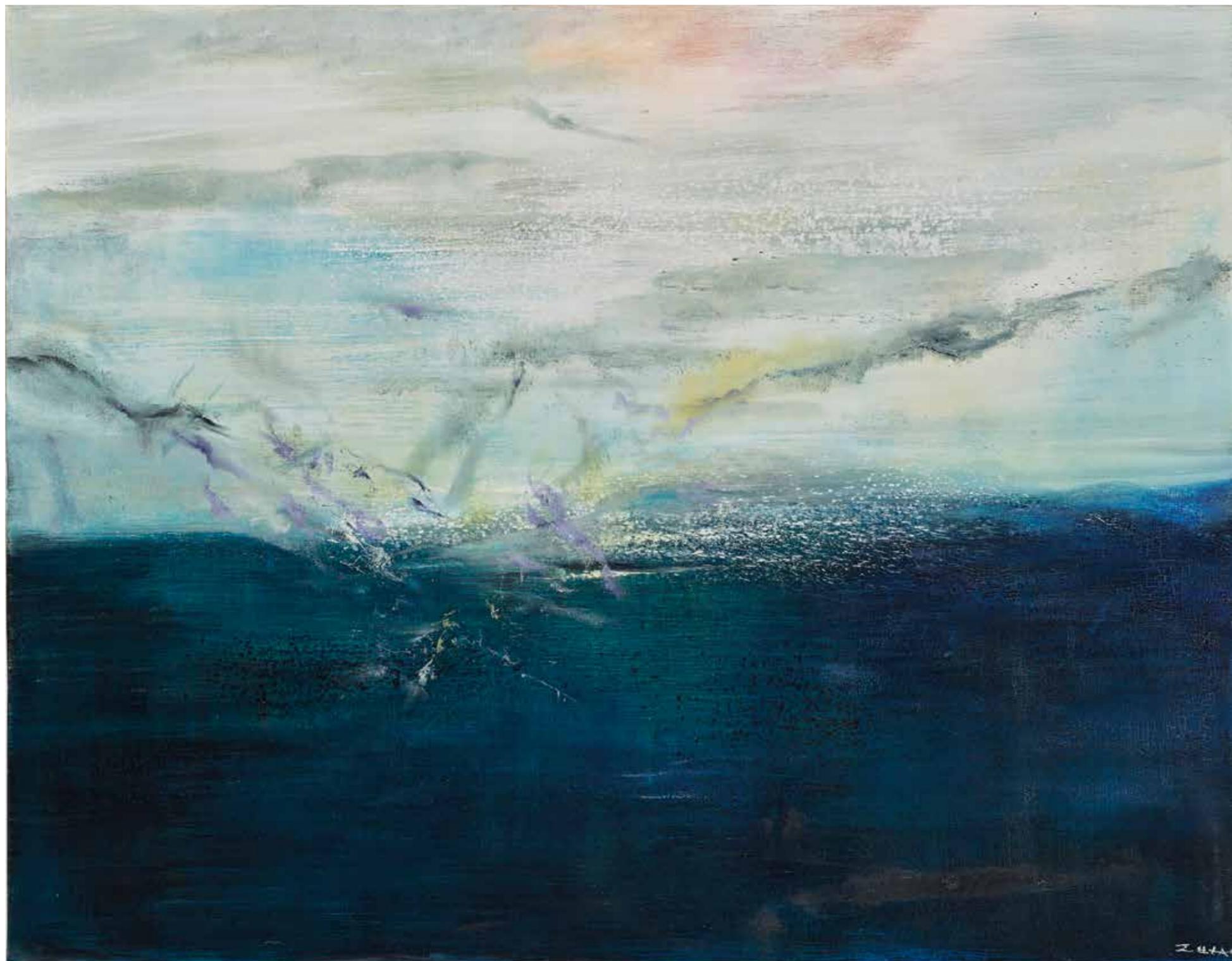
18.06.2001, 2001

Signed on the lower right and dated on the reverse

Oil on canvas | 布面油画
114 x 146 cm | 44.9 x 57.5 in

PROVENANCE
Private collection, France

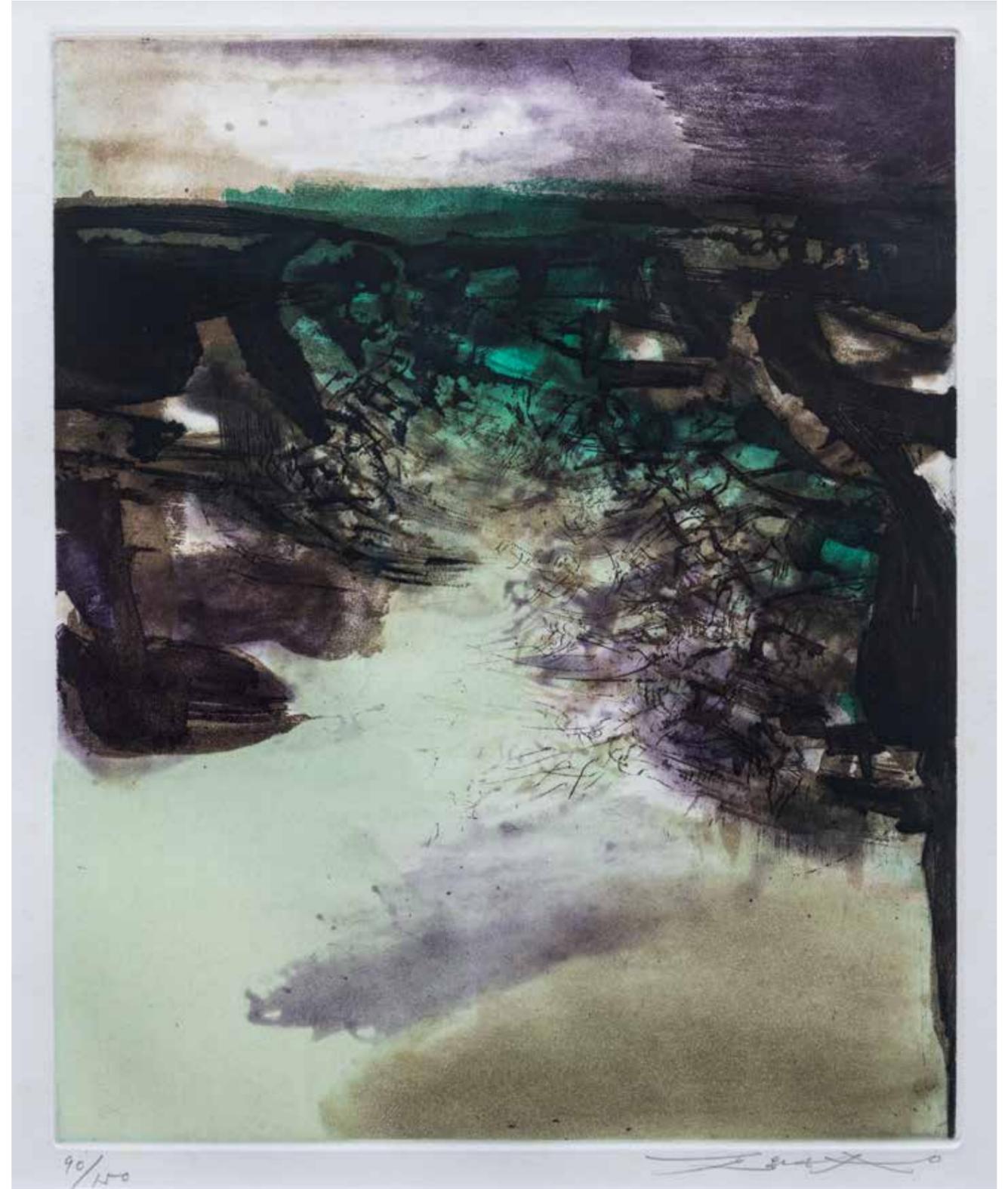
LITERATURE
This artwork is referenced in the archives of the Foundation Zao Wou-Ki and will be included in the forthcoming Catalogue raisonné being prepared by the Fondation Zao Wou-Ki

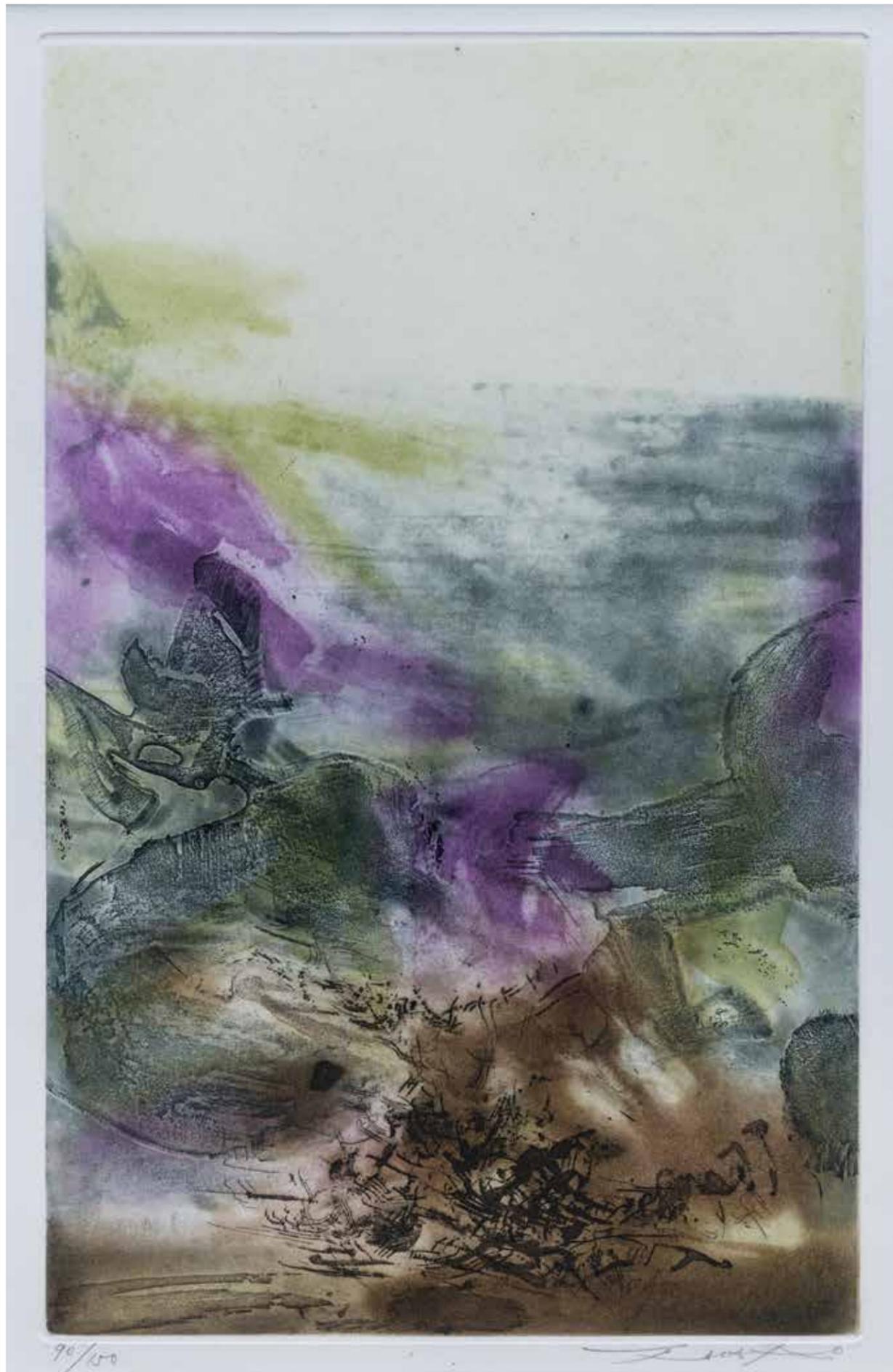


Canto Pisan | 蚀刻版画, 1972

Signed on the lower right and numbered on the lower left margin

Etching and aquatint | 蚀刻版画
Edition of 150
52 x 32,6 cm | 20.5 x 12.8 in





Canto Pisan | 蚀刻版画, 1972

Signed in the lower right and numbered in the lower left

Etching and aquatint | 蚀刻版画

Edition of 150

52 x 32,6 cm | 20.5 x 12.8 in

朱德群

CHU TEH-CHUN

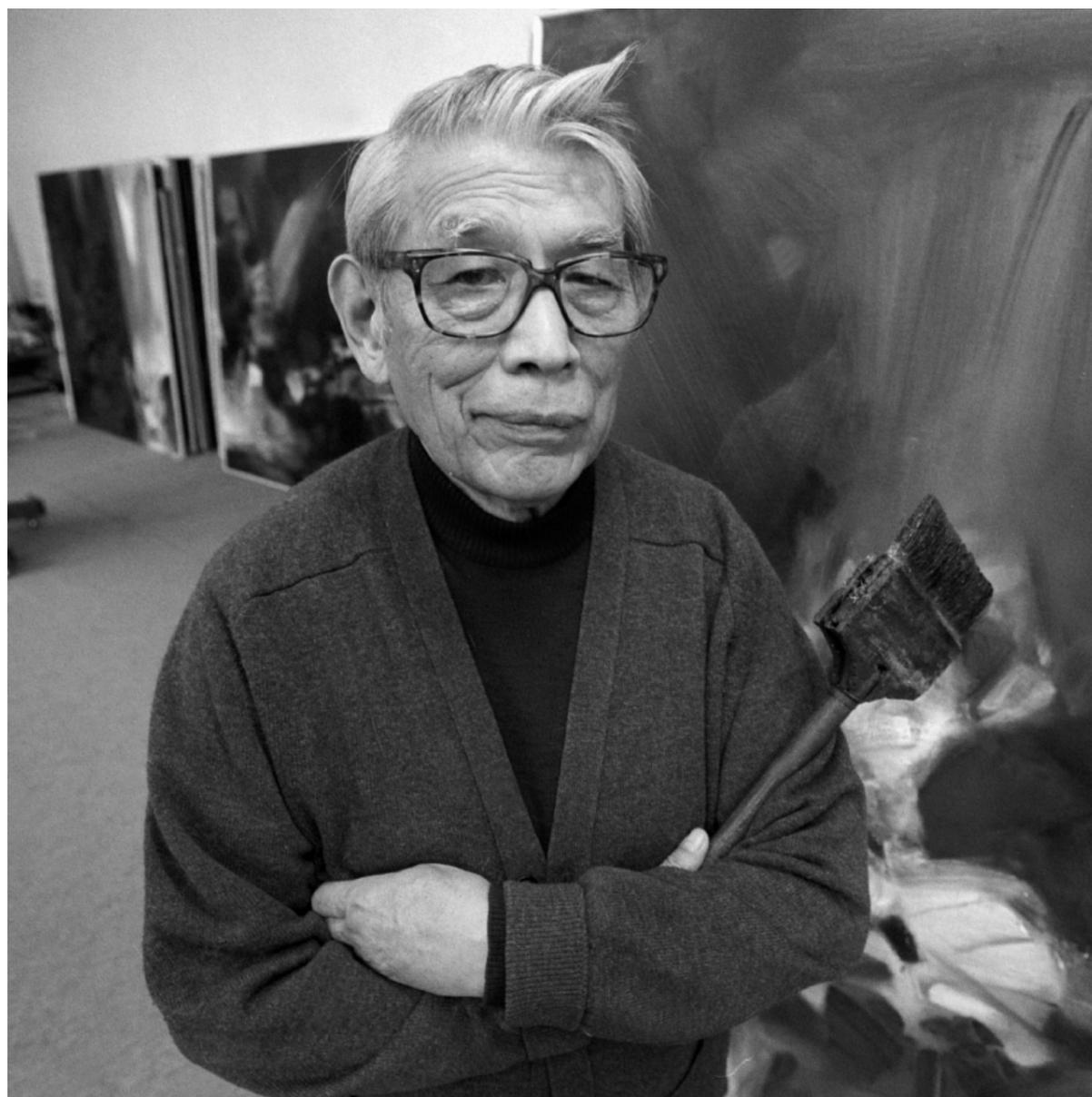
1920 - 2014

Chu Teh-Chun was born in Jiangsu Province, China. In 1935 he was admitted to Hangzhou Academic Art College where he studied in the Chinese painting under the tutorage of Pan Tianshou and Western art under Wu Dayu, both of whom are prominent artists during that time. Chu subsequently became a teacher in Nanking and then settled in Taipei.

In 1955, he moved and settled in Paris where he would quickly exhibit his works at the 'Salon des Réalités Nouvelles', the showcase location for abstract art which was a big success in Paris at the time. Initially drawn to the traditional style of Chinese painting and calligraphy, Chu Teh-Chun later explored Western artistic styles. His approach has brought about new invention of writing between poetry and painting whereby he would become renowned for his sublime integration of traditional Chinese paintings and Western Abstract art. His works open a new chapter in the area of Landscape art, with his ability to portray landscapes mixed with subtle poetry. Nature, the oceans, the world and the cosmos all blend into one within his paintings. Chu creates important graphic works, drawing, ceramics, large scale paintings, diptychs, triptychs, monumental works, always inventing a personal writing style between poetry and painting. And therein lays the strength of the artist's genius, who is now considered one of the most famous Chinese painters living in the West today, along with Zao-Wou-Ki.

Chu has had numerous successful exhibitions worldwide with his works collected by prestigious museums and astute art connoisseurs. An entire room was dedicated to his works at the famous Sao Paulo Two-Year Celebration in 1970. In 1987, the Taipei Museum of National History organized a grand retrospective of his artwork and in 1997, he is elected to the Academy of Fine Arts of the Institute of Paris.

Active until late in life, Chu Teh-Chun passes in 2014, aged 93.



The artist photographed in his studio by Patrick Durand, 1997.

朱德群 (Chu Teh-Chun) 1920年出生于安徽萧县，1955年迁至巴黎定居。他的绘画风格既建立在传统的中国书画之上，又以其充满诗意的风景画形成了其独特的艺术风格，开启了风景画的新篇章。自然、海洋、世界和宇宙都成为他创作的重要元素，并在其作品中重叠、变形，结合并形成独树一帜的个人风格。朱德群在其职业生涯早期便接触西方艺术，如今被公认为是在西方最著名的、与赵无极齐名的法籍华裔艺术家，他也是法兰西艺术院的第一位当选的中国院士。2014年，朱德群在巴黎家中逝世，享年94岁。



The artist in his studio, 2014. Courtesy of the European Times.



Composition | 构图

Signed, stamped with "La Tuilerie 89520 Treigny" and "Pièce Unique" stamps, inscribed 'B.20' on the reverse

Ceramic plate | 陶瓷板
54 x 54 cm | 21.3 x 21.3 in

PROVENANCE

Private collection, France
Matsart Auctioneers & Appraisers, 21 January 2014, lot 108
Private collection

Langage | 语言, 1995

Signed in Chinese and Pinyin, and dated on the lower right;
countersigned on the reverse

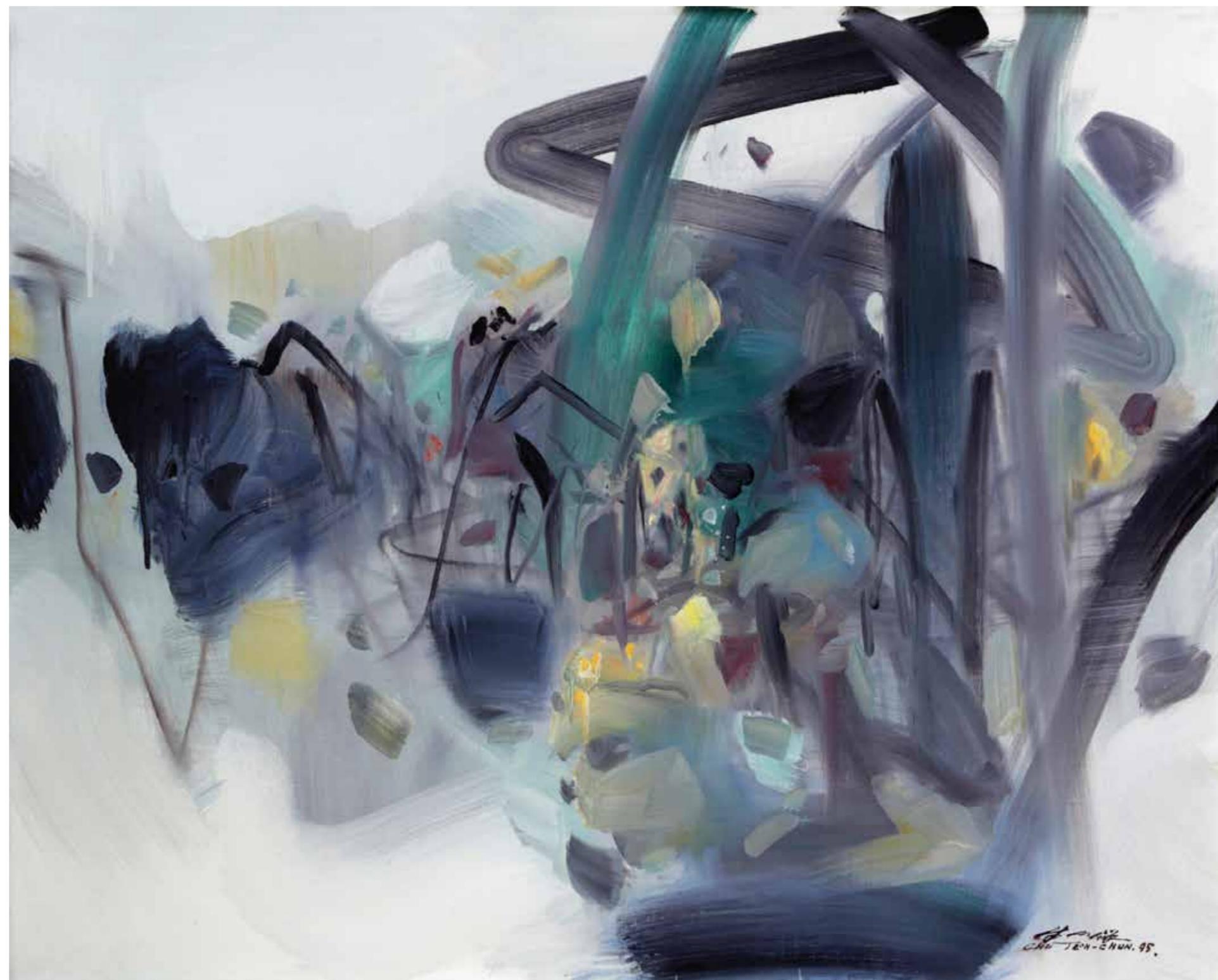
Oil on canvas | 布面油画
60 x 73 cm | 23.6 x 28.7 in

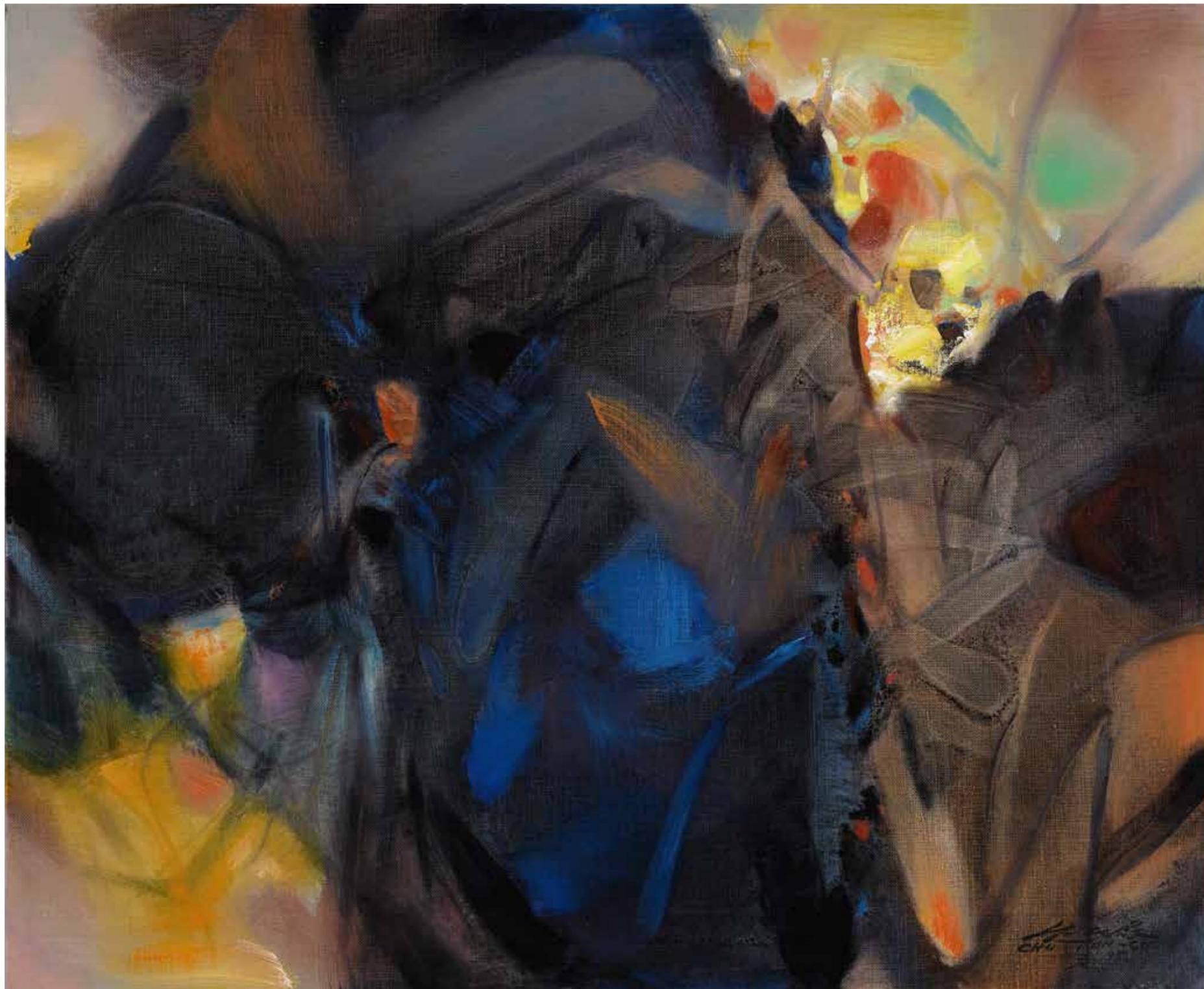
PROVENANCE

Private collection, Asia
Shanghai Dowmin Auctions, Shanghai, 25 October 2012,
lot 522
Private collection

CERTIFICATE

Ching-Chao CHU, the artist's wife, has confirmed the
authenticity of this work





Untitled | 无题, 1995

Signed and dated on the lower right

Oil on canvas | 布面油画
60 x 73 cm | 23.6 x 28.7 in

PROVENANCE

Private collection, France
Declerck, Douai, 7 November 1999, lot 92
Private collection, France
Declerck, Douai, 26 March 2006, lot 174
Private collection, France

LITERATURE

This work will be included in the forthcoming Catalogue Raisonné.

CERTIFICATE

Ching-Chao CHU, the artist's wife, has confirmed the authenticity of this work

馮 驍 鳴

FENG XIAO-MIN

b. 1959

Feng Xiao-Min was born in Shanghai, China, in 1959.

Feng's passion for art was clear from a very young age. After fine arts studies in China, he moved to France in 1988 and enrolled at the Ecole nationale supérieure des Beaux-Arts in Paris. He was later invited to teach at the same prestigious institution. His artworks show a mastery of colours and capacity for manipulating brushstrokes with a graceful and powerful poetic spirit, akin to the works of Chinese masters Zao Wou-Ki and Chu Teh-Chun, with whom he worked closely to perfect his art form.

Feng has also published a number of books on painting and calligraphy and many of his works now illustrate the pages of French school manuals. His works are collected and presented in various private and public collections, including galleries, museums and foundations, in France and abroad.

The artist frequently exhibits at international art fairs and biennales and was commissioned to produce a work for the 2017 BRICS summit.



The artist photographed in his Parisian studio by Michel Lunardelli, 2018.

冯骁鸣 (Feng Xiao-Min) 1955年出生于上海, 1988年前往法国巴黎国立高等美术学院深造, 并与两位同样来自中国的前辈赵无极、朱德群保持紧密的师友关系。其创作与赵、朱二人的作品有异曲同工之妙, 以他富有诗意的抒情手法、对笔触和颜色的出色掌控创作抽象风景画作品。如果说赵无极和朱德群的绘画将观者融于宇宙大观之中, 冯骁鸣的作品则更像是一场超越现实的梦幻视觉之旅: 既超凡脱俗又自信地植根在静谧自然的环境之中。





Tribute to Zao Wou-Ki N°6.9.18 | 向赵无极致敬, 2018

Signed on the lower centre

Acrylic on canvas | 布面丙烯
130 x 97 cm | 51.2 x 38.2 in

PROVENANCE
Artist's studio

Poetry, N°17.4.18 | 诗情, 2018

Signed and dated on the lower right

Acrylic on canvas | 布面丙烯
130 x 195 cm | 51.2 x 76.8 in

PROVENANCE
Artist's studio





Peaceful, N°21.5.18 | 幽静, 2018

Signed and dated on the lower right

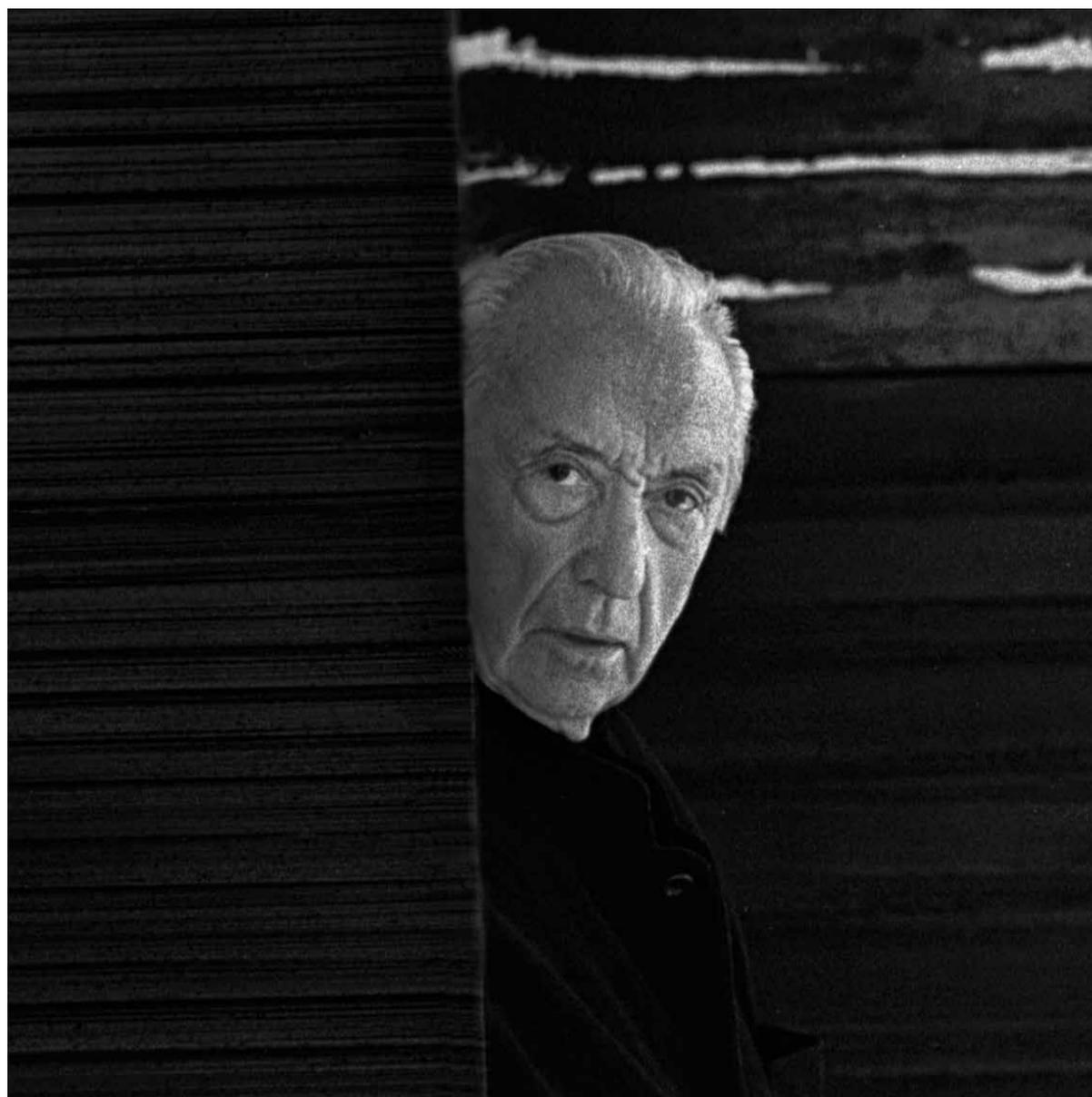
Acrylic on canvas | 布面丙烯
130 x 162 cm | 51.2 x 63.8 in

PROVENANCE
Artist's studio

蘇拉熱

SOULAGES PIERRE

b. 1919



Pierre Soulages was born in 1919 in Rodez, a region in Southern France where prehistoric and Romanesque artefacts abound. Soulages went to Paris in 1938, where he encountered the exhibitions of Picasso and Cézanne, and briefly studied at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts.

Soulages' career as a painter began in 1946, when he and his wife, Colette, moved to Paris. Within a year he became known for his bold black-and-white abstractions. Self-taught and not a member of any artistic movement, he explored the painter's means of expression and developed his own nondescriptive and poetic style. "When speaking of light, in connection with black, this sounds paradoxical. However, in reality, black is a colour of light. You cannot imagine there to be light without black being there, also", Soulages explained. Abstract painting, which until WWII had been a peripheral mode of expression in France, was at this time emerging as the new French style. Soulages was one of the painters responsible for this development.

The painter is most known for his unique 'Outrenoir' (Beyond Black) works that explore the relationship between black and light. He is nowadays so renowned that he is one of the very few artists to be granted a personal exhibition during this lifetime. On the eve of his 100th birthday, Soulages is both exhibited and collected in major international private and public collections and has an eponymous museum in his hometown of Rodez.

皮埃尔·苏拉热 (Pierre Soulages) 1919年出生于法国罗德茨，以其大胆的黑白抽象绘画而闻名。他自学成才且不属于任何艺术流派，以独树一帜的表达方式发展出非写实而富有诗意的风格。在其最著名的作品《超越黑色》(Beyond Black) 系列中，他致力于探索黑色和光线之间的互动关系。在皮埃尔·苏拉热即将迎来百岁生日的今年，其作品正在全球范围内广泛展出。





Peinture 57 x 81, 10 janvier 2000
绘画 57 x 81, 2000年1月10日, 2000

Signed and dated on the reverse

Acrylic on canvas | 布面丙烯
57 x 81 cm | 22.4 x 31.9 in

PROVENANCE

Bernard Jacobson Gallery, London
Private collection

EXHIBITED

Soulages, Galerie Alice Pauli, Lausanne, 2000

LITERATURE

Pierre Encrevé, *Soulages, L'œuvre Complet, Peintures, IV: 1997-2013*,
éd. Gallimard, Paris, 2015, p. 71

HARTUNG

HANS

1904 - 1989

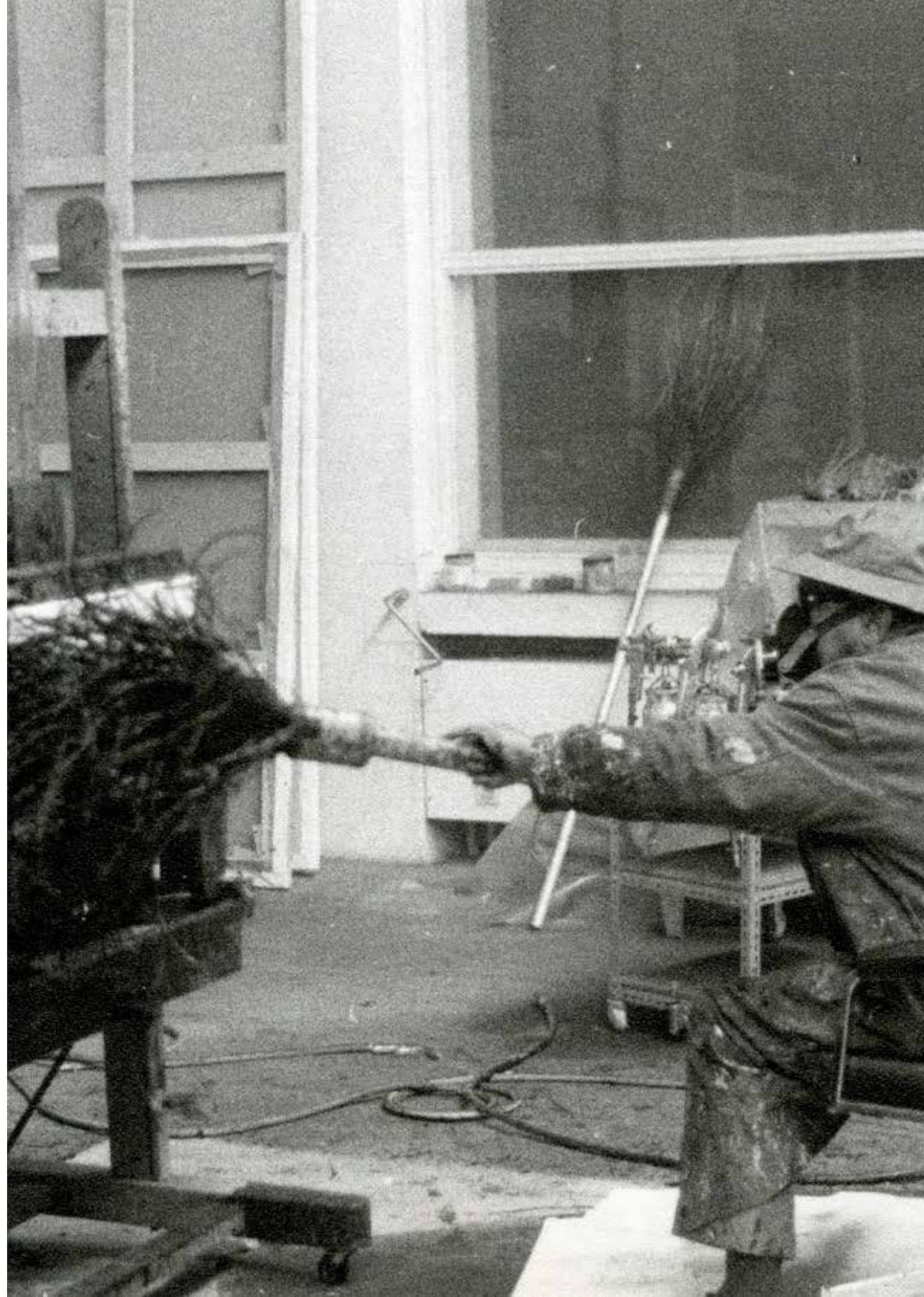


Hans Hartung was born in Leipzig, Germany, in 1904, and studied philosophy and art history at the Leipzig University before attending other art schools in Leipzig, Dresden and Munich. He moved to France to escape Nazism in the years preceding World War II. Known for his gestural, lyrical and abstract works, he is considered one of the major Post-War artists. First inspired by masters like Rembrandt and Goya, he was also influenced by Kandinsky as his style progressively approached to Abstraction.

Hartung looked for the translation of the inexpressible by the means of eliminating figurative elements and by adopting spontaneous gesture, free from formal constraints. The artist used original tools such as brooms, olive tree branches and spray guns. The role of colours akin to Expressionism is also a significant element of his work; he thus created zones of monochromatic colour on his paintings, adding parallel and long brushstrokes.

In the late 1940s, he began to exhibit his works in major cultural cities including Paris where he met Vassily Kandinsky, Joan Miró and others. His innovative abstract approach would have a crucial influence in America in the 1960s, developing his technique and using new types of paints. The artist died in 1989, in Antibes, France.

汉斯·哈同 (Hans Hartung) 1904年出生于德国莱比锡，以其对抒情抽象运动的贡献而闻名。受到伦勃朗 (Rembrandt)、戈雅 (Goya)、德国表现主义的启发和康定斯基 (Kandinsky) 抽象作品的影响，汉斯·哈同探寻大幅度的抽象诠释，逐渐探索出使用更大型的绘画工具和新的颜料等的更巧妙的处理方式，从而创作出他独特的艺术语言，对后来1960年代美国抽象艺术产生了深远的影响。1989年，汉斯·哈同逝世，享年89岁。





P50-1975-H32, 1975

Signed and dated on the lower right

Acrylic on cardboard | 纸板上丙烯
79 x 118,5 cm | 31.1 x 46.7 in

PROVENANCE

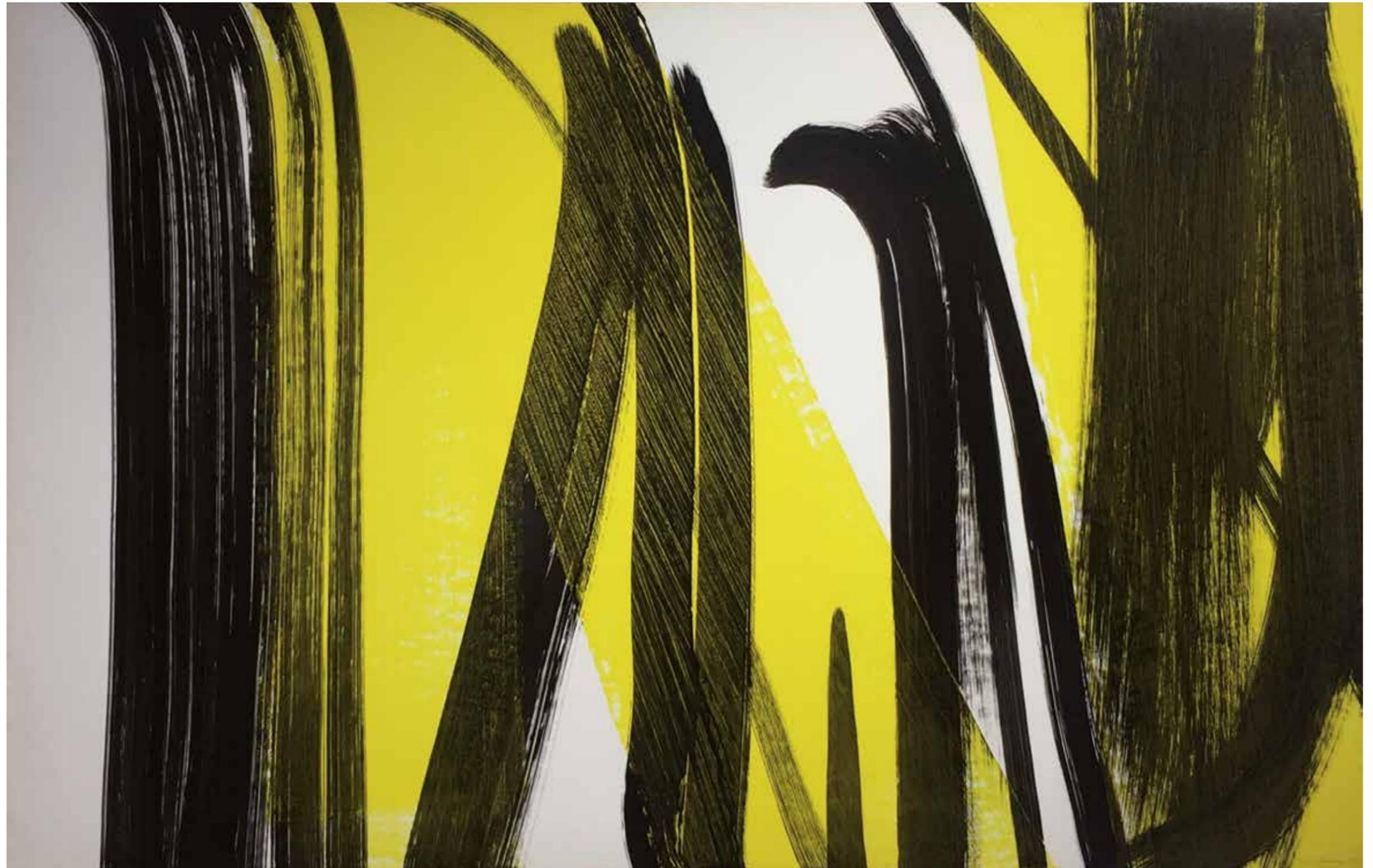
Artist studio
Telemarket Fine Arts, Italy
Private collection, Italy

LITERATURE

This work will be included in the forthcoming Catalogue raisonné currently being prepared by the Fondation Hartung Bergman

CERTIFICATE

The Fondation Hartung Bergman has confirmed the authenticity of this work registered under no. CT2174-2



P50-1977-H2, 1977

Signed and dated on the lower right

Acrylic on baryta mounted on wood | 木板上氧化钡面丙烯
79 x 120 cm | 31.1 x 47.2 in

PROVENANCE

Private collection

LITERATURE

This work will be included in the forthcoming Catalogue raisonné currently being prepared by the Fondation Hartung Bergman

EXHIBITED

Knokke, Casino de Knokke, *Hans Hartung*, 1998

CERTIFICATE

A certificate can be provided by the Fondation Hartung Bergman

T1982-R4, 1982

Signed and dated on the lower right

Acrylic on canvas | 布面丙烯
81 x 100 cm | 31.9 x 39.4 in

PROVENANCE

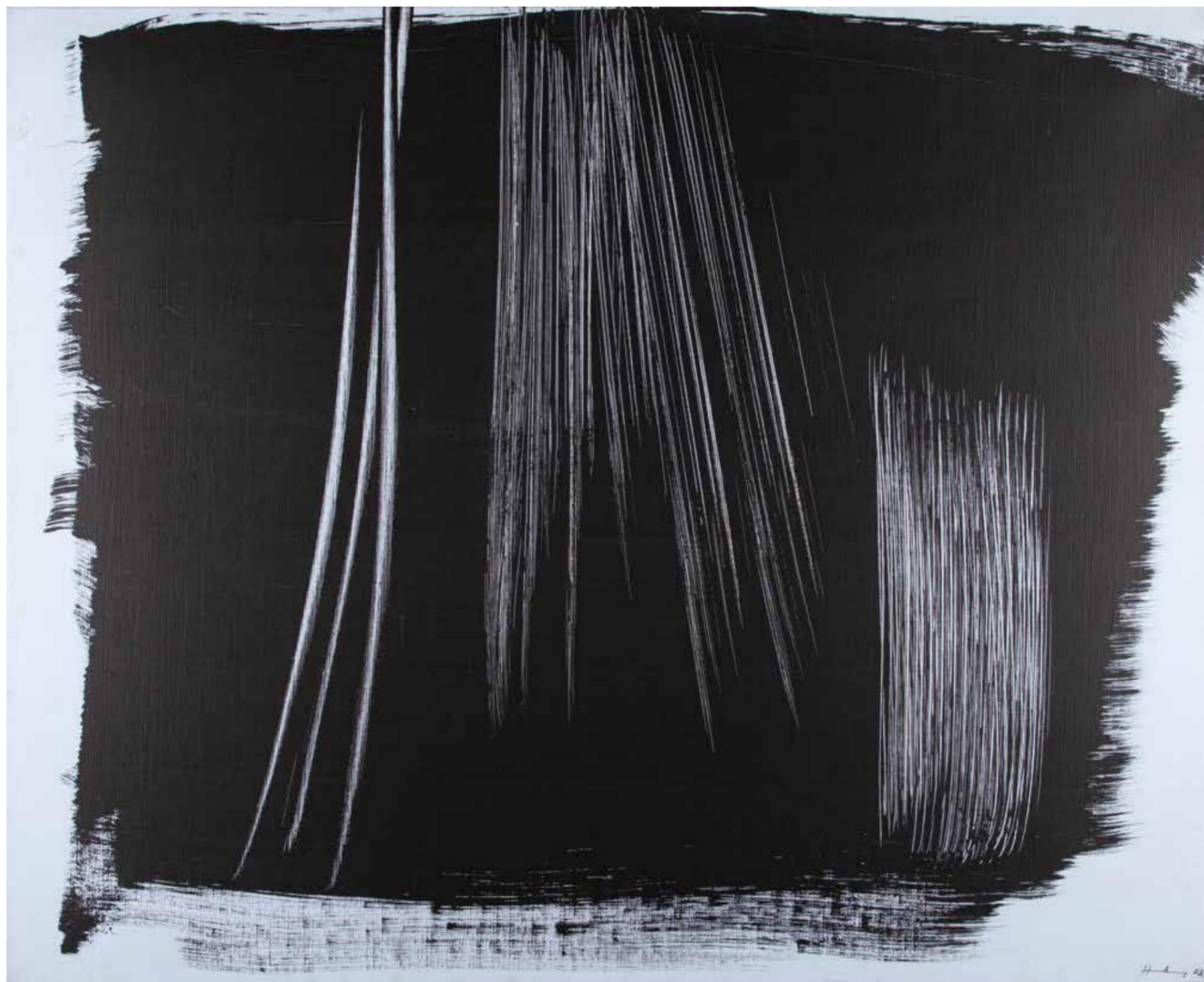
Galerie Sapone, Nice
Private collection, France

LITERATURE

This work will be included in the forthcoming Catalogue raisonné currently being prepared by the Fondation Hartung Bergman

CERTIFICATE

The Fondation Hartung Bergman has confirmed the authenticity of this work registered under no. CT5141-0





T1982-H49, 1982

Signed on the lower right, numbered and dated on the reverse

Acrylic on canvas | 布面丙烯
61 x 46 cm | 24 x 18,1 in

PROVENANCE

Galerie Sapone, Nice, 1987
Private collection

LITERATURE

This work will be included in the forthcoming Catalogue raisonné
currently being prepared by the Fondation Hartung Bergman

CERTIFICATE

A certificate can be provided by the Fondation Hartung Bergman

利奧佩爾

RIOPELLE JEAN-PAUL

1923 - 2002



Jean-Paul Riopelle was born in Montréal, Canada in 1923.

After unsatisfactory art studies, he met avant-garde professor Paul-Emile Borduas, who became his mentor. Riopelle moved to Paris in the 1940s and quickly became acquainted with other artists including Giacometti, Ernst, and Breton. He quickly gained in popularity and exhibited works all over Europe, and in America throughout the 1950s. Riopelle is considered one of the most renowned painters of the Ecole de Paris, where he also met Joan Mitchell, who became his artistic and life partner for 15 years.

Jean-Paul Riopelle's technique is diverse, consisting of lithographs, sculptures and collages, but he is most famous for his non-figurative landscapes.

He was awarded the UNESCO prize at the Venice Biennale in 1962, the Paul-Emile Borduas prize for his artistic legacy, and was featured in a retrospective solo exhibition in the Hermitage Museum of Saint-Petersburg in 2006. He is now considered as one of the most renowned and celebrated painters for the 20th century. His work is collected and exhibited in the world's greatest galleries and museums.

让 - 保罗·利奥佩尔 (Jean-Paul Riopelle) 1923年出生于加拿大蒙特利尔。他有幸与先锋艺术家博尔杜亚 (Paul-Emile Borduas) 相识，后者后来更成为他的导师般的挚友。1940年代利奥佩尔移居巴黎并迅速结识了很多实力雄厚的艺术家，如贾克梅蒂 (Giacometti)、恩斯特 (Ernst)、布列东 (Breton) 等。利奥佩尔的作品迅速得到艺术圈的认可，并于1950年代在欧美广泛展出，并被公认为是巴黎国立高等美术学院最具实力的艺术家之一。利奥佩尔不断拓展他的创作手法，形式上也涉猎版画、雕塑和拼贴画等多种媒介。1981年，他荣获博尔杜亚奖。作为二十世纪最著名的艺术家之一，让-保罗·利奥佩尔作品被众多著名博物馆与美术馆收藏。2002年，让-保罗·利奥佩尔逝世，享年79岁。

Next double page:

St. Paul | 圣保罗, 1966

Signed and dated on the lower right; signed, titled and dated on the reverse

Oil on canvas | 布面油画
97 x 146 cm | 38.2 x 57.5 in

PROVENANCE

Galerie Maeght, Paris
Sotheby's London, 3 December 1987, lot 643
Private collection, United States

CERTIFICATE

Yseult Riopelle, the artist's daughter, has confirmed the authenticity of this work

*Joan Mitchell and Riopelle in his studio-apartment, 1963.
Courtesy of Heidi Meister.*





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