

# MEREDITH WARD FINE ART

**For Immediate Release**

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Meredith Ward Fine Art

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**FLORA CROCKETT: MODERN COLOR**

*October 6 – November 18, 2022*



*Untitled, 1942, oil on canvas board, 28 x 22 inches.*

Meredith Ward Fine Art is pleased to present **Flora Crockett: Modern Color**, an exhibition of 20 oil paintings on view from October 6<sup>th</sup> through November 18<sup>th</sup>. This exhibition will feature a new group of works that have never before been exhibited. The gallery will also be showing Crockett's paintings at The Art Show at the Park Avenue Armory (Booth A17) from November 2<sup>nd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup>.

This is the third exhibition of Crockett's paintings at Meredith Ward Fine Art and presents a survey of the artist's work. From her intense biomorphic works of the 1940s and 1950s to her exuberant abstractions of the 1960s and 1970s, Crockett is both in tune with the avant-garde movements of her time

and occupying a space that is entirely her own. Her paintings adapt lessons learned from studying with Fernand Léger and deeply engage with the visual language of abstraction. Throughout Crockett's oeuvre, a masterfully deployed color sense and witty playfulness betray her confidence in stretching the bounds of abstraction and claiming the genre for herself.

During the 1920s and 1930s, Crockett spent more than ten years in Paris exhibiting her work at various galleries and studying at Académie Moderne with Fernand Léger and Amédée

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Ozenfant. There she joined an international student body with other American modernists that included Florence Henri, Blanche Lazzell, and George L.K. Morris. In 1929, Crockett became the director of Académie Moderne, a position that she held for five years. With war threatening in Europe, she returned to the United States in the 1937. Settling in New York, she exhibited at the Bonestell Gallery and at the Riverside Museum with the Bombshell Artists Group.



*Untitled, c. 1940s, oil on canvas board, 22 x 29 inches.*

Crockett also worked for the WPA as a teacher and participant in the mural program. Her work is represented in the collection of Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, Connecticut; Colby College Art Museum, Waterville, Maine; and Speed Art Museum, Louisville, Kentucky.

The gallery is the exclusive representative of the artist's estate and has previously mounted two exhibitions of her work, both of which received critical praise. Roberta Smith wrote in *The New York Times* in 2015 that Crockett's body of work could, "hold its own in the



*6-67, 1967, oil on canvas board, 30 x 24 inches.*

collections of the Whitney Museum of American Art or the Museum of Modern Art and in the history of American abstract painting." In 2017, John Yau wrote in *Hyperallergic*, "Crockett persevered and produced a remarkable body of work deserving of our attention."

The exhibition is accompanied by an online illustrated catalogue.

### **About the Gallery**

Meredith Ward Fine Art opened in 2004 specializing in American art from the 19th century to the present. The gallery is the exclusive representative of the estates of Flora Crockett, Joseph Fiore, and Steve Wheeler. Meredith Ward Fine Art is located at 44 East 74th Street, Suite G, in New York City and is currently open Monday through Friday, 10am to 5pm. For more information or images, contact Meghan Schwab at 212-744-7306 or [info@meredithwardfineart.com](mailto:info@meredithwardfineart.com).

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