

# COL GALLERY

**Built on the Backs of Women**  
**Curated by Kelly Cahn**  
**May 16–July 6, 2025**

The art world, long dominated by men, has often been built on the unacknowledged labor, creativity, and resilience of women. *Built on the Backs of Women*, opening May 16, examines the systemic erasure of women's contributions while celebrating their enduring impact on art history and culture. Curated by Kelly Cahn, the exhibition focuses on female artists whose groundbreaking ideas and practices were appropriated by male counterparts who gained widespread recognition for innovations that were not theirs to claim.

This exhibition revisits critical moments in art history where male artists capitalized on the creativity of their female contemporaries. Janet Sobel's pioneering use of paint-dripping techniques—later credited to Jackson Pollock—is one of the narratives explored. Similarly, Vivian Springford's luminous stain paintings, often overshadowed in the history of Color Field painting, demonstrate the ways in which women artists were sidelined while their male peers gained critical acclaim. The exhibition also highlights Bernice Bing, a queer Chinese-American artist whose contributions to Abstract Expressionism and Bay Area art were largely overlooked during her lifetime, despite her profound influence on West Coast modernism. Lynne Drexler, whose exuberant, color-saturated canvases went largely unrecognized during her lifetime, is also featured as a case study in how institutional bias marginalized women working within the same avant-garde circles as their male peers.

Through these and other examples, *Built on the Backs of Women* critiques the patriarchal structures that have shaped the art world while reclaiming the rightful place of women in art history. By illuminating the resilience and innovation of these artists, the exhibition not only acknowledges past injustices but also asserts the necessity of rewriting art historical narratives to reflect the true breadth of artistic influence.

# COL GALLERY



**Vivian Springford**  
*Untitled VSF521, 1983*  
Acrylic on canvas  
48 x 48 in (121.9 x 121.9 cm)  
CG-1701  
\$180,000  
Available

# COL GALLERY



**Bernice Bing**

*Rebirth*

Ink on paper

Signed and dated lower right

22 x 30 in (55.9 x 76.2 cm)

CG-1682

\$16,000

Available



# COL GALLERY



**Lynne Drexler**

*Autumn Ground*, 1969

Oil on canvas

Signed, titled, dated on verso

38.75 x 31 in (98.4 x 78.7 cm)

CG-1612

\$475,000

Available

# COL GALLERY



**Vivian Springford**  
*Untitled, c.1970*  
Acrylic on canvas  
51 x 51 in (129.5 x 129.5 cm)  
CG-1579  
Sold



# COL GALLERY



**Lynne Drexler**

*Untitled, c. 1975*

Crayon on paper

Signed on verso

17 x 13.5 in (43.2 x 34.3 cm)

CG-1610

Framed

\$45,000

Available

# COL GALLERY



**Bernice Bing**

*Untitled (Red, Yellow, and Orange)*, c.1991

Mixed media on paper mounted to canvas

40 x 26 in (101.6 x 66 cm)

CG-1576

\$85,000

Available



# COL GALLERY



**Vivian Springford**  
*Untitled Morning Glory Series I, c.1966*  
Acrylic on rice paper  
27 x 27 in (68.6 x 68.6 cm)  
CG-1575  
\$35,000  
Available



# COL GALLERY



**Vivian Springford**

VS67, c.1959

Acrylic on canvas

43 x 52 in (109.2 x 132.1 cm)

CG-1578

\$200,000

Available

# COL GALLERY



**Janet Sobel**

*Untitled, 1948*

Crayon, enamel on cardboard mounted on board  
12 x 6.38 in (30.5 x 16.2 cm)

CG-1574

\$120,000

Available



# COL GALLERY



**Lynne Drexler**  
*Untitled*, 1960  
Gouache on paper  
Signed on verso  
17.5 x 22.5 in (44.5 x 57.2 cm)  
CG-1609  
Framed  
\$115,000  
Available

# COL GALLERY



**Janet Sobel**

*Untitled, 1946–1948*

Mixed media on canvas board

20 x 16 in (50.8 x 40.6 cm)

CG-1702

\$275,000

Available