

ArtsGazing

Opening This Week



June 1971, 1971, oil on canvas, 53.5h x 65.75w in (135.89h x 167.01w cm). Courtesy Alexander Gray Associates, New York. © Betty Parsons Foundation.

Betty Parsons: Heated Sky – Alexander Gray Associates

It used to be relatively simple to choose which Betty Parsons to put in the history books: although she had been an artist most of her adult life, it's her reputation as a

postwar gallerist in New York that has gained the most attention. Representing a who's who of Abstract Expressionists working in America (José Bernal, Agnes Martin, Louise Nevelson, Barnett Newman, Kenzo Okada, Jackson Pollock, Mark Rothko, Clyfford Still, and more), it's safe to say she was a central influence in shaping the look and theory of the movement. In return, the style had a major impact on her own art, providing a method to explore emotion through a non-figurative technique. In *Betty Parsons: Heated Sky*, works on paper and paintings show an artist working to balance the demands of shape and light while staying focused on abstract concepts, but what really impresses is her finely tuned sense of color contrasts and harmonies, invoking mood and feeling. After seeing this show, visitors will think of Parsons as an artist first, gallerist second.

On view February 26 – April 4

Alexander Gray Associates, 510 West 26th Street, Hours: Tue-Sat: 10-6,
Admission: Free