

MILTON AVERY
Paintings 1953-1963

BENNINGTON COLLEGE
Bennington, Vermont

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Carriage Barn

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MILTON AVERY RETROSPECTIVE EXHIBITION WILL

OPEN AT _____

A retrospective exhibition of paintings by the well-known American artist, Milton Avery, will open at _____ on _____ and continue through _____. The exhibition comprises ³⁵~~33~~ works selected by Mrs. Adelyn D. Breeskin, Director of the Baltimore Museum of Art, borrowed from private collectors, museums and dealers, as well as the artist himself. Organized by The American Federation of Arts under a grant from the Ford Foundation, this retrospective represents part of the Foundation's Program in the Humanities and the Arts devoted to increasing the opportunities for the public throughout the United States to view the work of established artists. The artists were recommended by a panel of consultants to the Ford Foundation from a list of candidates sent in by several hundred invited nominators throughout the country. The retrospective will be circulated to art centers and museums in the northeast from February 1960, through February 1962, under the auspices of The American Federation of Arts.

Among the earlier works displayed are the oils, RIDERS IN THE PARK, 1929; PORTRAIT OF ELSHEMIUS, 1942; and CELLO PLAYER, 1944. Later works include, YELLOW JACKET, 1957; DARK FOREST, 1958 and SAND, SEA AND SKY, 1959. In her foreword to the catalog, Adelyn Breeskin states, "Indeed, here is painting that has so much eloquence of feeling, so much exemplary solidity and integrity, that it should make a profound impression on artists and public alike, enhancing the position of Milton Avery as one of America's foremost painters". Milton Avery was honored by awards from the Art Institute of Chicago in 1929 and 1932. The Baltimore Museum of Art gave him an award in 1949 and honored him by a retrospective exhibition in 1952.

In 1901, the Avery family left Altmar, New York where Milton was born in 1893, to take up residence in Hartford, Connecticut. At the age of eighteen, Milton Avery's first step in the direction of art was taken when he enrolled in a correspondence course in lettering. Later he attended a brief series of life classes under the instruction of Charles Noel Flagg at the Connecticut League of Art Students. During the early twenties he worked at a variety of night jobs in order to take advantage of the daylight to roam the fields, sketching. In 1925 he went to Gloucester to paint. There he met Sally Michel, and in 1926 they were married and moved to New York.

Avery's first one-man exhibition was staged at the Opportunity Gallery, in 1928. During the thirties a group of young painters, including Mark Rothko and Adolph Gottlieb often joined him to draw from a model. These men became

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his life-long friends.

Milton Avery received wide recognition during the forties. His deep paternal feeling for his daughter had led him to paint her from infancy to young womanhood. In 1947 the Durand-Ruel Galleries in New York gave him an exhibition entitled "My Daughter, March". Today, Milton Avery paints and lives in upper Manhattan, New York.

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