

# Alexander Gray Associates

New York  
384 Broadway  
New York NY 10013  
United States  
Tel: +1 212 399 2636  
[www.alexandergray.com](http://www.alexandergray.com)

Germantown  
224 Main Street, Garden Level  
Germantown NY 12526  
United States  
Tel: +1 518 537 2100

## BETTY PARSONS

Born 1900, New York, NY

Died 1982, Southold, NY

## EDUCATION

1924, Académie de La Grand Chaumière, Paris, France

## SELECTED ONE-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 *Betty Parsons*, De La Warr Pavilion, Bexhill-on-Sea, UK  
*Reverberation*, Alexander Gray Associates, New York, NY
- 2024 *Betty Parsons*, Alison Jacques, London, UK
- 2022 *Betty Parsons*, Marion Art Center, MA
- 2021 *Betty Parsons: 1950s Works on Paper*, Alexander Gray Associates, Germantown, NY
- 2020 *Betty Parsons: Heated Sky*, Alexander Gray Associates, New York, NY
- 2019 *Betty Parsons: The Queen of the Circus*, Alison Jacques Gallery, London, UK
- 2018 *Betty Parsons: Blue sky very high*, Art Omi, Ghent, NY
- 2017 *Betty Parsons: Invisible Presence*, Alexander Gray Associates, New York, NY
- 2015 *Betty Parsons: A Life in Art*, David Findlay Gallery, New York, NY
- 2010 *Journeys: The Art of Betty Parsons*, Spanierman Modern, New York, NY
- 2008 *Totem Materia: Sculpture and Paintings by Betty Parsons*, Spanierman Modern, New York, NY
- 2007 *Painted Wood Sculpture by Betty Parsons*, Spanierman Gallery, LLC, East Hampton, NY
- 2006 *The Painted Sculpture of Betty Parsons*, The Graduate Center, City University of New York, NY  
*Betty Parsons: A Painting Retrospective*, Spanierman Gallery, LLC, East Hampton, NY
- 2005 *The Painted Sculpture of Betty Parsons*, Naples Museum of Art, Naples, FL
- 1999 *Shaping a Generation: The Art and Artists of Betty Parsons*, Heckscher Museum of Art, Huntington, NY
- 1992 *Betty Parsons: Paintings on Paper*, the Pollock-Krasner House with The Fine Arts Gallery of the Southhampton Campus of Long Island University and the Elaine Benton Gallery, Southhampton, East Hampton, NY
- 1985 Armstrong Gallery, New York, NY

- 1982 *Homage to Betty Parsons*, Fairweather Hardin Gallery, Chicago, IL  
*In Memoriam: Betty Parsons: Her Last Works in Wood*, Betty Parsons Gallery, New York, NY  
Truman Gallery, New York, NY
- 1981 *Betty Parsons: Recent Constructions & Paintings*, Virginia Miller Galleries, Miami, FL
- 1980 *Betty Parsons in Detroit*, Galleries, Birmingham, MI  
*Betty Parsons: Paintings and Sculpture*, Newspace, Los Angeles, CA  
*Betty Parsons: Wood Constructions and Paintings*, Barbara Fiedler Gallery, Washington, D.C.  
*Betty Parsons*, American Center, Paris, France  
*Betty Parsons: New Work*, Kornblee Gallery, New York, NY  
*Betty Parsons*, Nigel Greenwood Inc Ltd, London, UK
- 1979 *Works by Betty Parsons: Painting - Sculpture*, Summit Art Center, NJ  
*Betty Parsons: Sculpture*, Fairweather Hardin Gallery, Chicago, IL  
*Betty Parsons*, Hoshour Gallery, Albuquerque, NM
- 1978 *Betty Parsons*, United States Information Service, Instituto Hondureño de Cultura Interamericana, Tegucigalpa, Honduras  
*Betty Parsons*, Kornblee Gallery and Truman Gallery, New York, NY
- 1977 *Maud Morgan and Betty Parsons*, Barnard College, New York, NY  
*Drawings-Paintings-Sculptures by Betty Parsons, Frank Roth*, Louise Himelfarb Gallery, Water Mill, NY
- 1975 *Paintings and Wood Constructions by Betty Parsons*, Elaine Benson Gallery, East Hampton, NY  
*Betty Parsons: Paintings, Sculpture, Gouache*, Studio Gallery, Washington, D.C.
- 1974 *Betty Parsons Retrospective: An Exhibition of Paintings and Sculpture*, Montclair Art Museum, NJ
- 1973 *Betty Parsons*, Studio Gallery, Washington, D.C.
- 1972 *Betty Parsons: Paintings and Sculpture*, A.M. Sachs Gallery, New York, NY  
*Betty Parsons*, College Art Gallery, Drew University, Madison, NJ
- 1971 *Betty Parsons: Paintings, Sculpture, Gouaches*, Studio Gallery, Washington, D.C.
- 1968 *Betty Parsons Painting, Gouaches, and Sculpture 1955 - 68*, Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK
- 1967 *Betty Parsons: Paintings*, Grand Central Moderns, New York, NY  
*Betty Parsons: Paintings*, Gallery Seven, Boston, MA
- 1966 The Southold Gallery, NY  
*Betty Parsons*, Bennington College, North Bennington, VT
- 1963 *Betty B Parsons: Paintings and Gouaches*, New Arts Gallery, Atlanta, GA  
*Betty Parsons: Abstract Paintings and Gouaches*, Miami Musuem of Modern Art, Miami, FL
- 1962 Sidney Wolfson Gallery, New York
- 1960 *Betty Parsons Paintings 1957-60*, Latow Gallery, New York, NY
- 1958 Georgia Museum of Art, University of Georgia, Athens, GA  
Pensacola Art Center, Pensacola, FL

- Midtown Galleries, New York, NY
- 1957 *Betty Parsons: Paintings*, Midtown Galleries, New York, NY
- 1955 *Betty Parsons: Recent Paintings*, Midtown Galleries, New York, NY
- 1948 Midtown Galleries, New York, NY
- 1945 Midtown Galleries, New York, NY
- 1941 *Betty P. Parsons: Exhibition of Watercolors*, Midtown Galleries, New York, NY
- 1938 *Betty P. Parsons: Exhibition of Watercolors*, Midtown Galleries, New York, NY  
*Betty P. Parsons*, Syracuse Museum of Fine Arts, NY
- 1937 Gallery of the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN  
*Betty P. Parsons: Exhibition of Watercolors*, Midtown Galleries, New York, NY
- 1936 *Betty Pierson-Parsons: Watercolors*, Midtown Galleries, New York, NY
- 1935 Midtown Galleries, New York, NY
- 1934 *Betty Pierson-Parsons*, Stendahl Galleries, Los Angeles, CA
- 1933 Galerie des Quatre Chemins, Paris, France

### **SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

- 2025 *Take Notice: Women's History Month*, Hollis Taggart, New York, NY  
*Women in Abstraction: Shaping Expressionism*, GAVLAK West Palm Beach, FL
- 2024 *Looking Back / The 14th White Columns Annual*, New York, NY  
*Drum and Flag*, Tilton Gallery, New York, NY
- 2023 *Artists Choose Parrish: Part III*, Parrish Art Museum, Water Mill, NY  
*Taking Space: Contemporary Women Artists and the Politics of Scale*, Montclair Art Museum, NJ  
*I Spy*, Alexander Gray Associates, Germantown, NY  
*Action, Gesture, Paint: Women Artists and Global Abstraction 1940-70*, Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK  
*Three Paintings by Richard Mayhew, Betty Parsons, and Jane Wilson*, The Heckscher Museum of Art, Huntington, NY
- 2022 *Kinship: Dusti Bongé and Betty Parsons*, Hollis Taggart, New York, NY  
*"A sheet of paper casts a shadow,"* Alexander Gray Associates, Germantown, NY  
*Friends in a Field: Conversations with Raoul De Keyser*, Mu.ZEE, Oostende, Belgium  
*What You See Is What You Get*, Massimo De Carlo, Paris, France; Madrid, Italy
- 2020 *Nasty Women*, GAVLAK, Los Angeles, CA
- 2019 *Abstract Expressionism Revisited*, Guild Hall, East Hampton, NY  
*GARDEN*, Sargent's Daughters, NY  
*Painters of the East End*, Kasmin Gallery, New York, NY  
*Count of Three*, Alexander Gray Associates, New York, NY

- She Persists: A Century of Women Artists in New York, 1918-2018*, Gracie Mansion, New York, NY
- 2018 *Surface Work*, Victoria Miro, London, UK
- 2017 *Andrew Brischler: Lonely Planet*, Gavlak Palm Beach Gallery, Palm Beach, FL  
*Innovative Approaches, Honored Traditions: The Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art at Five Years*, Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art at Hamilton College, Clinton, NY
- 2015 *You Go Girl! Celebrating Women Artists*, The Heckscher Museum of Art, Huntington, NY
- 2014 *Material World (Permanent Collection Exhibition)*, Parrish Art Museum, Water Mill, NY
- 2006 *Betty Parsons and the Women*, Anita Shapolsky Gallery, New York, NY
- 2005 *People, Places and Things*, Parrish Art Museum, Water Mill, NY
- 2000 *The Nature of Seeing: Works from the Collection*, Parrish Art Museum, Water Mill, NY
- 1992 *Watercolors: Selections from the Collection*, Parrish Art Museum, Water Mill, NY
- 1988 *Drawing on the East End, 1940-1988*, Parrish Art Museum, Water Mill, NY
- 1982 *Group Exhibition*, Betty Parsons Gallery, New York, NY
- 1979 *James Brooks, Betty Parsons, Jane Wilson*, Louise Himelfarb Gallery, Water Mill, NY
- 1975 *Painting, Drawing and Sculpture of The '60s and '70s From The Dorothy and Herbert Vogel Collection*, Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA; Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, OH
- 1972 *Betty Parsons Private Collection: Paintings and Drawings 1940-1972*, Parrish Art Museum, Water Mill, NY
- 1970 *Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Hirschhorn Select*, Hurlbutt Gallery, Greenwich, CT  
*Artists of Suffolk County, Part II: The Abstract Tradition*, Heckscher Museum, Huntington, NY
- 1966 Southold Gallery, Southold, NY  
Riverside Museum, New York, NY  
*Penthouse Exhibition*, The Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY
- 1964 The Heckscher Museum, Huntington, NY  
*Penthouse Exhibition*, The Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY  
*26th Annual Exhibition of Contemporary American Paintings*, Society of the Four Arts, Palm Beach, FL
- 1959 National Council of Women of the United States, New York, NY  
Miami Beach Art Center, Miami, FL  
*Midtown's Season's Retrospective*, Midtown Galleries, New York, NY  
*Midtown's Anniversary Show*, Midtown Galleries, New York, NY  
*Midtown's Opening Group Show*, Midtown Galleries, New York, NY
- 1958 Summit Art Association, NJ  
*Midtown's Season's Retrospective*, Midtown Galleries, New York, NY  
*Midtown's Anniversary Show*, Midtown Galleries, New York, NY  
Columbus Gallery of Fine Arts, OH  
*Midtown's Watercolor Group*, Midtown Galleries, New York, NY

- 1957 *Jury Meeting*, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia, PA  
*Midtown's Season's Retrospective*, Midtown Galleries, New York, NY  
*25th Anniversary Loan Exhibition*, Midtown Galleries, New York, NY  
*Midtown's Opening Group Show*, Midtown Galleries, New York, NY  
Columbus Gallery of Fine Arts, Columbus, OH  
*Midtown's Watercolor Group*, Midtown Galleries, New York, NY
- 1956 Memphis Museum, TN  
Art Barn, Southampton, NY  
*Midtown's Watercolor Group*, Midtown Galleries, New York, NY  
*The Society of the Four Arts Contemporary Exhibition*, Palm Beach, FL
- 1954 *Midtown's Season's Retrospective*, Midtown Galleries, New York, NY  
John Herron Art Institute, Indianapolis, IN
- 1953 Dayton Art Institute, Dayton, OH
- 1952 *The Nude Traveling Show*, Midtown Galleries, New York, NY  
Dayton Art Institute, OH
- 1945 *Midtown's Christmas Exhibition*, Midtown Galleries, New York, NY
- 1937 The Price Gallery, Hollywood, CA  
Barbarie Gallery, Hollywood, CA
- 1927 *The No. 12 Group*, The New Chenil Galleries, London, UK

### **SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS**

Addison Gallery of American Art, Andover, MA  
Birmingham Museum of Art, Birmingham, AL  
Buffalo AKG Art Museum, NY  
Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA  
Heckscher Museum of Art, Huntington, NY  
High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA  
Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, Ireland  
Montclair Art Museum, Montclair, NJ  
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX  
The Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY  
National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C.  
Parrish Art Museum, Water Mill, NY  
Portland Art Museum, Portland, OR  
RISD Museum, Providence, RI  
Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art, Clinton, NY  
Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, D.C.  
Telfair Museums, Savannah, GA  
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- "A incrível história da galerista que descobriu Rothko e Reinhardt." *Dasartes*, June 29, 2017.
- Alcauskas, Katherine D. "Betty Parsons." In *Innovative Approaches, Honored Traditions*. New York: Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art at Hamilton College, 2017, pp. 232–233.
- Allgeier, Wyatt. "Game Changer: Betty Parsons." *Gagosian Quarterly*, Fall 2019.
- Alloway, Lawrence. *Betty Parsons: Paintings*. Bennington: Bennington College, 1966. Reprinted in *Betty Parsons—Paintings*. Boston: Gallery Seven, 1967.
- "Art." *The Nation*, May 4, 1975.
- Ayers, Robert. "Betty Parsons: Spanierman Modern." *ARTnews*, November 2008.
- Aylon, Hélène. "Interview with Betty Parsons." *WomanArt*, Fall 1977.
- "Betty Parsons." *ARTnews*, April 1955.
- "Betty Parsons Catalogue Raisonné launches online," *Art Daily*, July 17, 2022
- "Betty Parsons: Diary of an Art Dealer," *Vogue* 142, October, 1963.
- "Betty Parsons: Invisible Presence." *The New Yorker*, June 2017.
- Blume, Mary. "Betty Parsons: The Power of Enchantment." *International Herald Tribune*, July 4, 1980.
- Borden, Lizzie. "Betty Parsons." *Artforum*, December 1972.
- Braff, Phyllis. "Artist With an Eye For Others' Work." *The New York Times*, February 28, 1999.
- Cacouris, Christina. "Louis Vuitton Puts A New Spotlight On Feminist Artist Betty Parsons." *Garage*, November 13, 2017.
- Campbell, Lawrence. "The Ray Johnson History of the Betty Parsons Gallery," *ARTnews* 72, January 1973.
- Carrigan, Margaret. "The Long Overlooked Female Artists Suddenly Getting Market Attention." *Observer*, March 13, 2018.
- Carroll, Rebecca. "Rebel Commentary: 'She Persists' At Gracie Mansion Conservancy." *gothamist*, January 30, 2019.
- Cascone, Sarah. "Editor's Picks: 8 Things to See in New York This Week." *Artnet News*, May 22, 2017.
- Chant, Gwen. *Kinship: Dusti Bongé and Betty Parsons*. New York, NY: Hollis Taggart, 2022.
- Cohen De Pietro, Anne. "The Art of Betty Parsons: Carpenters' Throwaways and the Expanding World." In *Shaping a Generation, The Art and Artists of Betty Parsons*. Huntington: Heckscher Museum of Art, 1999.
- Cohen, Ronny. *Betty Parsons: A Painting Retrospective*. East Hampton, NY: Spanierman Gallery, 2006.
- Constable, Rosalind. "The Betty Parsons Collection." *ARTnews* 67, March 1968.
- Cotter, Holland. "An Artist and Dealer and the Women She Promoted." *The New York Times*, July 13, 2005.
- Cross, Inés, Marion Willingham, Kira Richards, and Baya Simons. "10 Things to see, eat and buy in April." *Financial Times*, April 1, 2024.

Cummings, Paul. Interview with Betty Parsons conducted for the Archives of American Art (tape recorded).

June 4 and 9, 1969.

Davidson, Susan. "Feminismo para un mundo de hombres: sobre cómo dos mujeres construyeron un mercado del Arte." In *Expresionismo Abstracto*. Exh. cat. Edited by David Anfam. Bilbao: Turner, FMGB Guggenheim Bilbao Museoa, 2017.

Diehl, Travis. "At White Columns Annual, Outsiders Mix With Insiders." *The New York Times*. January 24, 2024.

Delavan, Tom. "A Show Focused on One Renowned Dealer's Own Unsung Art Practice." *T: The New York Times Style Magazine*, October 2, 2019.

Driscoll Jr., Edgar. "Women in Art." *Boston Globe*, February 12, 1967.

Frankel, David. "Best of 2008: Betty Parsons, Spanierman Modern." *Artforum*, December 2008.

Gabriel, Mary. *Ninth Street Women: Lee Krasner, Elaine de Kooning, Grace Hartigan, Joan Mitchell, and Helen Frankenthaler: Five Painters and the Movement That Changed Modern Art*. New York: Little Brown and Company, 2018.

Gayoso, Adrienne L. "5 Fast Facts: Betty Parsons and #5WomenArtists." *National Museum of Women in the Arts*, February 17, 2022.

Genocchio, Benjamin. "Painter Who Championed Others Gets Her Due." *The New York Times*, August 26, 2006.

"Goings On About Town." *The New Yorker*, June 2017.

Goldman, Judith. "By the Sea: The Painted Sculpture of Betty Parsons." In *The Painted Sculpture of Betty Parsons*, 8-18. Naples: Naples Museum of Art, 2005.

Gotthardt, Alexxa. "Pioneering Gallerist Betty Parsons Was Also an Important Artist." *Artsy*, June 23, 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_. "The Women Who Built the New York Art World." *Artsy*, July 6, 2017.

Gray, Cleve. "Betty Parsons." *ARTnews* 81, October 1982.

Greenberg, Clement. "Foreword." In *Ten Years*. New York: Betty Parsons Gallery, 1955.

Harrison, Helen A. "Betty Parsons in Context." In *Shaping a Generation, The Art and Artists of Betty Parsons*. Huntington: Heckscher Museum of Art, 1999.

Halasz, Piri. "Betty Parsons Exhibits in Montclair," *The New York Times*, March 31, 1974.

Hall, Lee. *Betty Parsons: Artist, Dealer, Collector*. New York: Harry N. Abrams, Inc., 1991.

Hess, Thomas B. "A Piece of a Star." In *Betty Parsons Retrospective An Exhibition of Paintings and Sculpture*. Montclair: Montclair Art Museum, 1974.

Kelley, Ken. "Betty Parsons Taught America to Appreciate What It Once Called 'Trash': Abstract Art." *People Magazine*, February 27, 1978.

Kennedy, R. C. "Chronicle." *Art International* 13, January 1969.

Kramer, Hilton. "Art from Betty Parsons' Collection." *The New York Times*, March 23, 1968.

LaBarge, Emily. "Betty Parsons." *artforum.com*, October 22, 2019.

Landi, Ann. "Ripe for Rediscovery: Betty Parsons." *Vasari* 21, July 23, 2017.

Lebish, Harriet. *Betty Parsons from 1926-1980*. New York: Armstrong Gallery, 1985.

Lichtenstein, Grace. "Betty Parsons: Still trying to find the creative world in everything." *ARTnews* 78, March 1979.

\_\_\_\_\_. "From the Archives: Betty Parsons, Gallerist Turned Artist, Takes the Spotlight, in 1979." *ARTnews*, June 16, 2017.

Loucheim, Aline B. "Betty Parsons: Her Gallery, Her Influence." *Vogue* 118, October 1951.

"Louis Vuitton Unveils African Dawn at Fifth Avenue Maison." *Gotham Magazine*, November 9, 2017.

Marius, Marley. "9 Art Exhibitions Worth Masking Up for This Spring." *Vogue*, March, 19, 2021.

Marter, Joan. *Women and Abstract Expressionism*. New York: Baruch College/CUNY, 1997.

\_\_\_\_\_, ed. *Women of Abstract Expressionism*. Denver, New Haven: Denver Art Museum and Yale University Press, 2017, p. 189.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Abstract Expressionism Revisited: Selections from the Guild Hall Museum Permanent Collection*. East Hampton: Guild Hall, 2019.

Martin, Henry. *Agnes Martin*. Tucson: Shaffner Press, 2018, pp. 72–73, 79–82, 99, 110–118, 113–114, 126, 128–129, 130–135, 139, 162, 171, 241, 275.

Mekkaoui, Meeran. "Peter Marino's latest vision for Louis Vuitton's art collection revealed." *Buro 24/7*, November 12, 2017.

Molarsky, Mona. "Betty Parsons at David Findlay Jr." *ARTnews*, June 9, 2015.

Parsons, Betty (interviewed). *Mark Rothko and His Times Oral History Project: Oral History Interview with Betty Parsons*. By Gerald Silk (interviewer). Smithsonian Institution Archives of American Art, 1981.

Perreault, John. "Betty Parsons at Montclair Art Museum." *Art in America* 62, September 1974.

Peters, Lisa N. *Journeys: The Art of Betty Parsons*. New York: Spanierman Modern, 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Totem Materia: Sculpture and Paintings by Betty Parsons*. New York: Spanierman Modern, 2008.

Pilger, Zoe. "Betty Parsons the Painter." *Frieze*, October 1, 2019.

Robertson, Brian and Lawrence Alloway. *Betty Parsons: Paintings, Gouaches and Sculpture, 1955–68*. London: Whitechapel Gallery, 1968.

Roffino, Sara. "The 8 Best Booths to See at Frieze New York." *Cultured*, 2018.

Rubinfiel, Leo. "Betty Parsons." *Artforum*, January 1979.

Russell, John. "Betty Parsons—An Artist both in Life and Art," *The New York Times*, August 15, 1982.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Paintings and Sculpture by Betty Parsons," *The New York Times*, January 21, 1977.

Russeth, Andrew. "What to See in N.Y.C. Galleries in March." *The New York Times*, March 6, 2025.

Sanderson, David. "'Sexless' artist Agnes Martin is painted in a new light." *The Times*, May 8, 2018.

Sawin, Martica. "Betty Parsons." *Arts* 32, December 1957.

Smith, Roberta. "Art in Review; Betty Parsons." *The New York Times*, December 1, 2006.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Art in Review; 'Journeys.'" *The New York Times*, March 12, 2008.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Betty Parsons: 'A Life in Art.'" *The New York Times*, March 19, 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_. "What to See in New York Art Galleries This Week." *The New York Times*, June 22, 2017.

Stein, Judith E. and Hélène Aylon. "The Parsons Effect." *Art in America*, November 1, 2013.

Steinhauer, Jillian. "On Display at the People's House: A Century of Persistence." *The New York Times*, January 20, 2019.



Stevens, Mark. "Betty Parsons." *Newsweek*, November 13, 1978.

Strickland, Carol. "Betty Parsons's 2 Lives: She was Artist, Too." *The New York Times*, June 28, 1992.

"Studio by the Sea." *House and Garden* 131, June 1967.

Tomkins, Calvin. "A Keeper of the Treasure." *New Yorker* 51, June 9, 1975.

Valentine, Paul. "Betty Parsons of NYC Here." *Atlanta Constitution*, April 21, 1963.

Varian, Elayne H. *Betty Parsons' Private Collection*. New York: Finch College Museum of Art, 1968.

Vogel, Wendy. "Gallery Crawl: Chelsea by Wendy Vogel: The Mall-ification of Manhattan." *Bomb*, June 28, 2017.

Yau, John. "The Legendary Betty Parsons Meets the Not-So-Legendary Betty Parsons." *Hyperallergic*, July 9, 2017.