

PEYTON WRIGHT

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Stanton Macdonald-Wright (1890-1973)

For immediate release: July 9, 2011

Peyton Wright Gallery is pleased to announce
"Stanton Macdonald-Wright: Modern Synchronism"
The exhibition commences with an opening reception on **Friday, August 5th, 2011**
from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., and continues through **September 28, 2011.**



La Gaîté oil on canvas 1958 72" x 60"

After repatriating himself to the United States in 1915, Macdonald-Wright resided in New York, where he participated in the *Forum Exhibition* in 1916 and had his first one-man show at Alfred Stieglitz's "291" gallery in 1917. Having become dissatisfied with what he saw as the "sterile artistic formulism" of modern art and the "academicism" of his own work, Macdonald-Wright permanently settled in Santa Monica in 1919 and withdrew from the commercial

Stanton Macdonald-Wright was one of America's leading modernist painters and an early pioneer of abstract art. Born in Virginia and raised in southern California, he settled in Paris in 1907, studying at the Sorbonne and exhibiting at the Salon d'Automne and at the Salon des Indépendents. Together with fellow American expatriate Morgan Russell, he co-founded the avant-garde painting movement Synchronism, which produced luminous and rhythmic compositions of swirling and serpentine forms infused with a rich chromatic palette. As Macdonald-Wright later described it, "Synchronism simply means 'with color' as symphony means 'with sound', and our idea was to produce an art whose genesis lay, not in objectivity, but in form produced in color".

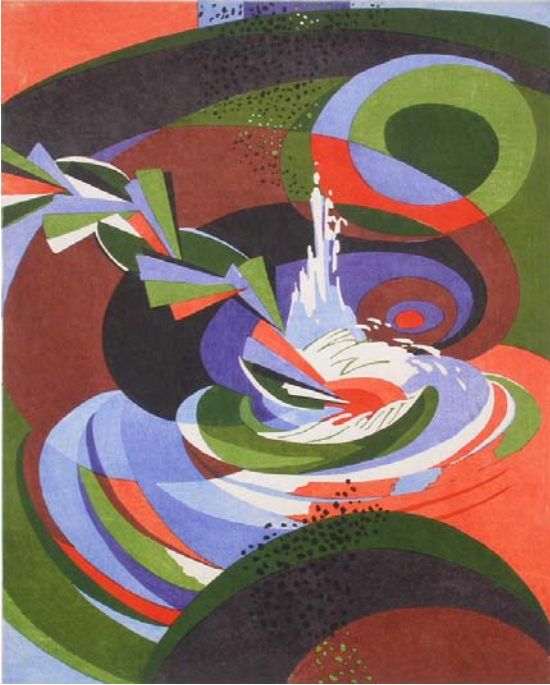


Still Life with Abalone oil on canvas 1946 15 1/2" x 26 1/2"

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An Old Pond a Frog Leaps In, the Sound of Water
Haiga woodblock print 1956 21 3/8" x 17 7/8"

scene, working as a director at the Art Students League and for the WPA Art Project. During this same period, he wrote a student textbook on color theory and continued his artistic pursuits, which turned heavily toward Eastern representational models, especially Chinese painting. After a hiatus of more than thirty years, Macdonald-Wright returned to nonobjective painting in the mid 1950s with renewed vigor and enthusiasm, producing some of his finest canvases. These Neo-Synchromist works surpassed the artist's earlier paintings by way of a heightened luminosity and augmented spatiality thus creating a deeper spirituality.

The institutional, corporate, and private collector market has come to recognize Stanton Macdonald-Wright as a pioneer in 20th-century American art, with recent auction results in the millions of dollars for his early Synchromist compositions. This exhibition will prominently feature many works by the artist that have not been publicly viewed since his retrospective exhibitions in 1967 at the Smithsonian Institution's National Collection of Fine Arts in Washington, D.C. and in 1970 at the UCLA Art Galleries in Los Angeles.

Peyton Wright Gallery is the exclusive representative of the Stanton Macdonald-Wright Estate.

For more information, please contact:
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More images available upon request; please contact:
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