

**Bruce Museum**  
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the  
**Bruce**

## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Discover the Legacies of Abstract Expressionism in ‘Tracing Lineage: Abstraction and its Aftermath.’

*Exhibition features works by Robert Rauschenberg, Sol LeWitt, Rashid Johnson, Elaine de Kooning and Diana Al-Hadid, among other prominent figures in 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Art.*



Helen Frankenthaler (American, 1928–2011), *Harvest II*, 1975, acrylic on canvas, 100 x 69 in.  
Helen Frankenthaler Foundation, New York © 2023 Helen Frankenthaler Foundation, Inc. / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York

**Greenwich, CT** – The Bruce Museum presents “Tracing Lineage: Abstraction and its Aftermath,” opening November 18, 2023 and on view through March 17, 2024. This multi-faceted exhibition addresses key movements in mid-to-late twentieth century American art, including Abstract Expressionism and its various permutations—from Action Painting and Color Field to Minimalism and Postminimalism—while also showcasing work by contemporary artists whose investigations of color, form, and material demonstrate the ongoing legacies of painterly abstraction.

Drawn from the Museum’s holdings and augmented by key loans from private collections, “Tracing Lineage” brings together nearly twenty-five paintings, sculptures, and mixed-media works by artists working from the late 1950s to the present day. The exhibition explores concurrent and overlapping themes, including gesture, process, geometry, and materiality. The works on display include the boldly gestural canvases of Elaine de Kooning and Ed Clark; the lyrical, color-based abstractions of Helen Frankenthaler and Kenneth Victor Young; the process-oriented art of Diana Al-Hadid, Lynda Benglis, and Hugo McCloud; the geometric abstractions of Sol LeWitt and Stanley Whitney; and the expansive and often unconventional materials used by Anthony Akinbola, George Morrison, Joan Snyder, and Robert Rauschenberg.

Artists featured include Diana Al-Hadid, Anthony Akinbola, Lynda Benglis, McArthur Binion, Ed Clark, Elaine de Kooning, Torkwase Dyson, Ron Gorchov, Harmony Hammond, Ralph Iwamoto, Rashid Johnson, Sol LeWitt, Hugo McCloud, George Morrison, Louise Nevelson, Robert Rauschenberg, Mildred Thompson, Joan Snyder, Theodore Stamos, Pat Steir, and Kenneth Victor Young.

### **ABOUT THE NEW BRUCE MUSEUM**

Located in Bruce Park overlooking Greenwich Harbor, the Bruce Museum is a community-based, world-class institution that offers a changing array of exhibitions and educational programs to promote the understanding and appreciation of art and science.

For over a century the Bruce Museum has delighted and engaged its visitors by presenting exceptional exhibitions in art, science, and the intersections between the two disciplines. Now recognized as ahead of its time when textile merchant Robert Moffat Bruce (1822-1909) conceived of the museum and bequeathed the building to the Town of Greenwich in 1908, the Museum is at the heart of contemporary efforts to bring together art and science, technology and creativity, creating moments of discovery and dialogue. The first exhibition at the Bruce Museum took place in 1912 and featured works by local artists known as the Greenwich Society of Artists, several of whom were members of the Cos Cob art colony. Their works formed the nucleus of the Museum's art holdings and continue to be a strength of a collection which has grown to focus on global art from 1850 to the present. Other strengths include Native American Art, modernist works on paper, and photography. Over the years, the community, through its generosity, has built the Museum’s varied collection to nearly 30,000 objects. Early Museum directors pursued a parallel development of the natural sciences, building strengths in the mineral and avian collections.

In 2019, the AAM-accredited Museum broke ground on an ambitious expansion project, which took the building from 33,000 to over 70,000 square feet. The New Bruce features state-of-the-art exhibition, education, and community spaces, including: a changing gallery for art and five new permanent galleries in the new William L. Richter Art Wing; a changing gallery for science; a new permanent science exhibition, *Natural Cycles Shape Our Land*; three new classrooms in the Steven and Alexandra Cohen Education Wing; and a café, an auditorium, and grand hall. The new building now connects the Museum to its picturesque setting in Bruce Park in dramatic ways. The new Bruce campus will feature a sculpture-lined, landscaped walking path and inviting spaces for relaxation and contemplation—natural enhancements to Bruce Park and an

anchoring connection to the retail hub of Greenwich Avenue. The grand opening of the new Bruce was on April 2, 2023.