

Masters of Abstraction
and
The ABC's - and U - of Abstraction
at Cape Cod Museum of Art's
Summer of Love and Abstraction

Masters of Abstraction – Through September 17
The ABC's – and U - of Abstraction - Through August 10

“Our shows this summer will help visitors enjoy Abstract Art by understanding the important breakthroughs that artists made that gave us exciting new ways to see the world and laid the foundation for today’s new artistic expressions,” said Edith (Deede) Tonelli, director of CCMoA.

Marking the 50th anniversary of the Summer of 1967 that ushered in a countercultural fervor throughout the country, CCMoA exhibitions illuminate the Abstract Art movements that broke the conventions of Realism and led to new artistic expressions in the 1960s. The **Summer of Love Annual Gala & Art Auction** on August 19 will bring back sights and sounds of that 1967 summer of celebration.

The exhibits are:

Masters of Abstraction

This exciting group of lithographs and prints on loan from collectors who love them is an introduction to some of the best known names in Abstract Art-- **Joan Miró, Alexander Calder, Robert Motherwell, Andy Warhol, Jim Dine and others** --with information on how each artist fits into the history of abstraction

This show, combined the more educational show in the adjoining gallery, The ABC's and U of Abstraction, offers both historical and visual ways for visitors to think about these creative and ongoing approaches to making art.

Attached are images of the work of ***Joan Miró, Alexander Calder, Robert Motherwell and Andy Warhol.***

The ABC's - and U - of Abstraction

Understanding and loving Abstract Art through our Permanent Collection

On view through **August 10, 2017**

When photography was invented, artists were freed from having to represent what they saw in front of them. They could explore new ways of experiencing their inner and outer worlds, and “**abstract**” out of their experiences special elements that were personal and meaningful to them. In the United States, the 1940s-1960s were a fertile period for artists who experimented with **Conceptual, Expressive and Formal** elements in art.

Explore the conventions the artists broke and see the world in new ways!

- A** Allow yourself to accept that this work may not represent anything realistically. The artist chose to explore something new.
- B** Be with the work. Instead of rushing by, decide to stay, look longer, and see what you discover. What seems to be the most interesting to you...the lines, the shapes, the colors, the subject matter, the composition?
- C Conceptual Elements** –Do you think the artists started with an idea or a concept, rather than with something they saw or felt? Do you see an artwork that plays with the idea of art or questions what art is?
- D** Don't be discouraged! There are no wrong answers – art is about creativity and personal expression!
- E Expressive Elements** – Do you feel any emotion looking at this? Do you think the artist did?
- F Formal Elements** – Are there any interesting patterns, colors, textures, brushstrokes, or shapes?

and

U It's about you! Be aware of your own feelings, maybe even physical reactions, as you look at these works.

Attached is an image for 'F' is for Formal Elements:

The ABC's and U of Abstraction...F is for Formal Elements - when artists starting experimenting with colors, shapes, patterns they opened up a new way of seeing the world. Here we see three artists move from representation to further abstraction. Artists are William Davis, *Summer Sailing*; Ferol Sibley Warthen, *Provincetown Sails*, Xavier Gonzalez, *Inland Sea*.

About Cape Cod Museum of Art

Founded by artists in 1981, the Cape Cod Museum of Art preserves and celebrates the distinctive artistic heritage of Cape Cod, Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard. CCMoA is a major

center of cultural growth and creativity that seeks to educate, inspire and excite the imagination of all through its outstanding art collection and diverse programming. Located in a beautiful setting surrounded by a sculpture garden, the museum has seven galleries, a museum shop and a screening room. The museum is supported in part by the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the Arts Foundation of Cape Cod. www.ccmoa.org 508/385-4477 info@ccmoa.org

CCMoA is located at 60 Hope Lane, just off Route 6A, on the same campus as the Cape Cinema and the Cape Cod Playhouse in Dennis, MA. Hours are 10 am to 5 pm Tuesday through Saturday and noon to 5 pm on Sunday... Admission is \$9, \$7 for seniors and students 19+ with school ID, \$5 for students 13 to 18, and free for children 12 & under. For more information, call (508) 385-4477.

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