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The Museum of Modern Art

AN EXHIBITION OF DRAWINGS FROM THE NEW YORK SCHOOL PROVIDES CONTEXT FOR JACKSON POLLOCK AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

The New York School
September 17, 1998-January 12, 1999

Drawings from The Museum of Modern Art's permanent collection by artists affiliated with the New York School will be on view at MoMA beginning September 17, 1998. The first internationally acclaimed American art movement, the New York School later came to be known as Abstract Expressionism. *The New York School* will continue through January 12, 1999.

Overlapping with *Jackson Pollock* (the major retrospective on view from November 1, 1998 to February 2, 1999), this exhibition of some 80 drawings will provide a broader context in which to view the career of this seminal figure. In addition to works by Pollock, the exhibition includes works by Mark Rothko, Helen Frankenthaler, Arshile Gorky, Adolph Gottlieb, Philip Guston, Willem de Kooning, Lee Krasner, Robert Motherwell, Barnett Newman, and David Smith.

By the 1950s, the mythic stature assigned to artists such as Pollock and Rothko contributed to the association of Abstract Expressionism with American individualism and the eventual shift away from Paris to New York as the center of new art. The influence of Surrealism, introduced by European artists who had immigrated to the United States during World War II, can be detected in the works of the 1940s, with their similarity to automatic drawing and use of symbolic imagery.

"The New York School represents this first seminal, or as it was often called, 'heroic,' moment in the development of post-World War II American art, where the aspirations of the American artists to create radical new artistic language culminated in pluralism of expression. This marked the triumph of American painting and made New York the main center of artistic creation for the decades to come," writes Magdalena Dabrowski, Senior Curator, Department of Drawings, who organized the exhibition.

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