

OWINGS-DEWEY NORTH

A GALLERY FOR 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN ART
CONSULTATION | SALES | APPRAISAL

For Immediate Release

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Transparencies, photos and exhibition list available upon request

OWINGS-DEWEY NORTH Presents:

THE MODERN LANDSCAPE

Exhibition dates: Thursday, July 24th through Saturday, August 30th, 2008

Reception: Thursday, July 24th, 5:00 to 7:00 PM

This exhibition will feature approximately 30 works of art representative of the Modern landscape in America - with work by Frank Applegate, Jozef Bakos, Oscar Bluemner, Howard Cook, Andrew Dasburg, Emmet Edwards, William P. Henderson, Gina Knee, John Marin, Willard Nash, B.J.O. Nordfeldt, Doel Reed, Beulah Stevenson, Cady Wells, William P. Zorach and others.

Modernism is an art movement characterized by a deliberate departure from tradition and a use of innovative forms of expression distinguishable in the work of select artists from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. In general, Modernism can be summed up by the following aesthetic goals: abstraction of form, expressive color, visible brushstrokes, and a requirement that the viewer take an active role as interpreter.

Landscape painting, by its very nature, is evidence of the complex interaction between humans and the land that surrounds them. Whereas early realist painters portrayed nature as a backdrop for humans, Modernist painters looked beyond ordinary sensory perception and focused on the visual excitement of nature's colors, forms and patterns for their own sake.

Modernist painters saw landscape as an unpredictable environment of fragmented color, rhythm and shapes – allowing them to discard old artistic conventions and to transform our notion of nature's beauty and, consequently, our place within it. They took liberty with color, space and form to evoke feeling rather than literal representation, with their work still remaining inextricably linked to the land and environments that inspired them.

The resulting work is highly diverse and varied but nonetheless an influential aesthetic force in American artistic history.