

Mark Tobey: Nature's Patterns

March 18, 2021 - May 1, 2021



Anders Wahlstedt Fine Art is pleased to present an exhibition of work by American artist Mark Tobey (1890-1976.) “Mark Tobey: Nature’s Patterns” includes eighteen works from a private collection. The artworks span from 1953 - 1968, a formative fifteen year period in Tobey’s career. During this time, he won the International Grand Prize at the Venice Biennale and was featured in solo exhibitions at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City and the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam among others. Accompanying the exhibition is a new essay by esteemed scholar Robert C. Morgan titled “To Be a Filter of Life: Paintings by Mark Tobey.”

Tobey’s innovative “white writing” technique can be seen in several works in the exhibition, including *Sharp Field* (1960.) The small scale of the paintings on display facilitates an intimate

relationship between the viewer and artwork. His refined color palette generates highly sensorial surfaces. Calligraphic elements in paintings such as *Golden Mountains* (1953) and *Cattails* (1953) illustrate the influence of his trips to East Asia. *Owl's Light* (1968), significantly more expansive than the other works on display, demonstrates his ability to convey natural rhythms on a larger scale as well. Earthen tones and intricate gestures promote a meditative viewing experience throughout the exhibit.

“Mark Tobey: Nature’s Patterns” will be on view from March 18, 2021 - May 1, 2021. An online viewing room on the gallery’s website will accompany the exhibition.

Mark Tobey (1890 - 1976) was born in Centerville, Wisconsin. His abstract paintings incorporate calligraphic details and relate to his involvement with the Bahai faith. Tobey has been featured in retrospectives at museums such as the Museum of Modern Art, New York City, the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D.C., and the Museum Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid among others. Tobey’s art is in esteemed collections worldwide including the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York City, the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York City, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City, Tate, London, and the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles.

Anders Wahlstedt Fine Art was founded in 2007 by Anders Wahlstedt and the gallery specializes in modern and contemporary American and European prints, drawings and photographs. The gallery is known for its extensive inventory of prints by Frank Stella and holds multiple exhibitions annually. The gallery has placed works in important institutions and major print collections. In 2018, the gallery relocated to Chelsea from the Upper East Side, where past exhibitions included names such as Joan Snyder, Frank Stella, Roy Decarava, Ellsworth Kelly, Mel Bochner, John Newman and Mel Kendrick.