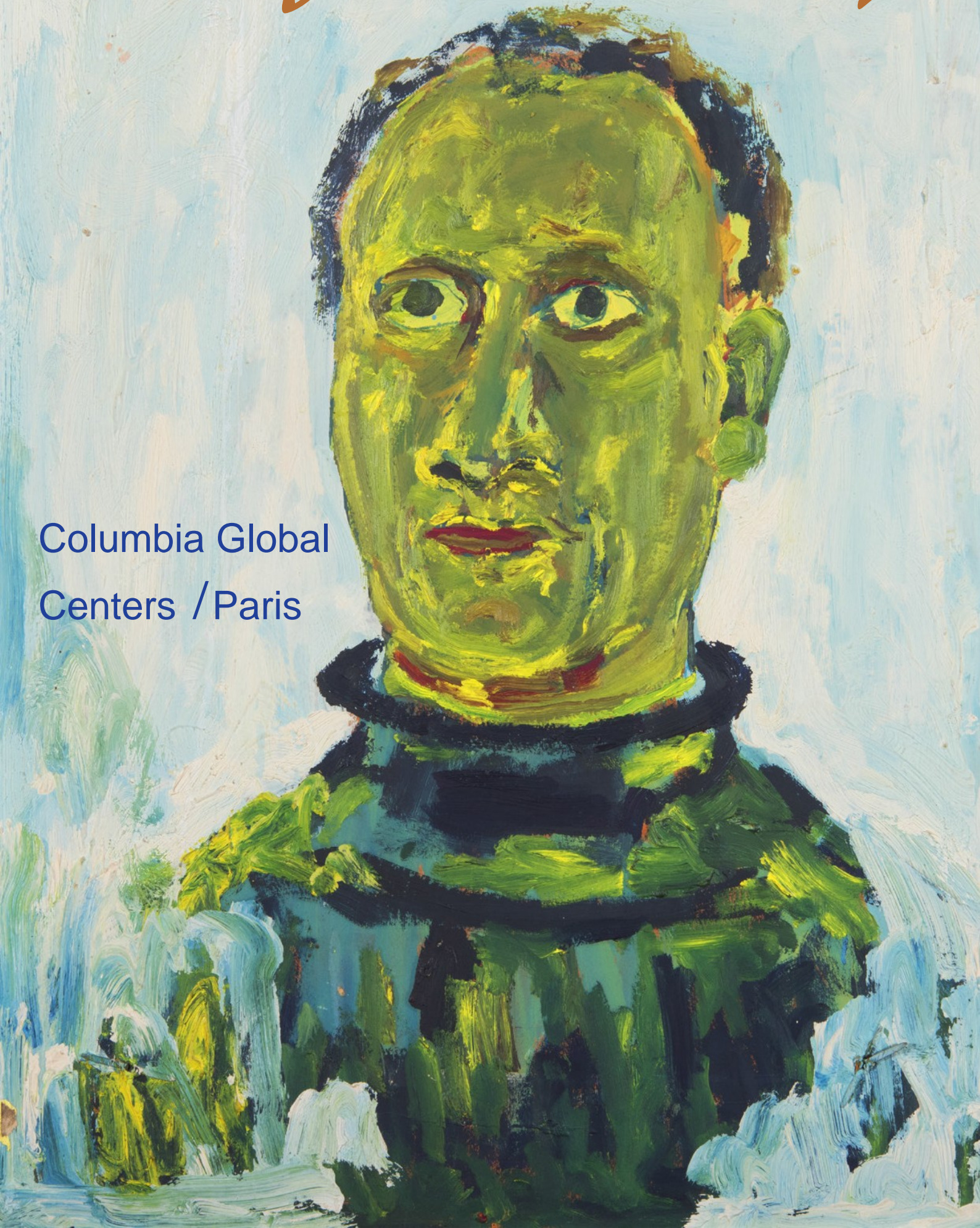


# *Beauford Delaney*

Columbia Global  
Centers / Paris



# Exposition Beauford DELANEY (1901-1979)



Greece - 1967 - oil on canvas - 35.8 in x 28.3 in

Les Amis de Beauford Delaney  
and  
Wells International Foundation

present

in collaboration with Columbia Global Centers | Paris

## Resonance of Form and Vibration of Color

Exhibition  
**Opening**  
Address

February 4 – 29, 2016  
**February 3, 2016**  
Reid Hall: 4 rue de Chevreuse 75006 Paris

Organizer  
Curator

Monique Y. Wells  
Laurence Choko

## AN AMBITIOUS CULTURAL EVENT

This exhibition is supported by esteemed cultural institutions and international businesses, American museums, and lovers of art.

American experts such as Nigel Freeman (Director of the African-American Fine Art Department at Swann Auction Galleries in NY) and Dr. Catherine Saint John (specialist in the works of Beauford Delaney) will participate in a round table discussion at Reid Hall on February 18<sup>th</sup> from 6-9 PM.

Conference topics will center on the place that African Diaspora art holds in the international market, as well as the place of the artist who lives in Western society and also belongs to this Diaspora.



*Untitled* - 1960 – gouache on paper – 14.9 in x 28.7 in

## THE EXHIBITION

The exhibition contextualizes the work of Beauford Delaney for a new generation, situating the artist at a crucial moment in mid-twentieth century art, when Abstract Expressionism was becoming mainstream.

Offering a New York-Paris vision of the postwar period and of contemporary art, this exhibit brings over thirty paintings and works on paper from private Paris collections together for the first time. Until now, the majority of these works were previously unknown to the general public in the United States and Europe.



*Untitled* - 1976 – oil on canvas – 21.6 in x 18.9 in

## MISSION

This exhibition aims to preserve the artistic memory of Beauford Delaney, to demonstrate his cultural impact on French art history, and to encourage young students to become specialists in his life and his work.

## THE ARTIST

Beauford Delaney was born in 1901 in Knoxville, Tennessee. He died in Paris in 1979.

He belonged to the first generation of African-American abstract artists such as Norman Lewis, Alma Thomas, Harold Cousins, and Hale Woodruff.

**LEAVING THE UNITED STATES:** In 1953, Delaney left the vibrant artistic scene of avant-garde America and settled in a France that was in the middle of reconstructing itself – a France that various artists and intellectuals had left behind in favor of New York, the international capital of art.

**ARRIVING IN FRANCE:** While his presence in Paris, where he would live until 1979, passed nearly unnoticed, the universal values of Beauford Delaney's art forge a cultural connection between the history of the U.S. and France, as well as their relationships with other worlds. The celebrated painter Sam Francis, whom Delaney often saw and who belonged to the New York school of abstraction, was apparently influenced by the maturity of Delaney's work. Delaney also frequently spent time with Constantin Brancusi, Henry Miller, and his longtime friend, James Baldwin. This circle of expatriate intellectuals and artists to which he belonged offered a larger international vision of the avant-garde.

### HIS PATH IN FRANCE:

Soon after his arrival in Paris, Delaney's work was exhibited at the Musée des Beaux Arts, the Salon de Réalités Nouvelles, and the Musée d'Art Moderne.

Between 1964, the year of his exhibit at the Lambert Gallery, and 1973, when he exhibited at the Darthea Speyer Gallery, he painted some of his best and most powerful abstract and colorful works, with spontaneous gestures evoking cursive writing and calligraphy.



*Untitled* – 1961 – mixed media on paper – 25.4 in x19.3 in

## ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

### Monday, February 1:

Reid Hall welcomes students from the University of Arizona who are working on an Augmented Reality project related to the exhibition.

### Wednesday, February 3

6-10 PM – Exhibition opening

### Monday, February 8:

6:30-8:30 PM – Sons d'Hiver: Spoken word artist Mike Ladd talks about jazz and the works presented in the exhibition

### Tuesday, February 16:

6:30-8:30 PM – Private event for AARO

### Wednesday, February 17:

4-8 PM – J Rêve International Global Educator Program round table discussion

### Thursday, February 18:

6-9 PM – Conference and debate: Multiculturalism in Today's Art World; made possible through the generous support of the **Terra Foundation for American Art**

### Saturday, February 20:

1:30-4:30 PM – J Rêve International – panel discussion on STEAM education and multiple intelligences

### Sunday, February 21:

3-6 PM – Celebration of the life of Beauford Delaney

### Thursday, February 25:

Documentary film on Black Paris



Untitled - 1961 – oil on canvas – 34.8 in x 19.9 in

### To contact us:

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