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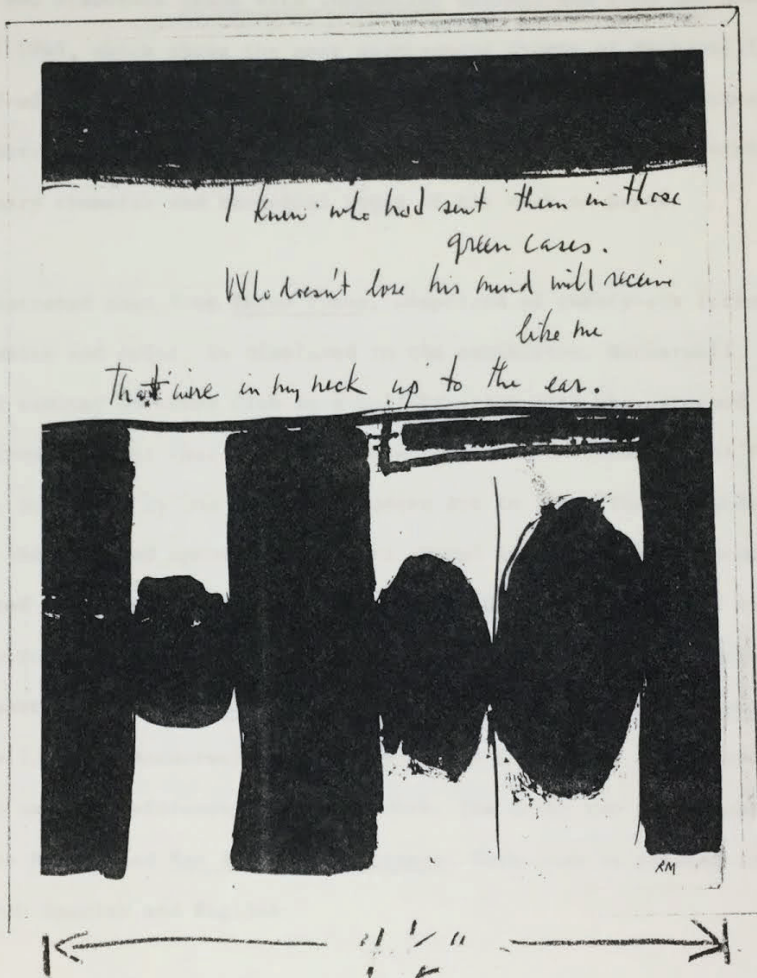
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Each illustrated page from Three Poems, comprised of twenty-six lithographs in black-and-white and color, is displayed in the exhibition. Motherwell, who had interested the Limited Editions Club in a collaboration with the esteemed Mexican poet, worked from drawings that were first conceived for an anthology of Frank O'Hara poetry, published by The Museum of Modern Art in 19xx. The Paz poems were written after the poet had spent twelve years abroad and after his homecoming in 1971. Confronted with the urban nightmare of Mexico City, Paz responded with some of his most moving work. Motherwell's evocative prints capture the disquieting mood of this poetry. One poem "The skin of the world, the sound of the world" specifically alludes to Motherwell's art, taking its title from a statement that the artist had made in reference to his own work. The other two poems contained in the book are Return nad San Ildefonso Nocturne. Each poem is printed in its entirety in both Spanish and English.

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For Immediate Release
November 1987

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December 11, 1987 - February 23, 1988

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^ Drawing and printmaking play an essential role in the art of Robert Motherwell. ~~The works in the exhibition range from the simple, automatic~~ writings of the Lyric Suite to the powerful images of the Elegies and the more elaborate, cut-and-pasted paper collages for which he is best known. The earliest drawings on view are from the Mexican series, inspired by Motherwell's first trip there with Matta in 1941. Among these works, including an early sketchbook, are the artist's first significant collages incorporating found papers, such as wine labels, cigarette wrappers, and train tickets.

The exhibition continues with several works from the Elegies, including the first of the series executed in the late forties through to those of the mid-seventies. Primarily in black on white or black on ochre, the Elegy

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drawings illustrate the artist's profound response to the struggle for the Spanish Republic. The somber, often threatening aspect of this series is in contrast to its elegant, sensitive construction.

Several works have been selected from the Lyric Suite, which consists of over 600 drawings all executed in 1965. These small black brush and ink works on paper represent Motherwell's most spontaneous, gestural statements. Motherwell has stated, "The title of this series refers partly to the string quartet by Alban Berg, which I listened to again and again as I worked." Other works are from the Open Series of 1968-69, studies for paintings that were numbered in the order of execution. These drawings reflect the artist's experimentation with minimalist formal arrangements, specifically of a rectangular outline drawn on a field of color.

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Among the highlights of the exhibition is Motronell's first Elegy drawing, from 1948. Made to illustrate a poem by Harald Roerberg, it is one of the artist's most seminal works, for it established the counterpoint of scale and uprights that formed the basis of his series of Elegies to the Spanish Republic. Other, later drawings ~~for~~ from the Elegy series are also included in the exhibition.

Also represented are drawings from Motronell's other major series. Among these are examples from the severely reductive Open series that began in the mid-1960s, from the rich and elaborate Drunk with Turpentine series, and from the gestural Lynx Suite of 1965, which shows the most spontaneous aspect of Motronell's art. These, together with a selection of unique drawings, not made within series, including some borrowed from the artist for this occasion, provide an overview of the extraordinary thematic and technical range of his work on paper.

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Invitation Draft

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3rd, Chairman
Donald B. Marron, President
The Board of Trustees
The Museum of Modern Art
request the pleasure of our company
at a reception and preview of the exhibition

GIFTS OF WORKS ON PAPER BY ROBERT MOTHERWELL

Friday, December 11, 1987
6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
11 West 53 Street, New York
R.S.V.P. 212-708-9683

or

The Department of Drawings
The Department of Prints and Illustrated Books
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Friday, December 11, 1987
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R.S.V.P. 212-708-9680

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Tance ✓*

*← Can this be two lines
with RM's name in
larger type ?*

*Why
different
phone #s ?
JK*

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Drawing and printmaking play an essential role in the art of Robert Motherwell. The works in the exhibition range from the simple, automatic writings of the Lyric Suite to the powerful images of the Elegies and the more elaborate, cut-and-pasted paper collages for which he is best known. The earliest drawings on view are from the Mexican series, inspired by Motherwell's first trip there with Matta in 1941. Among these works, including an early sketchbook, are the artist's first significant collages incorporating found papers, such as wine labels, cigarette wrappers, and train tickets.

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The Museum of Modern Art

J. Elderfield

Graphics Request Sheet

Please use typewriter only.

Date	Project Name	
November 16, 1987	Gifts of Works on Paper by Robert Motherwell	
Quantity	Budget	
Date Needed	Dept./Program #7615-	
December 10, 1987	2519	
Requested by	Department	Telephone
Audrey Isselbacher	Prints & IB	565

Description of Project

- 1 vitrine sign: Gifts of Works on Paper by Robert Motherwell
December 11, 1987 - February 23, 1988
International Council Gallery, first floor
- 1 sign at entrance to exhibition (on wall): Gifts of Works on Paper by Robert Motherwell
text for 3-part sign leading to International Council Gallery:
Gifts of Works on Paper by Robert Motherwell
- 2 text panels (copy to come from J. Elderfield and A. Isselbacher)

Project Number	Requesting Department Approval
Estimated Cost	Date
Estimated Completion Date	Exhibitions Approval (2000 Series)
White/Designer's Copy	Date
Canary/Graphics Copy	
Pink/Originator's Copy	

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Among the highlights of the exhibition is Motherwell's first Elegy drawing from 1948. Made to illustrate a poem by Harold Rosenberg, it is one of the artist's most seminal works, for it established the counterpoint of ovals and uprights that formed the basis of his series of Elegies to the Spanish Republic. Other later drawings from the Elegy series are included in the exhibition as well.

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Also represented are drawings from other major series by the artist. Among these are examples from the severely reductive Open series, that began in the mid-sixties; the rich and elaborate Drunk with Turpentine series; and the gestural Lyric Suite of 1965, which shows the most spontaneous aspect of his art. These--together with a selection of unique drawings that are not made within series--provide an overview of the extraordinary thematic and technical range of his work on paper.

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The Limited Editions Club asked Motherwell to illustrate one of its books, and in 1982 he suggested the collaboration with the Mexican poet. Motherwell began to develop his illustrations, which capture the disquieting mood of Paz's poetry, by referring to drawings that were originally conceived for an anthology of Frank O'Hara poetry, published by The Museum of Modern Art in 1967.

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No. 111

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The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
December 1987

GIFTS OF WORKS ON PAPER BY ROBERT MOTHERWELL

December 11, 1987 - February 23, 1988

An exhibition celebrating two important gifts to The Museum of Modern Art by the major Abstract Expressionist Robert Motherwell opens at the Museum on December 11, 1987. GIFTS OF WORKS ON PAPER BY ROBERT MOTHERWELL includes a selection of drawings donated by the artist from his own collection; and the recently published Three Poems by Octavio Paz, illustrated by Motherwell and donated by the publisher, The Limited Editions Club, New York. Organized by John Elderfield, director of the Department of Drawings, and Audrey Isselbacher, assistant curator, Department of Prints and Illustrated Books, the exhibition continues through February 23, 1988.

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Among the highlights of the exhibition is Motherwell's first Elegy drawing from 1948. Made to illustrate a poem by Harold Rosenberg, it is one of the artist's most seminal works, for it established the counterpoint of ovals and uprights that formed the basis of his series of Elegies to the Spanish Republic. Other later drawings from the Elegy series are included in the exhibition as well.

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ROBERT MOTHERWELL: GIFTS OF WORKS ON PAPER

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Also represented are drawings from Motherwell's other major series. Among these

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The Museum of Modern Art

Department of Drawings

ROBERT MOTHERWELL: GIFTS OF WORKS ON PAPER

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL GALLERIES

December 11, 1987 - February 23, 1988

Robert MOTHERWELL American, born 1915

- 87.1357 The Mexican Sketchbook 1941
a - k India ink on paper and watercolor on paper
 eleven untitled drawings, each 9 x 11 1/2" (22.9 x 29.2 cm)
 Gift of the artist
- 87.1358 Elegy to the Spanish Republic No. 1 (1948)
 India ink on rag paper
 10 1/2 x 8 1/2" (26.7 x 21.7 cm)
 Gift of the artist
- 87.1355 Pregnant Woman Holding Child 1953
 India ink and tube watercolor on paper
 10 x 8 1/2" (25.5 x 21.7 cm)
 Private Collection
- 87.1352 Torn Elegy 1962
 Acrylic on cardboard
 10 5/8 x 15" (irregular sides) (26.9 x 38.1 cm)
 Private Collection
- EL67.
1421 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
 Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
 9 x 11" (22.9 x 28.1 cm)
 Extended loan from the artist
- EL67.
1423 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
 Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
 9 x 11" (22.9 x 28.1 cm)
 Extended loan from the artist

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- EL67. 1424 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
11 x 9" (28.1 x 22.9 cm)
Extended loan from the artist
- EL67. 1425 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
9 x 11" (22.9 x 28.1 cm)
Extended loan from the artist
- 753.66 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
9 x 11 1/8" (22.9 x 28.2 cm)
Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara
- 754.66 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
11 1/8 x 9" (28.2 x 22.9 cm)
Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara
- 755.66 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
9 x 11" (22.9 x 28.1 cm)
Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara
- 756.66 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
11 1/8 x 9" (28.2 x 22.9 cm)
Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara
- 757.66 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
11 x 9" (28.1 x 22.9 cm)
Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara
- 758.66 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
Brush and ink on mulberry paper
9 x 11 1/8" (22.9 x 28.2 cm)
Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara
- 759.66 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
Brush and ink on mulberry paper
11 1/8 x 9" (28.2 x 22.9 cm)
Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara
- 760.66 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
11 1/8 x 9" (28.2 x 22.9 cm)
Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara

The Museum of Modern Art Archives, NY	Collection:	Series.Folder:
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- 761.66 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
 Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
 11 1/8 x 9" (28.2 x 22.9 cm)
 Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara
- 762.66 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
 Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
 11 1/8 x 9" (28.2 x 22.9 cm)
 Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara
- 763.66 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
 Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
 8 7/8 x 11" (22.8 x 28.1 cm)
 Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara
- 764.66 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
 Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
 9 x 11" (22.9 x 28.1 cm)
 Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara
- 2379.67 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
 Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
 9 x 11 1/8" (22.9 x 28.2 cm)
 Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara
- 2380.67 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
 Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
 9 x 11 1/8" (22.8 x 28.2 cm)
 Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara
- 2381.67 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
 Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
 11 1/8 x 9" (28.2 x 22.9 cm)
 Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara
- 2382.67 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
 Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
 11 1/8 x 9" (28.2 x 22.9 cm)
 Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara
- 2383.67 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
 Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
 11 1/8 x 9" (28.2 x 22.9 cm)
 Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara
- 2384.67 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
 Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
 11 x 9" (28.1 x 22.9 cm)
 Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara

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- 2385.67 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
11 1/8 x 9" (28.2 x 22.9 cm)
Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara
- 2386.67 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
11 1/8 x 9" (28.2 x 22.9 cm)
Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara
- 2387.67 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
11 1/8 x 9" (28.2 x 22.9 cm)
Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara
- 2388.67 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
11 1/8 x 9" (28.2 x 22.9 cm)
Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara
- 2389.67 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
11 1/8 x 9" (28.2 x 22.9 cm)
Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara
- 2390.67 Untitled from the series Lyric Suite (1965)
Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper
9 x 11 1/8" (22.9 x 28.2 cm)
Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara
- 87.1359 Study for Shem the Penman #1 1972
Charcoal and acrylic on Upsom board
11 1/2 x 11 1/2" (29.3 x 29.3 cm)
Gift of the artist
- 87.1360 Study for Shem the Penman #3 1972
Charcoal and acrylic on Upsom board
11 1/2 x 11 1/2" (29.3 x 29.3 cm)
Gift of the artist
- 87.1361 Study for Shem the Penman #4 1972
Charcoal and acrylic on Upsom board
11 1/2 x 11 1/2" (29.3 x 29.3 cm)
Gift of the artist
- 87.1351 The Widow 1976
Ink on paper
10 x 13 3/4" (25.4 x 34.9 cm)
Gift of the artist

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- 87.1350 Study for The Hollow Men May 1977
Pencil and acrylic on mylar
13 1/2 x 23" (34.3 x 58.5 cm)
Private Collection
- 87.1353 Sepia Elegy Drawing 1977
Sepia ink on paper
12 x 16 3/4" (30.5 x 42.5 cm)
Private Collection
- 87.1349 Medusa #3 1977
Oil and ink on paper panel
30 x 22 1/2" (76.2 x 57.2 cm)
Gift of the artist
- 87.1346 Medusa #4 1977
Oil and ink on paper panel
30 x 22 1/2" (76.2 x 57.2 cm)
Gift of the artist
- 87.1347 Medusa #6 1977
Oil and ink on paper panel
30 x 22 1/2" (76.2 x 57.2 cm)
Gift of the artist
- 87.1348 Medusa #7 1977
Oil and ink on paper panel
30 x 22 1/2" (76.2 x 57.2 cm)
Gift of the artist
- 87.1362 Spanish Wall #1 1979
Oil on paper
29 x 23" (73.8 x 58.4 cm)
Gift of the artist
- 87.1363 Spanish Wall #2 1979
Oil on paper
29 x 23" (73.8 x 58.4 cm)
Gift of the artist
- 87.1356 Spanish Wall #4 1979
Oil on paper
18 x 35" (45.8 x 88.8 cm)
Private Collection
- 87.1364 Drunk with Turpentine #8 1979
Oil on rag paper
29 x 23" (73.8 x 58.4 cm)
Gift of the artist

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- 87.1365 Drunk with Turpentine #42 1979
Oil on paper
22 x 30" (55.9 x 76.3 cm)
Gift of the artist
- 87.1366 Drunk with Turpentine #70 1979
Oil on rag paper
23 x 29" (58.4 x 73.8 cm)
Gift of the artist
- 87.1354 Crayon Je t'aime 1980
Crayon and pencil on paper
11 x 13 1/2" (27.9 x 34.3 cm)
Private Collection
- 87.1367 The Red and Black #51 1987
Collaged aquatints and original musical score on paper
32 x 25" (81.3 x 63.5 cm)
Gift of the artist
- 87.1368 18 October 1987 Sketchbook #4 1987
Pencil and sepia conte crayon on mylar
11 x 17" (27.9 x 43.2 cm)
Gift of the artist
- 87.1369 18 October 1987 Sketchbook #7 1987
Pencil and sepia conte crayon on mylar
11 x 17" (27.9 x 43.2 cm)
Gift of the artist
- 87.1370 18 October 1987 Sketchbook #13 1987
Pencil on mylar
11 x 17" (27.9 x 43.2 cm)
Gift of the artist
- 87.1371 18 October 1987 Sketchbook #16 1987
Pencil on mylar
11 x 17" (27.9 x 43.2 cm)
Gift of the artist
- 87.1372 18 October 1987 Sketchbook #17 1987
Pencil on mylar
11 x 17" (27.9 x 43.2 cm)
Gift of the artist
- 87.1373 18 October 1987 Sketchbook #18 1987
Pencil on mylar
11 x 17" (27.9 x 43.2 cm)
Gift of the artist

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87.1374 18 October 1987 Sketchbook #20 1987
Pencil on mylar
11 x 17" (27.9 x 43.2 cm)
Gift of the artist

87.1375 18 October 1987 Sketchbook #22 1987
Pencil on mylar
11 x 17" (27.9 x 43.2 cm)
Gift of the artist

87.1376 18 October 1987 Sketchbook #25 1987
Pencil on mylar
11 x 17" (27.9 x 43.2 cm)
Gift of the artist

Three Poems by Octavio Paz. New York, Limited Editions Club, 1987
Twenty-six lithographs, printed in black and in color 21 1/2 x 35 7/8"
21 1/2 x 35 7/8" (54.6 x 91.2 cm)
Gift of The Limited Editions Club

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TOP

From the Mexican Sketchbook
1941
Watercolor & ink
9 x 11 1/2" (sheet)
INV. 11.2.553, J

D41-3132

steven slooman
fine arts
photography

S2

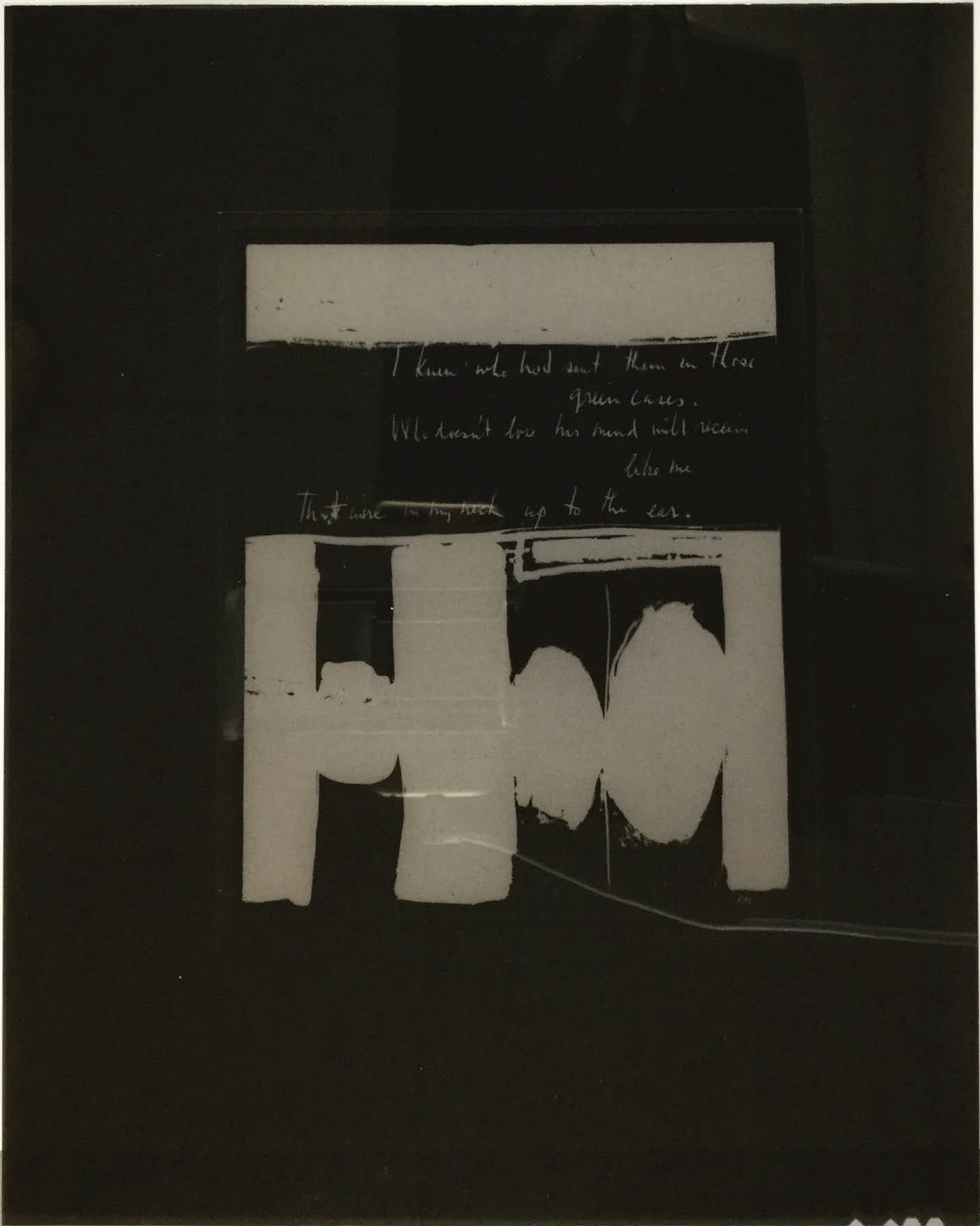
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2355-B

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753.66

Motherwell

Untitled from the series Lyric Suite

(April-May) 1965

Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper

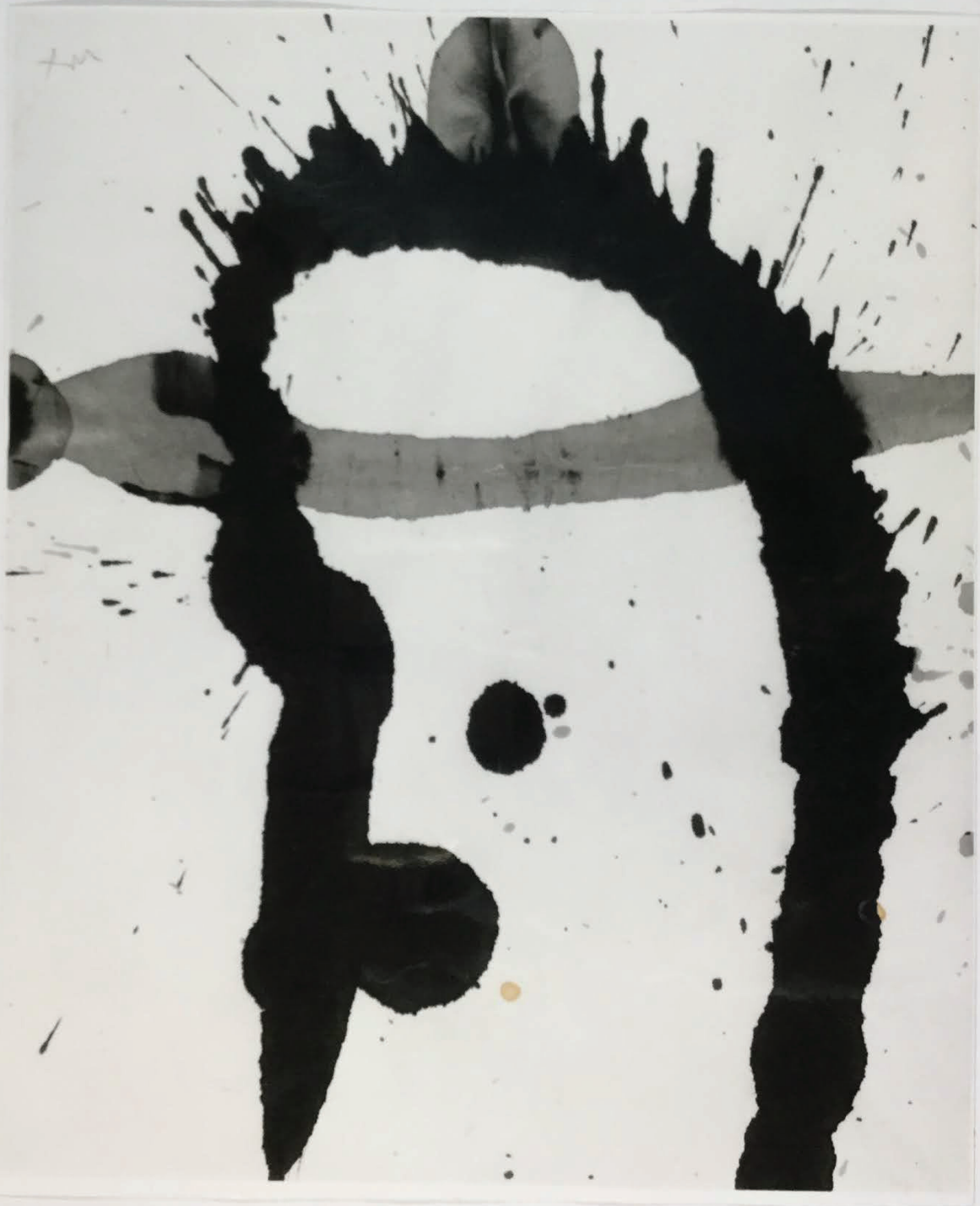
9 x 11 1/8" (22.9 x 28.2 cm)

Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara

Version 39

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2381.67 Motherwell

A

Motherwell, Robert

Lynia Suite

2381.67

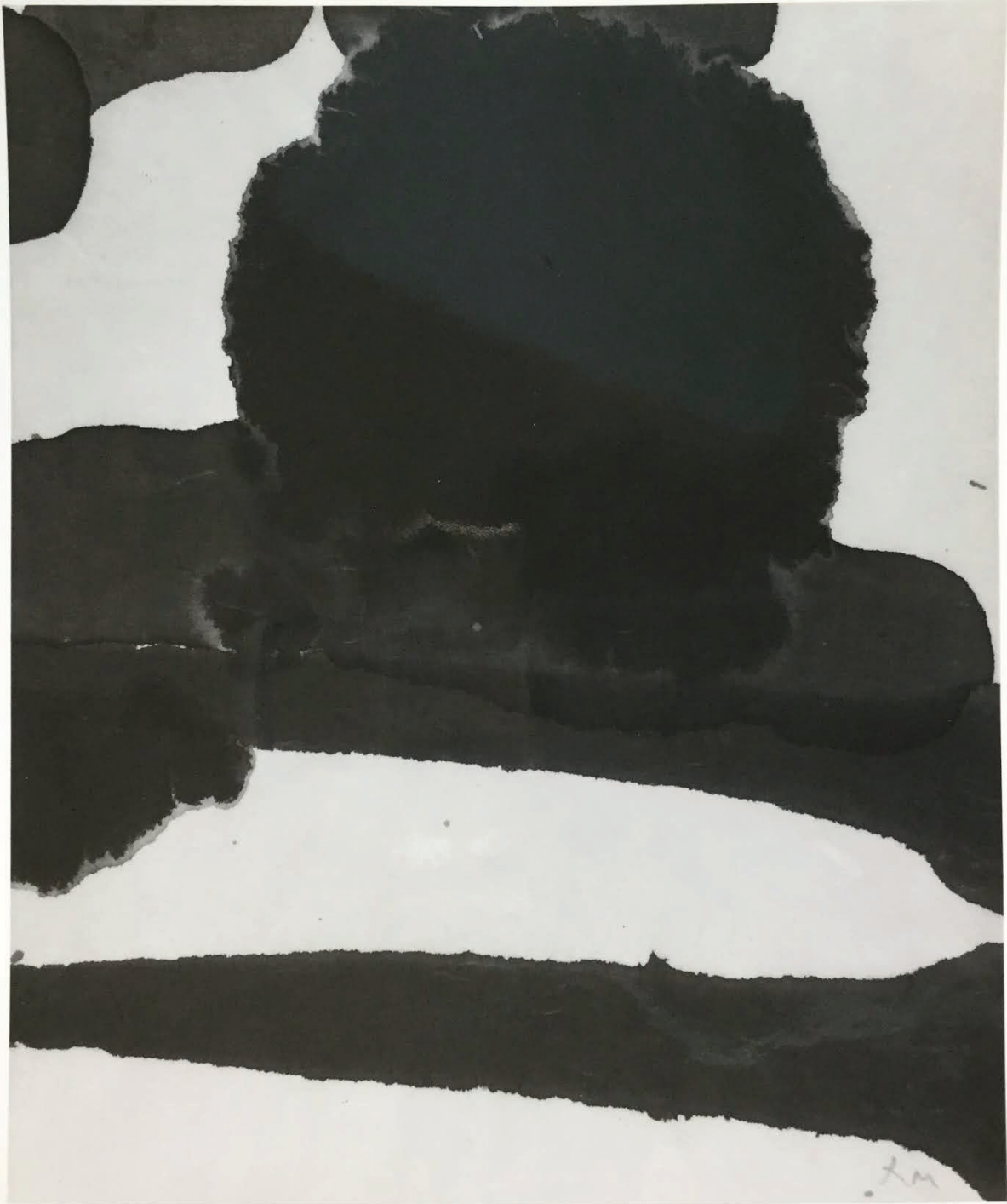
WA

Mathews 1853

2 1/2 x 3 1/8

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302

Mather mll

759.66 From Lyric Suite

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Robert Matherwell

EL 67.1425

Untitled from the series Lyric Suite

(April - May 1965)

Brush and ink on Japanese mulberry paper

9 x 11 1/8" (22.9 x 28.2 cm)

Gift of the artist in memory of Frank O'Hara

Mat 1867