An abstract expressionist painting featuring a dominant palette of vibrant reds, oranges, and blacks. The brushstrokes are thick and textured, creating a sense of movement and depth. In the bottom left corner, there is a curved, dark shape that appears to be a shadow or a reflection, possibly of a figure or object, rendered in black and dark red. The overall composition is dynamic and expressive, characteristic of the mid-20th-century American abstract expressionist movement.

ARONSON TO ARONSON
The Lineage of Expressionism

OGUNQUIT MUSEUM
OF AMERICAN ART



ARONSON TO ARONSON

The Lineage of Expressionism

The Art of:
David Aronson
Georgianna Nyman Aronson
Ben Aronson

August 27 - October 31, 2011

Foreword by Ron Crusan

OGUNQUIT MUSEUM
OF AMERICAN ART

OGUNQUIT MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART
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Front Cover:
DAVID ARONSON
Young Man in Red Coat (detail), 1972
encaustic on panel, 24 x 16 inches
private collection

Title Page:
DAVID ARONSON
Teacher and Students (detail), 1965 - 69
bronze, 26 1/2 x 25 1/2 x 20 1/2 inches
private collection

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DAVID ARONSON
Teacher and Student II, 1972
encaustic on panel, 48 x 30 inches
private collection

ARONSON TO ARONSON: *The Lineage of Expressionism*

In post World War II America, New York was emerging as the new center of the art world, and Abstract Expressionism was soon to be the primary source for new ideas in art. Artists like Jackson Pollock, Willem de Kooning and Mark Rothko practiced an art that looked to the inner, emotional life of the artist for inspiration. Non-objective art became the focus of most of those concerned with contemporary art in the 1940s and 1950s.

In contrast to the happenings in New York and beyond, a small significant movement called Expressionism took hold in Boston, Massachusetts. Among those who are considered to be Boston Expressionists, Karl Zerbe, Hyman Bloom, Jack Levine and David Aronson stand out as the best of the early practitioners. Though differing in styles, they did share fundamental beliefs and practices. While incorporating abstract expressionist methods of paint application and other materials, the Boston Expressionists were also interested in presenting their thoughts about the external world of people, religion, business and politics filtered and intensified through their own internal world of emotion. They also maintained a strong awareness and connection to classical art. What they created was a new dynamic extending the elements of the New York School to include the human figure placed in narratives which powerfully expressed each artist's view of human experience and the state of the human condition in mid-twentieth century America.

The exhibition *Aronson to Aronson: The Lineage of Expressionism* traces the lineage of the Boston Expressionist movement through the art of one prominent Boston artist family: David Aronson, the early Expressionist, his wife Georgianna Nyman Aronson, a prominent portrait painter, and their son Ben, also a well-known painter who exhibits regularly in Boston, New York and San Francisco. Born in 1923, David was a young man when he first embraced the Expressionist movement. His early work shows a preoccupation with humanistic expressionism. Though much different in style and substance, Georgianna's work shares the common element of the human figure, and Ben whose work for many years depicted birds' eye views of New York City streets has recently turned to the all too human business of high finance, Wall Street and fine art auctions.

It is a pleasure to host *Aronson to Aronson: The Lineage of Expressionism*, the first exhibition of its kind, of such a prestigious family of artists. All three artists, accomplished individually, bring a wealth of beauty and accomplishment together for the first time. I would like to thank the entire staff of the Ogunquit Museum of American Art for their assistance in the completion of this project and the many other projects which comprise our season. I would also like to thank the Board of Directors for their unflagging support, and the Docents and Volunteers who inquire for answers and deliver outstanding service to our visitors.

Thank you to the Aronson family: David, Georgianna, Ben and Eileen for making the exhibition and catalog possible in so many ways. A special thank you to Martin and Estelle Karlin for their far-reaching assistance in the formulation of the exhibition.

RON CRUSAN
Director/Curator

DAVID ARONSON



LEVITATION II, 1972
encaustic on panel, 48 x 33 inches
private collection



Above:
YOUNG MAN IN RED COAT, 1972
encaustic on panel, 24 x 16 inches
private collection

Right:
FIDDLER, 1974-76
bronze (photographed in the clay), 22 3/4 x 11 3/4 x 11 inches
private collection





Above:
THE MEDIUM, 1983
bronze, 15 x 13 x 12 1/2 inches
private collection

Right:
ANGEL WITH FLUTE, 1978
bronze, 24 1/8 x 8 x 20 inches
courtesy of David Findlay Jr. Fine Art, NY







Above:
WARRIOR II, 1995
bronze, 30 x 24 x 20 inches
private collection

Left:
HARLEQUIN, 1986
bronze, 39 3/4 x 12 3/4 x 14 inches
courtesy of David Findlay Jr. Fine Art, NY



YOUNG FLUTIST, 1972
encaustic on panel, 15 3/4 x 9 3/4 inches
private collection



TEACHER AND STUDENTS, 1965 - 69
bronze, 26 1/2 x 25 1/2 x 20 1/2 inches
private collection

GEORGIANNA
NYMAN ARONSON



THE SICILIAN, 2008
oil on panel, 35 1/2 x 26 1/2 inches, framed
private collection



ABIGAIL IN PROFILE, 1971
oil on panel, 16 1/2 x 13 1/2 inches, framed
private collection



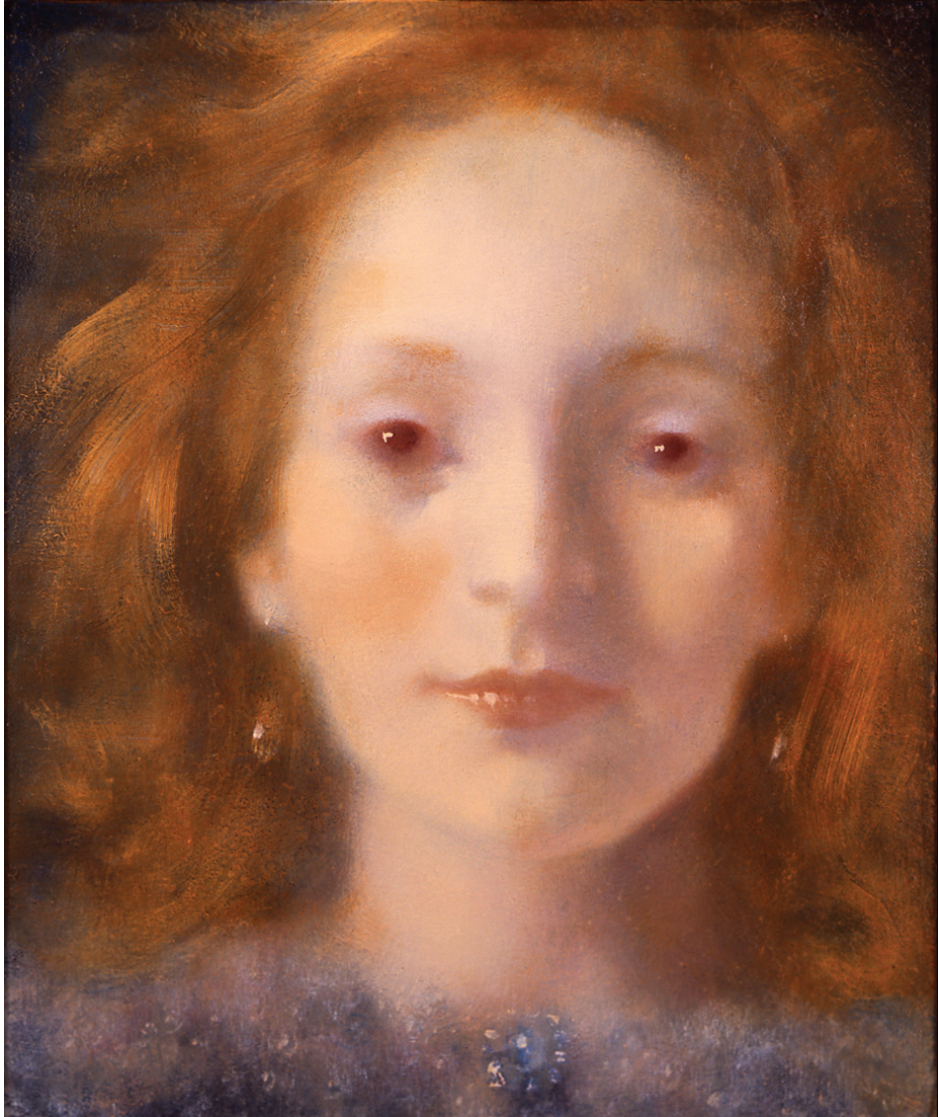
ANNIE BENSON MULLER, 1958
oil on panel, 21 3/4 x 17 3/4 inches, framed
private collection



JOY, 1993
graphite on paper, 21 3/4 x 17 3/4 inches, framed
private collection



WOMAN IN BLACK, 1964
oil on panel, 26 3/4 x 20 1/2 inches, framed
private collection

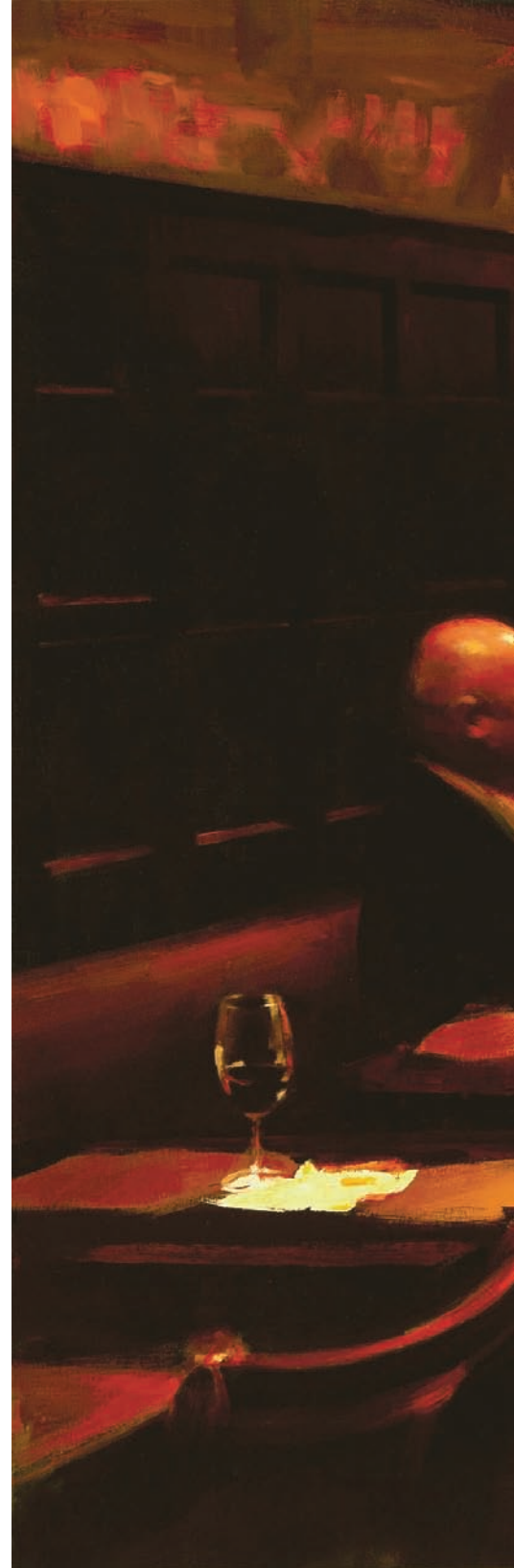


GIRL WITH RED HAIR, 2010
oil on panel, 11 x 10 inches
private collection



BEAUTIFUL OLD WOMAN, 2011
pastel, 11 1/2 x 10 inches
private collection

BEN ARONSON





NIGHTHAWKS, DELMONICO'S, 2010
oil on panel, 50 x 60 inches
private collection



OCEANSIDE, 2008
oil on panel, 30 x 30 inches
private collection

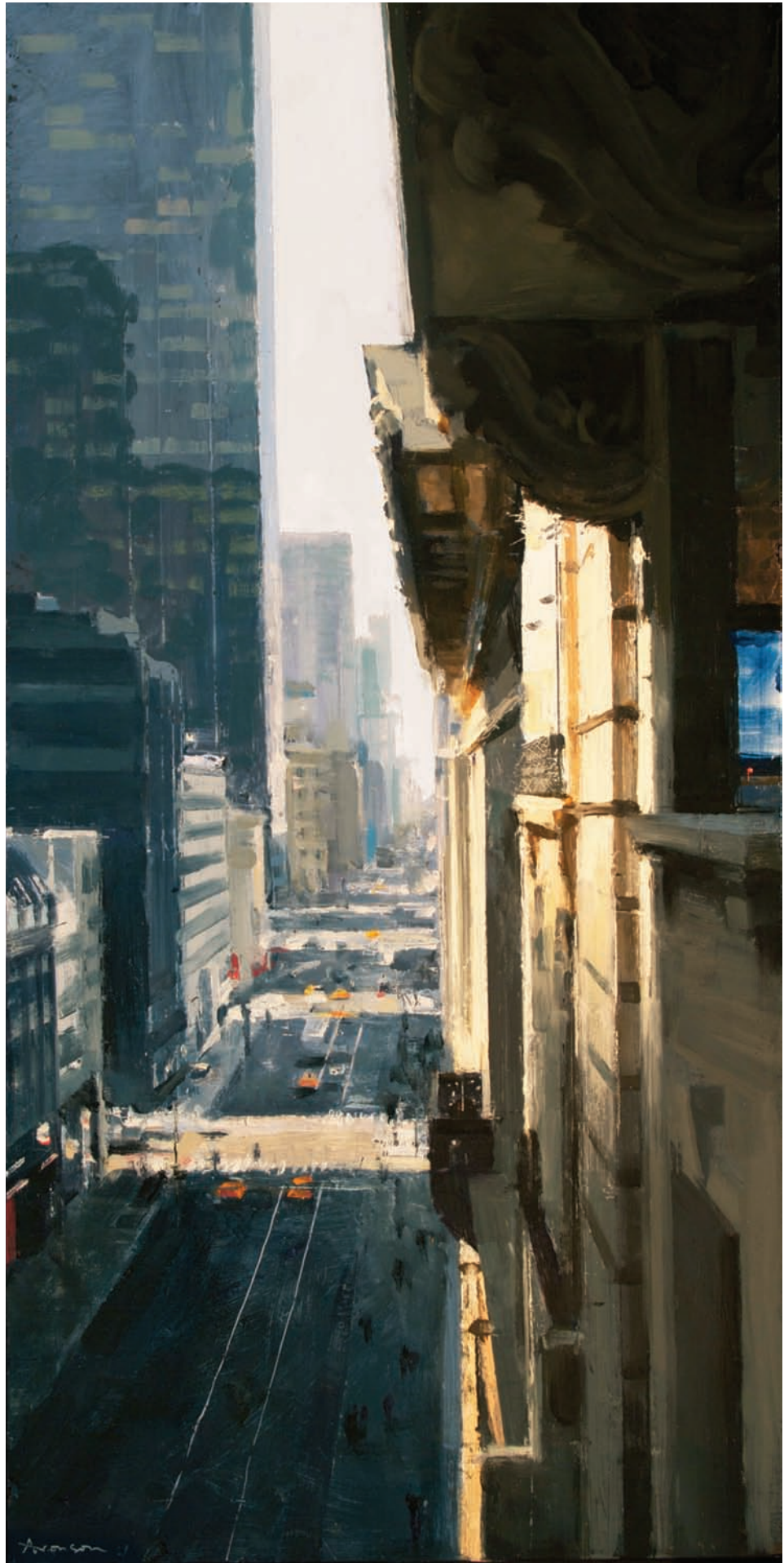


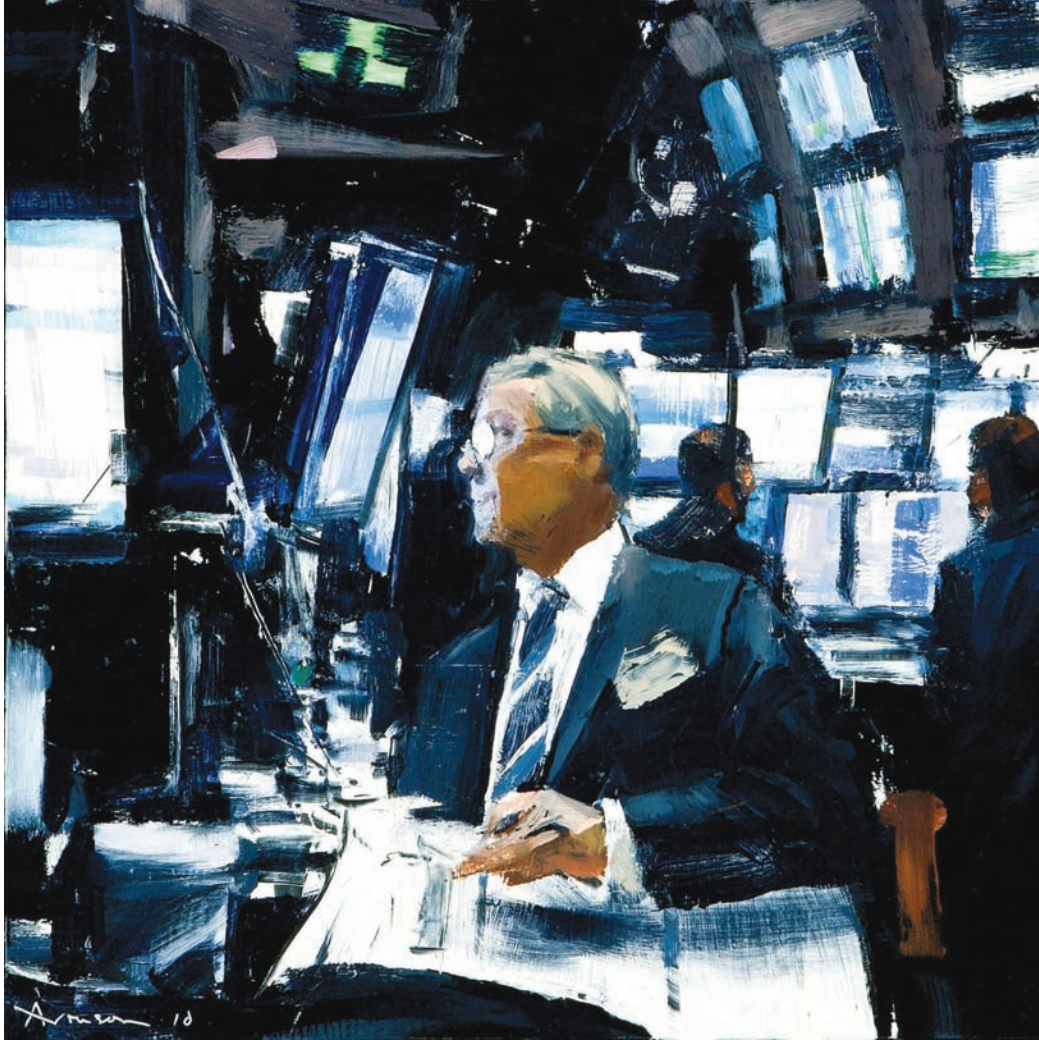
FULL SUN, RUSSIAN HILL, 2007
oil on panel, 12 x 12 inches
private collection



Above:
LA TOUR D'ARGENT, 2008
oil on panel, 24 x 24 inches
private collection

Right:
FIFTH AVENUE, LOOKING SOUTH, 2011
oil on panel, 24 x 12 inches
courtesy of Alpha Gallery, Boston





Above:
SELLING ON THE NEWS, 2010
oil on panel, 12 x 12 inches
courtesy of Tibor de Nagy Gallery, NY



Left:
THE RUMOR, 2010
oil on panel, 12 x 12 inches
courtesy of Tibor de Nagy Gallery, NY



Above:
CLOSING BELL, 2010
oil on panel, 11 x 14 inches
courtesy of Tibor de Nagy Gallery, NY

Right:
TALKING NUMBERS, 2010
oil on panel, 12 x 12 inches
courtesy of Tibor de Nagy Gallery, NY





NIGHTHAWKS, 2006
oil on panel, 20 x 27 inches
private collection



LOW SUN, RISING SHADOW, 2007
oil on panel, 67 1/4 x 48 inches
private collection



ARTISTS' BIOGRAPHIES

DAVID ARONSON

Born 1923

EDUCATION

School of The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
Hebrew Teacher College

SELECTED AWARDS

- 1990 Certificate of Merit, National Academy of Design, New York
- 1976 Purchase Prize, National Academy of Design
- 1976 Joseph Isidore Gold Medal, National Academy of Design
- 1976 Purchase Prize, Albrecht Art Museum
- 1975 Isaac N. Maynard Prize for Painting, National Academy of Design
- 1973 Samuel F. B. Morse Gold Medal, National Academy of Design
- 1967 Purchase Prize, National Academy of Fine Arts
- 1963 Gold Medal, Art Directors Club of Philadelphia
- 1961 Purchase Prize, American Institute of Arts and Letters, New York, also 1962, 1963
- 1960 John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship
- 1958 Grant in Art, American Institute of Arts and Letters, New York
- 1954 Grand Prize, Third Annual Boston Arts Festival
- 1946 Travelling Fellowship, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
- 1946 Purchase Prize, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
- 1944 First Popular Prize, Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston
- 1944 First Judges Prize, Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS & RETROSPECTIVES

- 2011 David Findlay, Jr. Gallery, New York
- 2005 Boston University Art Gallery, Boston (*Retrospective*)
- 2004 Galerie Yoram Gil, Beverly Hills, CA
- 1992 Louis Newman Galleries, Beverly Hills, CA, also 1989, 1986, 1984, 1982, 1977
- 1990 Pucker Gallery, Boston, 1986, 1984, 1978, 1976
- 1985 Mickelson Gallery, Washington DC, (*Retrospective*)
- 1979 The Jewish Museum and National Academy of Design, New York (*Retrospective*)
- 1979 Rose Art Museum, Waltham, MA (*Retrospective*)
- 1979 American Museum of Jewish History, Philadelphia, PA (*Retrospective*)

- 1972 Bernard Danenberg Galleries, New York, 1969
- 1969 Nordness Gallery, New York, 1963, 1960
- 1969 Boris Mirski Gallery, Boston, 1959, 1951
- 1946 Museum of Modern Art, New York

SELECTED MUSEUM COLLECTIONS

- Albrecht University Museum of Art, St. Joseph, MO
- Art Institute of Chicago, IL
- Atlanta Art Association, GA
- Bezalel Art Museum, Jerusalem, Israel
- Boston College, Chestnut Hill MA
- Boston University, MA
- Bryn Mawr College, PA
- Chico State College Gallery, CA
- Colby College, Waterville, ME
- Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC
- Herbert Johnson Museum of Art, Ithaca, NY
- Danforth Museum of Art, Framingham, MA
- DeCordova Museum, Lincoln, MA
- Fine Arts Center, Cheekville, TN
- Guilford College, Greensboro, NC
- Hunter Art Gallery, Chattanooga, TN
- The Jewish Museum, New York, NY
- The Johnson Foundation, Racine, WI
- Krannert Art Museum, Champaign, IL
- Milwaukee Art Institute, WI
- Munson Williams Proctor Institute, Ithaca, NY
- Museo Sefardi, Toledo, Spain
- Museum of Art, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH
- Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
- Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY
- National Academy Museum, New York, NY
- Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia, PA
- Portland Art Museum, ME
- Rose Art Museum, Waltham, MA
- David & Alfred Smart Museum, Chicago, IL
- Skirball Museum, Los Angeles, CA
- Smithsonian Institute, Washington, DC
- Syracuse University, NY
- University of Judaism, Los Angeles, CA
- University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
- University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE
- Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA
- Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
- Weatherspoon Art Gallery, University of NC, Greensboro, NC
- Worcester Art Museum, MA

GEORGIANNA NYMAN ARONSON

Born 1930

EDUCATION

School of The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

Longy School of Music, Cambridge, MA

AWARDS

- 2003 Rhode Island Medal of Achievement
- 1992 Certificate of Merit, National Academy of Design, New York
- 1953 Kate Morse Fellow, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
- 1951 Boit Prize, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 1999 Alter & Gil, Beverly Hills, CA
- 1990 Nancy Lincoln Gallery, MA
- 1990 National Academy of Design, New York
- 1980 Copley Society, Boston, MA
- 1963 Nordness Gallery, New York
- 1960 Shore Studio Gallery, Boston, MA also 1961

SELECTED COMMISSIONED PORTRAITS

- 2011 Dr. Douglas Schneider, Saint Elizabeth's Hospital, Boston, MA
- 2008 Orit Gadiesh, Chairman, Bain & Co., Boston, MA
- 2008 Dr. Leah Lowenstein, Dean, Thomas Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, PA
- 2004 James Norell, California
- 2003 Governor Lincoln C. Almond, Governor, State of Rhode Island
- 1999 Chelsea Norell, California
- 1995 David Leissner, Composer and Classical Guitarist
- 1994 Honorable James R. Lawton, Chairman of the Board, New England School of Law, Boston
- 1994 Richard Conrad, Director Boston Academy of Music, Boston, MA
- 1994 Dr. Barry Minsky, Psychoanalytic Institute, Boston, MA
- 1994 Julie Harris, American Actor
- 1992 Mr. & Mrs. Pieh, Headmasters, Milton Academy
- 1982 Dr. Peter Safar, Head of The Safar Critical Care Institute, Pittsburgh, PA
- 1978 Dr. Louis Nason, Chief of Surgery, Brookline Hospital, MA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

SUPREME COURT JUSTICE PORTRAITS

- 2009 Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg
- 2006 Justice Antonin G. Scalia
- 2005 Justice Anthony M. Kennedy
- 1996 Justice Clarence Thomas
- 1993 Justice Harry A. Blackmun
- 1991 Justice Sandra Day O'Connor

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

- Rose Art Museum, Waltham, MA
- New England School of Law, Boston, MA
- Thomas Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, PA
- University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, PA
- The State of Rhode Island, Statehouse, Providence, RI
- Milton Academy, Milton, MA

BEN ARONSON

Born 1958

EDUCATION

- 1982 Boston University, Boston, MA; MFA
- 1980 Boston University, Boston, MA; BFA

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2010 Tibor de Nagy Gallery, New York; also 2008, 2005
- 2009 Alpha Gallery, Boston, MA; also 2006, 2002, 2000
- 2008 Jenkins Johnson Gallery, San Francisco, CA; also 2007, 2004
- 2003 DFN Gallery, New York
- 1999 Scott White Contemporary, La Jolla, CA
- 1998 Sydne Bernard Fine Art, Hollywood, CA
- 1997 MB Modern, New York
- 1996 Horwitch Newman Gallery, Scottsdale, AZ
Jerry Solomon Gallery, Hollywood, CA
- 1994 Louis Newman Galleries, Beverly Hills, CA
- 1989 Nancy Lincoln Gallery, Chestnut Hill, MA; also 1983
- 1987 Julie Saul Gallery, Sudbury, MA
- 1986 Lane Gallery, Gordon College, Wenham, MA

SELECTED AWARDS

- 2006 Childe Hassam Purchase Prize, American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York
- 2005 Academic Appointment, National Academy of Design, New York
- 2004 Benjamin Altman Landscape Prize, National Academy of Design, New York
J. Sanford Saltus Gold Medal for Painting, National Academy of Design, New York
- 1992 Ogden M. Pleissner Painting Award, National Academy of Design, New York
- 1990 William P. & Gertrude Schweitzer Painting Prize, National Academy of Design, New York
- 1991 Thomas Fisher Award, American Society of Architectural Perspectivists, New York
- 1989 Rhode Island State Council for the Arts Grant

SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

- Akron Art Museum, OH
- Boca Raton Museum of Art, FL
- Boston Museum of Fine Arts, MA
- Boston Public Library, MA
- Boston University, MA
- Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, OH
- Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, IO
- Contemporary Art Museum, St. Louis, MO
- Danforth Museum of Art, Framingham, MA
- Dayton Art Institute, Dayton, OH
- Delaware Art Museum, Wilmington, DE
- Denver Museum of Contemporary Art, CO
- De Young Museum, Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco, CA
- Flint Institute of Arts, Flint, MI
- Fort Wayne Museum of Art, IN
- Georgia Museum of Art, Athens, GA
- Lyman Allyn Art Museum, New London, CT
- Mobile Museum of Art, AL
- Museum of Art, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH
- Museum of Arts & Sciences, Daytona, FL
- Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX
- Naples Museum of Art, FL
- National Academy Museum, New York
- National Museum of Fine Arts, Malta
- New Mexico Museum of Art, Santa Fe, NM
- New Orleans Museum of Art, LA
- North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, NC
- Ogunquit Museum of American Art, ME
- Orlando Museum of Art, FL
- Palm Springs Art Museum, CA
- Rahr West Museum, Manitowoc, WI
- Reading Public Fine Art Museum, PA
- Rose Art Museum, Waltham, MA
- San Diego Museum of Art, CA
- Santa Barbara Museum of Art, CA
- Suzhou Museum, Jiangsu Province, China
- Tampa Museum of Art, FL
- Taylor Art Museum, Colorado Springs, CO
- Utah Museum of Fine Arts, Salt Lake City, UT
- Vieques Museum of Art, PR
- The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This exhibition and catalogue have been realized through the generosity of many individuals. We are especially grateful to Estelle and Martin Karlin; who have been steadfast in their significant support and patronage of the arts, which has extended to the entire Aronson family. The Karlins have collected art for over 50 years, during which time the relationship between them and the Aronson Family has grown into a lasting, multigenerational friendship.

Thanks are due to three generations of the Aronson family. Without their assistance and support in locating previously unexhibited works, this publication and exhibition would not have been possible. We are grateful for their many hours of tireless efforts photographing, shipping and fund raising.

Special thanks to Gayle and Sandy Reisenbach, Judy and Jerry Webb, and Douglas Schneider, who, at the time of this printing, have all generously contributed to the creation of this uniquely memorable exhibition publication.

Above:
GEORGIANNA NYMAN ARONSON
Amie Benson Muller (detail), 1958
oil on panel, 21 3/4 x 17 3/4 inches
private collection



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