

The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Circle 5-8900 Cable: Modernart

RECENT ACQUISITIONS: 7 AMERICAN PAINTINGS

Opening November 5, 1964

C H E C K L I S T

Note: Unless enclosed in parentheses dates appear on the works themselves. In dimensions height precedes width. The last two figures of the accession number indicate the year of acquisition.

Paul JENKINS. American, born 1923.

Phenomena Junction Red. 1963. Synthetic polymer on canvas, 67 x 47 3/8".
Promised gift of Mr. and Mrs. David Kluger. E.L. 64.83.

Phenomena Yellow Strike. 1963-64. Synthetic polymer on canvas, 60 1/8 x 39 7/8". Promised gift of Mr. and Mrs. David Kluger. E.L. 64.84.

Technique: Canvas is primed twice, first with polymer (acrylic) medium and gesso, then with polymer (Liquitex) and titanium white. Color in matte polymer (acrylic) is poured on unstretched canvas which is then tilted and otherwise manipulated with brushes and an ivory knife. (A precise account of technique is given at length in Albert Elsen: "Paul Jenkins," Art International, March 1964.)

"I try to paint like a crapshooter throwing dice, utilizing past experience and my knowledge of the odds; the way the paint flows on the canvas -- or the dice fall on the felt -- can change my bet, or my mood. This is what I call painting with the consciousness of immediate flux, the perpetual sensation of momentary change. It's a big gamble. And that's why I love it....." (Catalog, Martha Jackson Gallery, New York, March 1964.)

Morris LOUIS. American, 1912-1962. Lived in Washington, D.C.

Untitled. (1959). Synthetic polymer poured on unsized canvas, 11' 7 1/4" x 7' 7 1/4". Grace Rainey Rogers Fund. 560.63.

Third Element. 1962. Synthetic polymer poured on unsized canvas, 85 3/4 x 51". Blanchette Rockefeller Fund. 200.63.

Jules OLITSKI. American, born Russia 1922. To U.S.A. 1924. Lives in Shaftsbury (near Bennington), Vermont.

Cleopatra Flesh. 1962. Synthetic polymer on canvas, 8' 8" x 7' 6 1/4".
Gift of G. David Thompson (by exchange). 262.64.

Cleopatra Flesh was acquired from the artist by exchanging an earlier canvas, Osculum Silence, 1960, bought for the Museum by G. David Thompson out of the Pittsburgh International of 1961. The artist states that Cleopatra Flesh was painted with rollers, sponges and brushes on an unstretched canvas lying flat on the floor.

Larry POONS. American, born Japan 1937. To U.S.A. 1938. Lives in New York.

Night on Cold Mountain. (1962). Synthetic polymer on dyed, unprimed canvas, 80 x 80". Larry Aldrich Foundation Fund. 271.63.

The artist states that the title is derived from Cold Mountain Poems by the Chinese poet Han-Shan.

Jack TWORKOV. American, born Poland 1900. To U.S.A. 1913. Lives in New York. Recently appointed Chairman, Art Department, Yale School of Art and Architecture. The Museum owns one other painting by Tworkov, The Wheel (1952-53), acquired 1954.

West 23rd. 1963. Oil on canvas, 60 1/8 x 80". Purchase. 274.63.

Concerning West 23rd the artist writes (June 1963): "No specific scene was intended. I have for some time tried to adapt a form in which verticals predominate to a city theme and West 23rd is the first result."

Answer to the Museum's questionnaire (1954): "I have no program in relation to society. The artist who is genuinely involved in his work fulfills all the requirements of society in our time whether he thinks so or not -- whether society thinks so or not.... My interest in the formal means of our art is great.... But my deepest concern is with the poignancy of the stimulus and the depth of the response."