

GARY SNYDER Project Space

Beatrice Mandelman

1912 - 1998

1912

Born December 31st in Newark, New Jersey, to Anna Lisker and Louis Mandelman, first generation Jewish émigrés from Austria and Germany.

1924

Louis Lozowick, a friend of Mandelman's parents, returned from a four-year stay in Europe. Lozowick was an important source of information about Russian Constructivism for American artists.

1920s

Began attending evening classes at the School of Fine and Industrial Arts in Newark, where she met Robert Jonas. Through Jonas, Mandelman became acquainted with Willem de Kooning, Arshile Gorky, and other members of the New York vanguard.

1930-32

Attended New Jersey College for Women in New Brunswick, part of Rutgers University.

1932

Mandelman's father died.

Pursued certificate program at Newark School of Fine and Industrial Arts. Introduced to Cubism and School of Paris by her teacher Bernar Gussow, a social realist painter.

1935

Hired as an assistant in the mural division of the Works Progress Administration's Federal Arts Project. She lived in a small apartment on University Place in New York.

1936

Assisted Walter Quirt in the creation of a fresco mural for the psychiatric ward of Bellevue Hospital in New York.

1937

Taught art to children and adults in the Project Art Center in Butte, Montana. Painted a realist series of works of local mines and miners.

1938

Studied at Art Student's League, New York, taking courses in printmaking with George Pickens.

1938 or 39

Became part of the Silk Screen Unit of the Graphic Arts Division of the Project, established by Anthony Velonis in September 1938.

1939

"Exhibition - 99 Graphic Prints" Federal Art Gallery, Federal Art Project, New York, January 24 - February 7. Group show included Mandelman prints *Cows* and *Spectators*.

Art Institute of Chicago, Seventh Annual Exhibition, Lithography and Wood Engraving, November 10 – January 15, 1940. International exhibition included American artists Thomas Hart Benton, Aaron Bohrod, Edward Chavez, Louis Lozowick, Raphael Soyer and others.

1940

"Color Prints" Museum Of Modern Art, New York. Group show included Mandelman prints *Screeno* and *Ferris Wheel*.

The Fifty-first Annual Exhibition of American Paintings and Sculpture, the Art Institute of Chicago, November 14 – January 5, 1941. Exhibition included artists Stuart Davis, Arthur Dove, William Gropper, Edward Hopper, Louis Lozowick, Reginald Marsh, Georgia O'Keefe, John Sloan and others. Mandelman exhibited *Street Scene*.

"Color Prints" Museum Of Modern Art, New York. Group show included Mandelman prints *Screeno* and *Ferris Wheel*.

1941

"Silk Screen Prints by New York Artists" Everhart Museum of Natural History, Science and Art, Scranton, Pennsylvania, February. Included Mandelman prints *White Church* and *Screeno*.

Watercolor Exhibition, National Gallery of Art, Smithsonian Institution, May 15 – June 4. Included Mandelman's *Catskill Valley*.

"Five Women, Five Painters, Five Methods" A.C.A. Gallery, New York, September 21 – October 4. Included six Mandelman paintings: *Inlet*, *Red Roofs*, *Boat Yard*, *Sailing*, *Wharf* and *Quarry*.

1942

Marries Louis Ribak, who is drafted into the army. He was discharged for medical reasons in 1944.

Prints included in "Multipictures: The New Graphic Arts Medium" Art Movement, INC., Chicago and New York. Catalog advertised modestly priced original art and illustrated the silkscreen process.

Exhibited in Mortimer Levitt Gallery, New York.
1943

Federal Arts Project ended, eliminating Mandelman's job in the Graphics Division. She turned to painting armbands.

With Ribak, shared a rented house with Jackson Pollock in Buck's County, Pennsylvania. Mandelman and Ribak traveled to coal mining districts for subject matter.

1944

Mandelman and Ribak moved to Santa Fe, then Taos at the suggestion of Ribak's teacher John Sloan. Mandelman would later state that dissension between Social Realists and Abstract Expressionists in New York contributed to their move to Taos, where there was a strong art community that welcomed Ribak. At the time however, there were no galleries in Taos that promoted modern art.

One-artist show, Bertha Schaeffer Gallery, New York.

1945

Created *Mexico*, gouache, after her first trip there.

1946

"Paintings of the Year," Pepsi Cola Company's Third Annual Exhibition, National Academy of Design, October 1 –31. Mandelman exhibited *Spring in the Mountains*.

1947

Ribak and Mandelman opened Taos Valley Art School, where both would teach until 1953.

Member of National Serigraph Society and exhibited at Serigraph Galleries, Inc., New York.

"New Mexico Artists," Guadalupe Gallery, Albuquerque, February 9 – March 15.

"Modern Painting of the Southwest," Blue Door Art Gallery, Taos, July 13 - 20.

Galleria Escondida opens in Taos, supporting modernist and some experimental painters.

1948

Moved to Paris to study with Fernand Leger until 1949, where she became friends with Francis Picabia. While Mandelman was in Paris, Ribak bought their adobe home in Taos with a view of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains and Taos Valley.

Fifty-ninth Annual American Exhibition, "Watercolors and Drawings," Art Institute of Chicago, November 4 – January 2, 1949. Exhibition included artists Alexander Calder, Stuart Davis, Arshile

Gorsky, Morris Graves, Jackson Pollock, Mark Rothko and others. Mandelman exhibited a gouache, *Street Scene, Mexico*.

One-artist show, "Paintings of Old Mexico by B. Mandelman," The Blue Door Gallery, Taos, July 4 - 18.

1949

Thirty-sixth Annual Fiesta Exhibition, Museum of New Mexico, Santa Fe, August 14 – September 15.

1950

One-artist show, La Galeria Escondida, Taos, August 6 - 13. Mandelman's work was described in the press as semiabstract still lifes and impressionistic landscapes and portraits.

Selected by regional jury, Dallas Museum of Fine Arts, for Metropolitan Museum exhibition "American Art Today," September.

Purchase prize for *Figure of Toy*, Fourth New Mexico Exhibition of Prints and Drawings, Museum of New Mexico Art Gallery, Santa Fe, December 3 - 31.

1951

Thirty-eighth Annual Exhibition for New Mexico Artists, Museum of New Mexico Art Gallery, Santa Fe.

One-artist show, Art Alliance, Santa Fe, September 24 - October 6.

1952

Taos Art Association was founded and the cooperative Stables Gallery was created.

"Ruins Group" opened an artists' cooperative gallery in Ranchos de Taos. Artists active in the gallery included Mandelman, Ribak, Andrew Dasburg, and Agnes Martin.

Thirty-ninth Exhibition for New Mexico Artists, Museum of New Mexico Art Gallery, Santa Fe.

"Taos Painting, Yesterday and Today," Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, Colorado Springs, March. Mandelman exhibited *Still Life*.

One-artist show, La Galeria Escondida, Taos, September 21 - October 4.

1953

Taos Valley Art School closed.

Ribak and Mandelman made an extended visit to Mexico.

Sixth Exhibition of Graphic Arts in New Mexico, Museum of New Mexico Art Gallery, Santa Fe. Mandelman's piece included in traveling exhibition of forty outstanding works.

1954-56

Mandelman and Ribak moved to New York and lived in the Sherwood Apartments on 57th Street. Ribak showed at the Harry Saltpeter Gallery nearby on 57th.

1954

"Fact and Fantasy '54," Bertha Schaefer Gallery, New York, June 4 – August 27.

Annual Exhibition for New Mexico Artists, Museum of New Mexico Art Gallery, Santa Fe. *Squash* selected for national traveling exhibition and museum's permanent collection.

The Ruins Gallery, August.

1955

Ribak and Mandelman held their first show at the Gallery Ribak in their home, with Agnes Martin.

1956

Ribak and Mandelman returned to Taos, Giving up their New York dealers because, as Mandelman would later state, "shipping [art] was such a hassle."

Oli Sihvonon moved to Taos from New York.

Agnes Martin moved to Taos and joined the Ruins Gallery group. She had taught briefly at the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque. She moved to New York under the sponsorship of Betty Parsons.

Three-artist show with Edward Chavez and Byron Goto at John Heller Gallery, New York, April 3 - 21. The exhibition catalog cited Mandelman's work in permanent collections of the Metropolitan Museum, Baltimore Museum, and Art Institute of Chicago.

Whitney Annual Exhibition, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, April 18 - June 10.

Spiral Group Eleventh Annual Exhibition, Riverside Museum, New York, October 7 - 28.

"Taos Moderns." Museum of New Mexico Art Gallery, Santa Fe, November 1 - 30.

1957

Southwestern Artists Annual, Museum of New Mexico Art Gallery, Santa Fe, June 2 - 30. Mandelman's *Circus* selected for national touring exhibition.

Two-artist show with Alfred Rogoway, Taos Art Association, Stables Gallery, June 19 - July 3.

Alcove Show, Museum of New Mexico, Santa Fe, July.

Spiral Group 12th Annual Exhibition, Artist's Gallery, New York, September 9 - 26.

Second Annual Invitational Exhibition of New Mexico Artists, New Mexico Highlands University, Las Vegas. Mandelman exhibited *Afternoon*, oil.

Eleventh Exhibition of Prints and Drawings, Museum of New Mexico, Santa Fe. Purchase prize for *Women in White*.

1958

"Taos Now: Paintings and Sculpture from the Stables Gallery," Esther Robles Gallery, Los Angeles.

Spiral Group Thirteenth Annual Exhibition, Riverside Museum, New York, October 5 - 26.

"1958 - Taos Moderns" exhibition at the Museum of New Mexico, Santa Fe, October.

1959

Stables Gallery Exhibition, Shreveport, Louisiana, March and April. Mandelman exhibited *Ode to Lorca*.

Second Painting Biennial, Columbia Museum of Art, Columbia, South Carolina, April 5 - May 10. Honor prize for *No.11*, described as an "abstract work."

One -artist show, Taos Art Association, Stables Gallery, June 26 - July 9.

Two-artist show with Louis Ribak at the Taos Studio, June.

Southwestern Artists Biennial Exhibition, Museum of New Mexico Art Gallery, Santa Fe, June. Mandelman exhibited *Reflections*.

"Taos Moderns '59" and "Alcove Show," Museum of New Mexico Art Gallery, Santa Fe.

"Taos Now," paintings and sculpture, Esther Robles Gallery, Los Angeles, September 14 - October 3.

Ribak and Mandelman reopened the Ribak Gallery, in their Taos home, in June. Mandelman exhibited there October 18 - 31.

John Heller Gallery in New York.

1960-62

Mandelman and Ribak lived in Europe, including thirteen months in Greece.

1960

One- artist show, The Mexican American Cultural Institute, Mexico City, February.

Gallery Ribak, Taos, July.

Second Annual Exhibition of Southwest American Art, Oklahoma Art Center, Oklahoma City, September 24 - October 30. Mandelman exhibited *Fiesta*.

"Taos Moderns '60," Museum of New Mexico Art Gallery, Santa Fe, October 2 - 31.

1960 Circle Invitational Exhibition, Roswell Museum and Art Center, Roswell, New Mexico.

Taos Invitational, Gallery of Realities, Taos, May. Mandelman's work was shown along with that of Mary Gehr and Tom Fricano, in one of a series of exhibitions meant to "provide unusual and stimulating work rather than the merely fashionable." Other artists in the series included Loise Ganthiers and Andrew Dasburg.

1961

Purchase award for *Dreams* at Fourth Oakes' Annual, Stables Gallery, Taos.

Sixty-seventh Annual for Western Artists, Denver Art Museum, Denver, August.

One Artist show, La Galeria Escondida, Taos, August 26 - September 8.

1962

Southwestern Artist Biennial, Museum of New Mexico, Santa Fe, May 6 - June 10.

Six works exhibited in "New Mexico Artists," Seventh Annual Invitational Exhibition, New Mexico Highlands University, Las Vegas, November 4 - December 7.

"The Southwest: Painting and Sculpture," Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, December 7- January 20.

1963

"Taos Presents," Lois Karinsky's, July 21.

One-artist show, Galeria San Miguel, San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, March. The work is described in the *Taos News* as "paintings or collages, all non-objective, in bold, gay colors."

Group show, Barn Gallery Annex, Santa Fe, January.

1964

One-artist show, Stables Gallery, Taos, July 24 - August 6.

1965

Mandelman exhibited *Focus Series*, mixed media.

One-artist show, Stables Gallery, June 26 - July 9.

1966

Original member of Group 7, experimental painters. Group 7 exhibited at the Jonson Gallery, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, October 2 – 28, and at New Mexico Highlands University, Las Vegas, New Mexico, November 6 – December 2.

1967

One-artist show, Stables Gallery, Taos, New Mexico, July. Mandelman exhibited the *Structures* series. The mixed media works were said to be characterized by a new palette and a more geometric direction.

1968

Taos Art Association annual Awards Show, Stables Gallery, Taos, New Mexico, April 20 - May 14. Award for #26, oil.

1969

One-artist show, "Images '69" Gallery of Modern Art, Taos.

"War" Gallery of Modern Art, Taos, November. A group show in recognition of the national war moratorium. Mandelman exhibited fifteen small mixed media works based on the Vietnam War. She was quoted in the press as stating "Peoples' callousness, indifference, despair and fear moved me to begin this series two years ago. I was dazed by the indifference and the horror of what was happening. It was therefore urgent that I say something about war, peace, violence and survival.

"Ninth Annual Own your own Art Sales Exhibition" Southern Colorado State College and Pueblo Service League, November.

The Gallery, Denver, Colorado.

Fourteenth Annual Sun Carnival Art Exhibition, El Paso Museum of Art, Texas, December. Purchase award for *Aegean Series* #7, oil.

1970

One-artist show, "Focus '70" Gallery of Modern Art, Taos, September 2 – 7.

One-artist show, Mandelman, Collage and Paint," the Stables Gallery, Taos, October 17 - 30, fifteen new works entitled *White Time*.

Southwest Fine Arts Biennial, Museum of New Mexico, Santa Fe.

"All Women's Art Exhibition" Gallery of Modern Art, Taos, September, held on National Women's Liberation Day. Organized by Barbara Merrick Bateman, Bea Mandelman and others.

1971

Taos Art Association Ninth Annual Awards Show, Stables Gallery at Thorne House, Taos, May.
Honorable Mention for *White Time #7 – Semaphores*.

New Mexico Fine Arts Biennial, Santa Fe, May 23 - September 13. Mandelman exhibited *Focus No. 6*.

Stables Artists Watercolor Show, Stables Gallery, Taos, June.

One-artist show, "Mandelman, Sun Series" Gallery of Modern Art, Taos, October 6 – 30.

1972

One-artist show, "Space Series" Gallery of Modern Art, Taos, September 3-30

1973

One-artist show, Stables Gallery, Taos. Mandelman exhibited *M* series, acrylics and pastels painted in Mexico.

1974

"Modern Painting in Taos: The 40s and 50s, a Selection," Stables Gallery, Taos.

1975

"The Artist's choice" joint exhibition by Mandelman and Louis Ribak. Mandelman exhibited *Happiness Series*.

"Fiesta De Mujeres," (Festival of Women), Williams Gallery, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, August 23 - September 5.

1976

Mandelman underwent surgery for a cataract condition that developed during the winter of 75-76. She felt her work had not been affected by the condition.

One-artist show, Discovery Gallery, Taos, June 27 - July 14. Series of twenty-two paintings completed at Mandelman's winter home in San Miguel de Allende: *Happiness II Series*.

One-artist show, Stables Gallery, Taos, October 17 - 30.

1977

"Mandelman – New Work," Kress – Sonora Gallery, Taos, October 23 – November 26.

1978

One-artist show, Stables Gallery, Taos, August 12 - 26. Exhibited *Balkan Series*, paintings and collages inspired by a 1977 trip to Turkey. A trio of musicians performed at the opening, prompting Mandelman's statement, "Look at the music, listen to the paintings."

1979

Mandelman and Ribak return in April from five months of travel to India and Egypt.

Fine Art Juried Exhibition, Santa Fe Festival of the Arts. Exhibited *White Time*, acrylic.

Louis Ribak died on December 21.

1980

Group show, American and Taos artists, Lutz-Bergerson Gallery, a new gallery between Taos and Ranchos, July.

One-artist show, Lutz-Bergerson Gallery, September. Exhibited *Celebration Series*.

1981

Group show by gallery members, The New Gallery, Taos, April.

One-artist show, "Bea Mandelman - Moontime: Small Paintings, 1981," The New Gallery, Taos, September.

1982

1982 Invitational, Roswell Museum Art Center, Roswell, New Mexico, Mandelman exhibited work from *Celebration and Moontime* series.

1983

One-artist show, "Intimate Echoes" The New Gallery, Taos, June 18 - July 8, her first solo show in two years. Mandelman exhibited 20 new paintings.

1985

Taos Modernist Art of the 1950s" Harwood Foundation Museum, Taos, January 12 - April 13.

1986

Group show, Roswell Museum Art Center, Roswell, New Mexico, with Agnes Martin and others.

1988

One-artist show, "Bea Mandelman: Early Works - Recent Works," Georgetown Gallery of Art, Washington D.C., March 24 - April 23.

"Beatrice Mandelman – Recent Work," Harwood Foundation Museum, Taos, May 28 – June 25. Exhibited *Jazz II series*.

Allene Lapidés Gallery, Santa Fe, June.

"Celebrating New York City" Susan Teller Gallery, New York, October 20 - November 30. Mandelman's lithograph *Pool Room* was shown.

1988 – 1998

Sragow Gallery, New York.

1989

Mandelman traveled extensively in Mexico, visiting San Cristobal de las Casa and San Miguel de Allende, and flying to Bonampak in the jungles of Chiapas. She visited Gertrude Blom, an authority on the Maya and other indigenous cultures. Mandelman returned to Taos with twenty-six paintings inspired by the landscape and culture of San Cristobal.

Fenix Gallery, Taos, June 4 - July 9.

One-artist show, Shidoni Contemporary Gallery, Santa Fe, August 4 - 27. Mandelman exhibited work from the *Brazil Series*.

Fourth International Contemporary Art Fair, Los Angeles.

1990

"Albuquerque 50s" University of New Mexico Art Museum, Albuquerque, September 24 - January 21. Group exhibition.

Fifth International Contemporary Art Fair, Los Angeles.

Phillip Bareiss Gallery, Taos, September.

Lone Pine Gallery, Irvine, California, through 1991.

"Black and White Works by Important Contemporary Artists," Caroline Lee Gallery, Taos, November.

"The Alcove Show – Life Stories," Museum of Fine Arts, Santa Fe, December 15 – March 10 1991. An exhibition of works by 4 New Mexican artists: Mandelman, Bill Bomar, Lydia Madrid and Florence Pierce.

1991

Three large canvases from *Carnival Series* at the Museum of New Mexico, Santa Fe, December 1990 - March 1991. Mandelman said of these works that she was "trying to get at the same thing that Stravinsky expressed in music in a ballet like "Petrouchka," with it's underlying somberness and sadness."

One-artist show, Shidoni Contemporary Gallery, Santa Fe, March 29 – April 22. Mandelman exhibited *Carnival Series*.

"Prints from the Federal Art Project, 1935-1943" Associated American Artists Gallery, New York, June 11- July 3. Mandelman's lithographs, *Timbering*, *Shave 25 Cents*, and *Station at Easton* were exhibited.

1992

Mandelman announces her gift of over a hundred drawings by Louis Ribak to the University of New Mexico Foundation and the University Art Museum, to be housed primarily at the Harwood Foundation Museum, Taos.

1993

Taos Fine Art Gallery, Taos, works from the *Jazz II Series*.

"Taos Moderns in Carlsbad '93," Carlsbad Museum and Art Center, July 16 – August 31.

1995

"New Works" Harwood Foundation Museum, Taos, May 26 - July 29, works from the *Garden* and *New York Series*.

"Artlives/Artlives - Art in Response to an Encounter with Cancer," Jonson Gallery, Albuquerque, November 14 - January 19.

"The New Mexico Art Colony: Jewish Artists and Patrons 1875-1960," Mizel Museum of Judaica, Denver, Colorado. January 2 - March 26.

1995-1998

Fenix Gallery, Taos.

1996

"Beatrice Mandelman - Taos Modernist," University Art Museum, University of New Mexico Fine Arts Center, Albuquerque, June 4 - July 28. Exhibition traveled in 1996-97 to the University of Kentucky Art Museum, Lexington; the University of Arizona Museum of Art, Tucson; and the Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art, Utah State University, Logan.

"Beatrice Mandelman: Prints from the 1930s," University of Kentucky Art Museum, Lexington, August 25 - October 20. An exhibition of 30 prints: lithographs, woodcuts, serigraphs, intaglio.

1997

"Taos Today - Contemporary Taos Artists" Arvada Center, Arvada, Colorado. August 14 - September 28. Group exhibition included works by Larry Bell, Ron Cooper, Agnes Martin and other contemporary Taos artists.

1998

Beatrice Mandelman died on June 25th in her home in Taos. In the last months of her life, she produced the thirty-one works in the *Winter* series.

"The Artists of Taos: A Historic Exhibition in Santa Fe," Moxley, Ross, Naranjo Gallery, Santa Fe, June 26 - July 25.

1999

One-artist show "Bea Mandelman: the 70s through 90s" Fenix Gallery, Taos. September 5 - October 12.

2000

"The Artist Collector: Works from the Estates of Four Artists," Harwood Foundation Museum, Taos, January 23 - April 9.

"Jewish Artists of Conscience in the 20th Century" Singer Gallery, Mizel Family Cultural Art Center, Denver, March 30 - June 15th. *Strike* and *Untitled (Free Speech)* were exhibited.

"Modernism," Park Avenue Armory, New York, November 8-12.

Fenix Gallery, Taos, November 4-December 12.

2001

"Taos Modern - Postwar Abstract" Canfield Gallery, Santa Fe, May 5 - 26. Group exhibition with works by Ed Corbett, Andrew Dasburg, Agnes Martin, Oli Sihvonen and other Taos Modernist artists.

"Opening Exhibition" Gary Snyder Fine Art, New York, September 6 - October 13.

"The Triumph of Beatrice Mandelman," Gary Snyder Fine Art, New York, October 19 - November 20.

2002

"The Triumph of Beatrice Mandelman," Harwood Foundation Museum, Taos, September 15 - November 17.