

GARY SNYDER Project Space

Vivian Springford (1914 – 2003)

Vivian Springford (1914 – 2003) was an abstract expressionist painter best known for her Stained Color Field Paintings.

The art critic Harold Rosenberg helped Springford get her first show at Great Jones Gallery in 1960. The show generated much excitement and was filmed in the movie "Bowl of Cherries", in the film library of the Museum of Modern Art.

Springford shared studio space with the Asian American artist Walasse Ting in the late 1950's and early 1960's, and helped him with the translations of his poetry. Through her association with Ting, Springford developed close contacts with artists such as Pierre Alechinsky, Sam Francis and Karel Appel. Ting also introduced Springford to Asian art and philosophy, which had a strong influence on her work.

Springford was educated at the Spence School in New York City, and studied at the Art Students League. Originally a portrait artist, she illustrated Albert Carr's 1938 book "Juggernaut" with portraits of twenty political dictators from the Napoleonic era to the early twentieth century.

Springford was a "stain painter", applying paint to unprimed canvas through brush and pouring. Her early works of the late 1950s and early 1960s were more austere "Black Paintings" – later her palate changed with the embrace of a wide range of color.

Springford was a reclusive artist after the 1960s, only showing in a few group exhibitions. In the mid 1980s she began to suffer from macular degeneration that left her legally blind. She lived in a small New York midtown hotel, and was rediscovered after a social worker visited her and introduced her body of art to Gary Snyder.

Education:

The Spence School	New York, NY
Art Students League	New York, NY

Art Work Used In:

Illustrations for Juggernaut, published by Viking Press
Paintings used in the film Bowl of Cherries, in the film library of the Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

Exhibitions:

Solo Shows

1960	Great Jones Gallery, New York, NY
1963	Preston Gallery, New York, NY
1975	Gallery Without Walls, Saranac Lake, NY
1976	WIA Foundation, New York, NY
1979	St. Peter's Church, Citicorp Building, New York, NY
	Studio Exhibition, New York, NY
1998	Snyder Fine Art, New York, NY
2003	Snyder Fine Art, New York, NY
2009	Gary Snyder Project Space, NY

Group Shows:

1959	National Academy of Design
1962	Balin Traube Gallery

1963	Preston Gallery
1970	Esther Bear Gallery, Santa Barbara, CA
1971	Bertha Schaeffer Gallery, New York, NY
1975	Works on Paper, Brooklyn Museum, NY
1976	Manhattan College, NY
1976	Chatham College, Pittsburgh, PA
	SUNY Binghamton
1978	Cork Gallery, New York, NY
1979	Marymount College, New York, NY
	Connecticut College, New London, CT
1980	Artists Equity, New York, NY
2008	Gary Snyder Project Space, NY
2009	McCormick Gallery, IL
2009	Gary Snyder Project Space, NY

Reviews:

1960	The Villager (Greenwich Village, NY)
1960	Arts Magazine, NY
1963	The Village Voice, NY

Collections:

Mr. Pierre Alechinsky (France)
Dr. & Mrs. Ernest Barash (NY)
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Blatt (NY)
Dr. Gerald Brill (NY)
Mr. & Mrs. Earl Broadmerkle (NH)
Mr. & Mrs. Wentworth Brown (NY)
Consul General & Mrs. O. Edmund Clubb (NY)
Mrs. Marion Conger (NY)
Dr. Michael Cross (NY)
Miss Jermyn Davern (NY)
Mrs. Cathleen DeHaas (NY)
Mrs. Violet Escher (MA)
Mr. & Mrs. Howard French (MI)
Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Grauer (NY)
Dr. Helen Hafner (NY)
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Hansen (NY/Canada/England)
Mr. James Hayes (CA)
Miss Anne Hearn (NY/England)
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Hornby (Germany)
Dr. & Mrs. Walter Klingman (NC)
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Marcy (CT)
Mrs. Betty Nied (NY)
Mr. & Mrs. W. T. Ramsey (OH)
Mrs. Evelyn Rittenhouse (NY)
Mr. Harold Rosenberg (NY)
Mr. Frank Sadler (CA)
Mrs. Dara Shiller (Roslyn)
Mr. & Mrs. I. Silverman (NY)
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Spiker (NH)
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Springford (OH)
Mr. & Mrs. Vernon Springford (CA)

Mr. Clifford Stone (NY)
Mrs. Camille Stratton (CA)
Mr. & Mrs. Gerard Swope (NY)
Mr. Walasse-Ting (NY)
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Wheeler (MA)
Mr. & Mrs. William Withers (NJ)