

Simeon Bragim  
(1907 - 1997)

WALLY FINDLAY GALLERIES

# Simeon Braguin

Following a career heading Vogue's art department as well as several military espionage missions, Simeon Braguin devoted the last few decades of his life to painting. This fall Wally Findlay Galleries dedicates two shows to his oeuvre, opening in September at their New York location and in Palm Beach in early November. It is the artist's second multi-location show with the gallery, and juxtaposes both Braguin's early and mature works.

Braguin began as a photographer in New York, a career paved by art classes at Columbia and his engagement to the daughter of William Glackens, one of the leaders of the Ashcan School art movement. Later he turned to more lucrative work in illustration, and went on to become the artistic director of Vogue, where he commissioned works by the young Andy Warhol. During World War II, the U.S. Office of Strategic Services also took advantage of his skills by sending him on several secret reconnaissance photography missions in Italy, Austria and Yugoslavia.

But it was not until 1968, decades through his commercial career, that he began painting full time. "He had just bought a cottage situated on the Connecticut River, in Essex, and was feeling a great sense of happiness," says James R. Borynack, curator of the shows and C.E.O. of Wally Findlay Galleries.

His early canvases, which he painted in an array of different sizes, were defined by washes of white injected with bright colors appearing in unpredictable places. Later, in the 1980s, he transitioned into his now trademark use of pastel color fields. For the most part, these fall into the gentler rubric of Abstract Expressionism, with vast, soft-edged pastel swatches overlapping and drifting past each other in seemingly accidental harmony. Certain shapes — the half-moon or the flat T — recur as faint lined patterns. Often considered to imbue Paul Klee's carefree style with Milton Avery's color palette, the actual ideas behind much of Braguin's work are still a mystery. Many were left untitled, encouraging the viewer to interpret them otherwise. He was also relatively liberal about which physical angle the paintings might be viewed from, as he considered the works something that should be enjoyed in the moment and would suggest, "You can turn them any ways you want to."

Braguin's artistic career reached its tragic crescendo in the '90s, with his largest solo show held at Yale University Gallery in 1991, followed just a few years later by a stroke in 1994. In 1997 he passed away, leaving an estate valued at eight million dollars to Yale University.

By presenting a mix of both the artist's early and late works, the gallery aims to advance an understanding of Braguin's influences and imagination.



*Untitled, 1972 | 68 x 54" | acrylic on canvas | 134455*

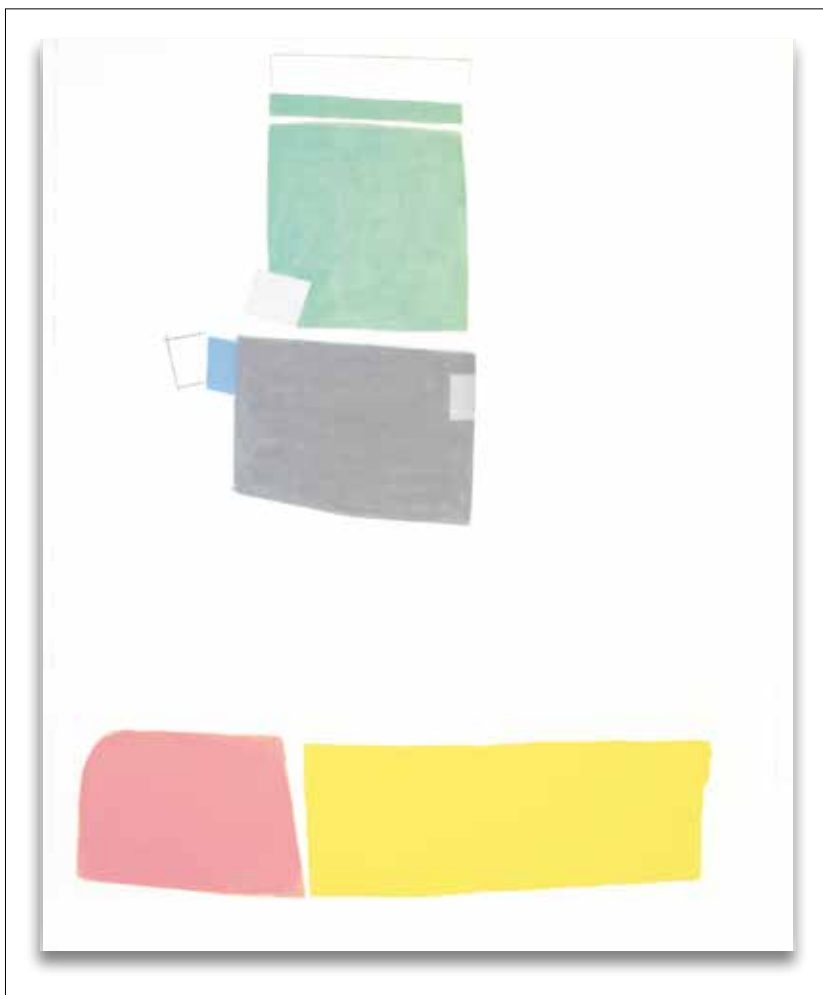
WALLY FINDLAY GALLERIES INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
165 WORTH AVENUE, PALM BEACH, FL 33480 • (561) 655 2090  
124 EAST 57<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10022 • (212) 421 5390  
[WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM](http://WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM)





*Untitled, 1972 | 65 x 50" | acrylic on canvas | 134449*

WALLY FINDLAY GALLERIES INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
165 WORTH AVENUE, PALM BEACH, FL 33480 • (561) 655 2090  
124 EAST 57<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10022 • (212) 421 5390  
[WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM](http://WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM)



*Untitled, 1976 | 65 x 54" | acrylic on canvas | 134464*

WALLY FINDLAY GALLERIES INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
165 WORTH AVENUE, PALM BEACH, FL 33480 • (561) 655 2090  
124 EAST 57<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10022 • (212) 421 5390  
[WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM](http://WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM)



*Untitled, 1975 | 65 x 54" | acrylic on canvas | 134465*

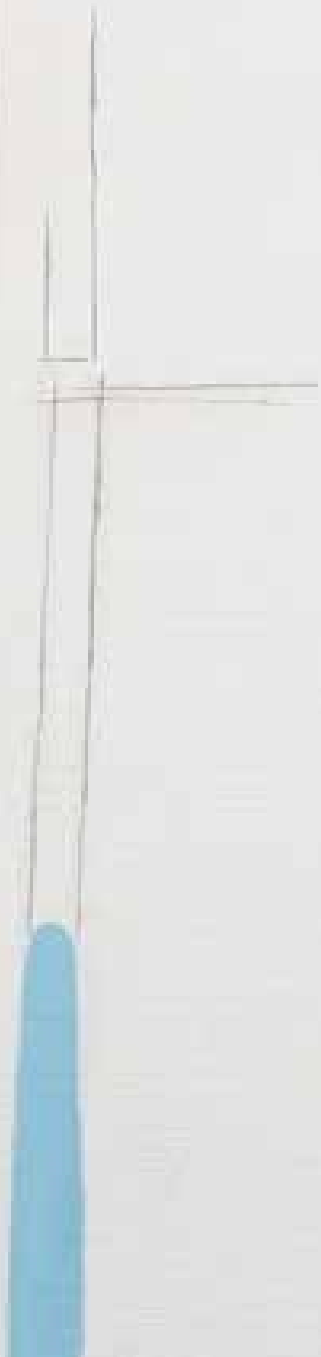
WALLY FINDLAY GALLERIES INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
165 WORTH AVENUE, PALM BEACH, FL 33480 • (561) 655 2090  
124 EAST 57<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10022 • (212) 421 5390  
[WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM](http://WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM)



*Untitled* | 20 x 26" | acrylic on canvas | 129355

WALLY FINDLAY GALLERIES INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
165 WORTH AVENUE, PALM BEACH, FL 33480 • (561) 655 2090  
124 EAST 57<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10022 • (212) 421 5390  
[WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM](http://WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM)







*Untitled, 1976 | 50 x 65" | acrylic on linen | 132890*

WALLY FINDLAY GALLERIES INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
165 WORTH AVENUE, PALM BEACH, FL 33480 • (561) 655 2090  
124 EAST 57<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10022 • (212) 421 5390  
[WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM](http://WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM)



*Mooring at Pettipaug, 1971* | 34 x 42" | acrylic on canvas | 129357

WALLY FINDLAY GALLERIES INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
165 WORTH AVENUE, PALM BEACH, FL 33480 • (561) 655 2090  
124 EAST 57<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10022 • (212) 421 5390  
[WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM](http://WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM)



*Untitled, 1971 | 28 x 42" | acrylic on canvas | 132402*

WALLY FINDLAY GALLERIES INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
165 WORTH AVENUE, PALM BEACH, FL 33480 • (561) 655 2090  
124 EAST 57<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10022 • (212) 421 5390  
[WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM](http://WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM)





*Untitled, 1975 | 50 x 65" | acrylic on canvas | 132394*

WALLY FINDLAY GALLERIES INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
165 WORTH AVENUE, PALM BEACH, FL 33480 • (561) 655 2090  
124 EAST 57<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10022 • (212) 421 5390  
[WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM](http://WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM)



*Untitled, 1975 | 50 x 65" | acrylic on canvas | 132395*

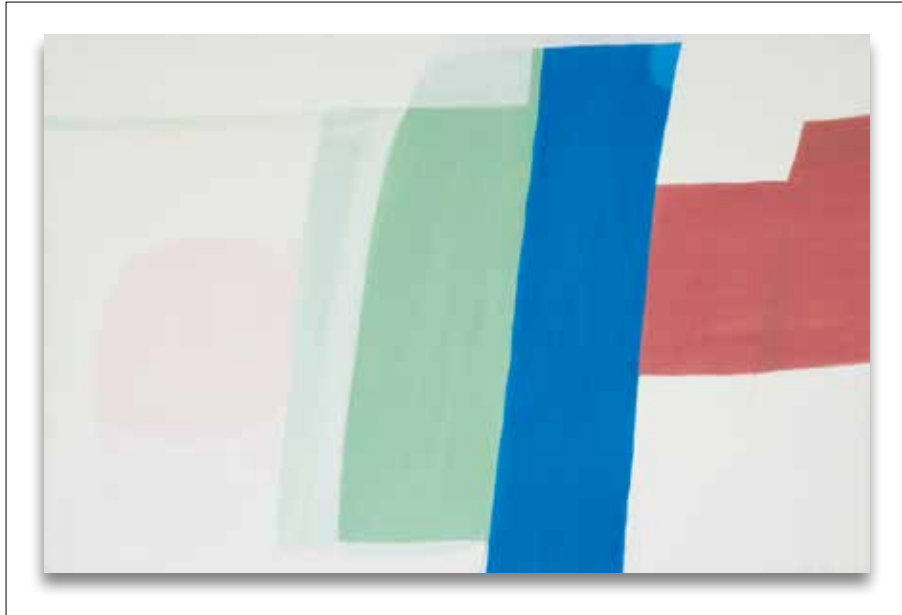
WALLY FINDLAY GALLERIES INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
165 WORTH AVENUE, PALM BEACH, FL 33480 • (561) 655 2090  
124 EAST 57<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10022 • (212) 421 5390  
[WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM](http://WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM)



*Untitled, 1971* | 28 x 42" | acrylic on linen | 132401

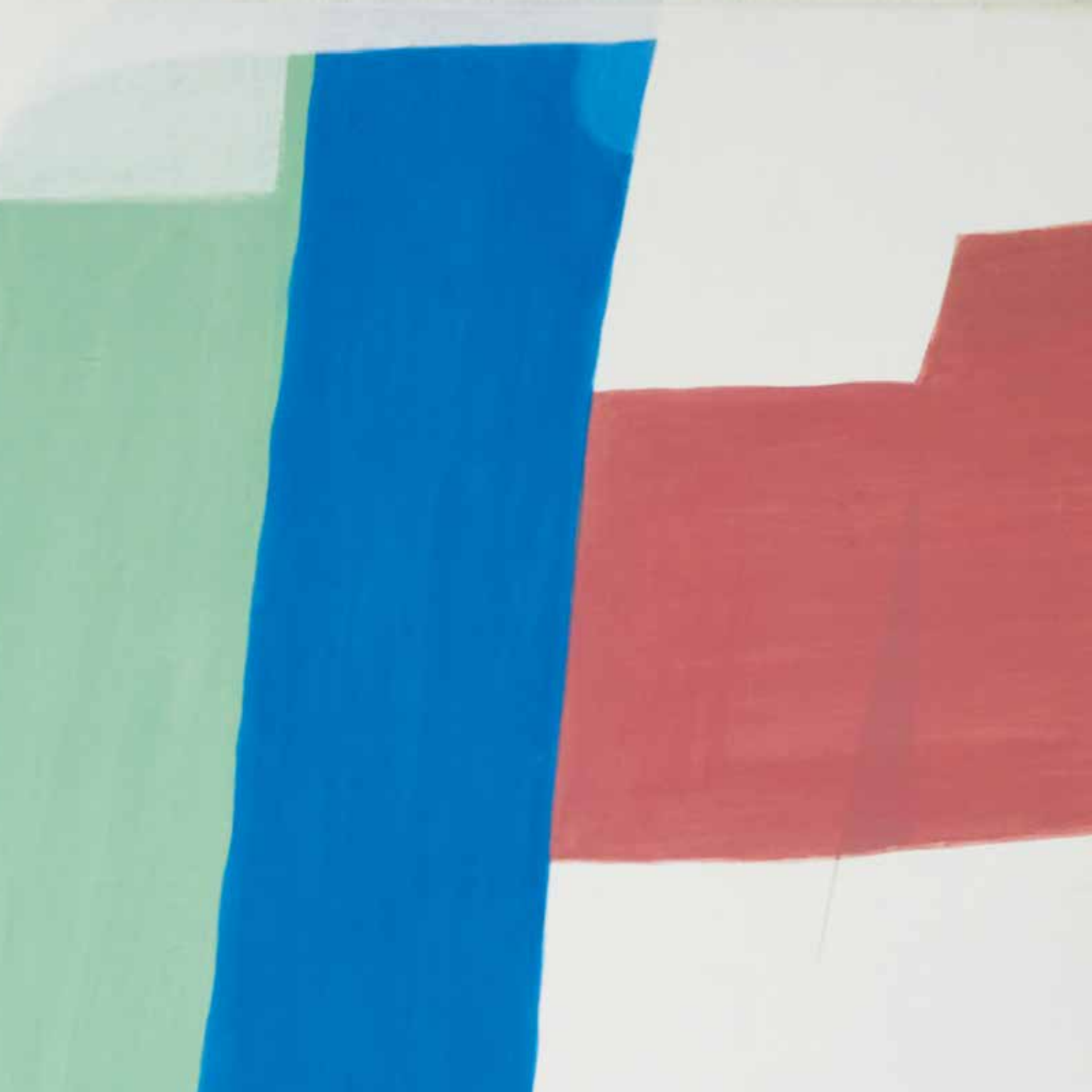
WALLY FINDLAY GALLERIES INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
165 WORTH AVENUE, PALM BEACH, FL 33480 • (561) 655 2090  
124 EAST 57<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10022 • (212) 421 5390  
[WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM](http://WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM)

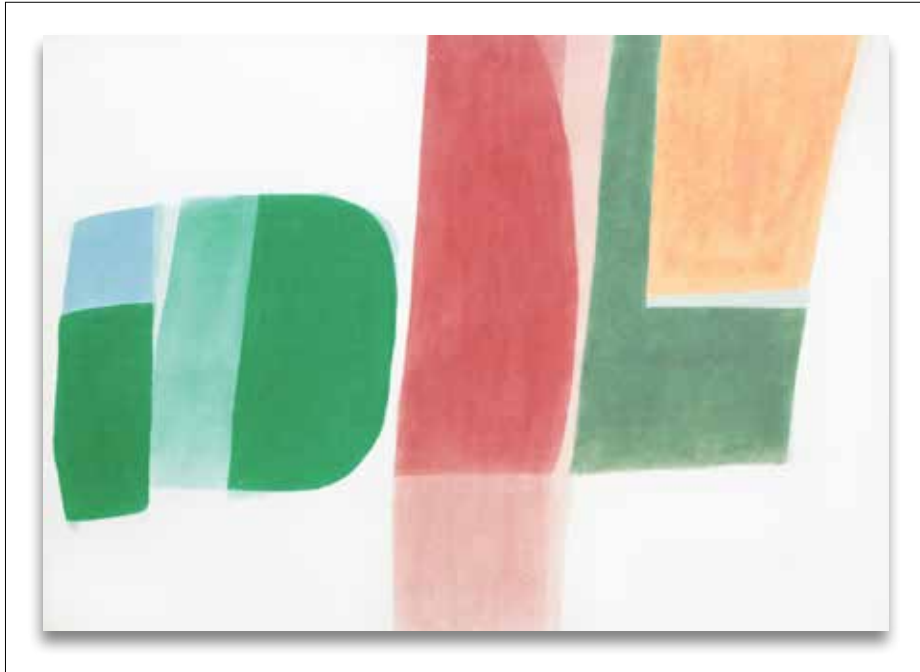




*Untitled, 1971* | 28 x 42" | acrylic on canvas | 132403

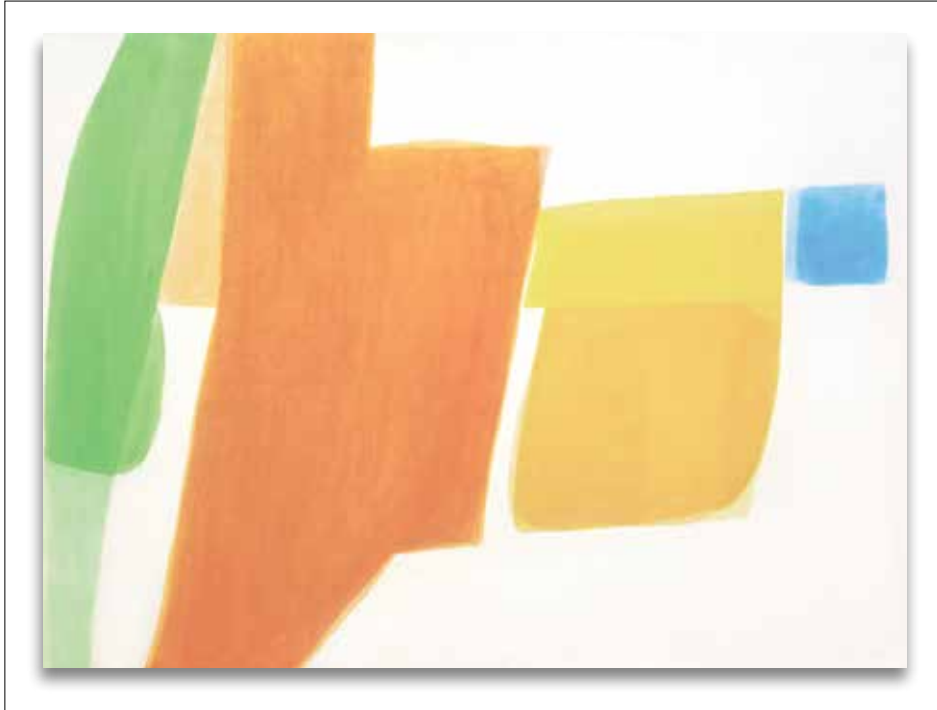
WALLY FINDLAY GALLERIES INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
165 WORTH AVENUE, PALM BEACH, FL 33480 • (561) 655 2090  
124 EAST 57<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10022 • (212) 421 5390  
[WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM](http://WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM)





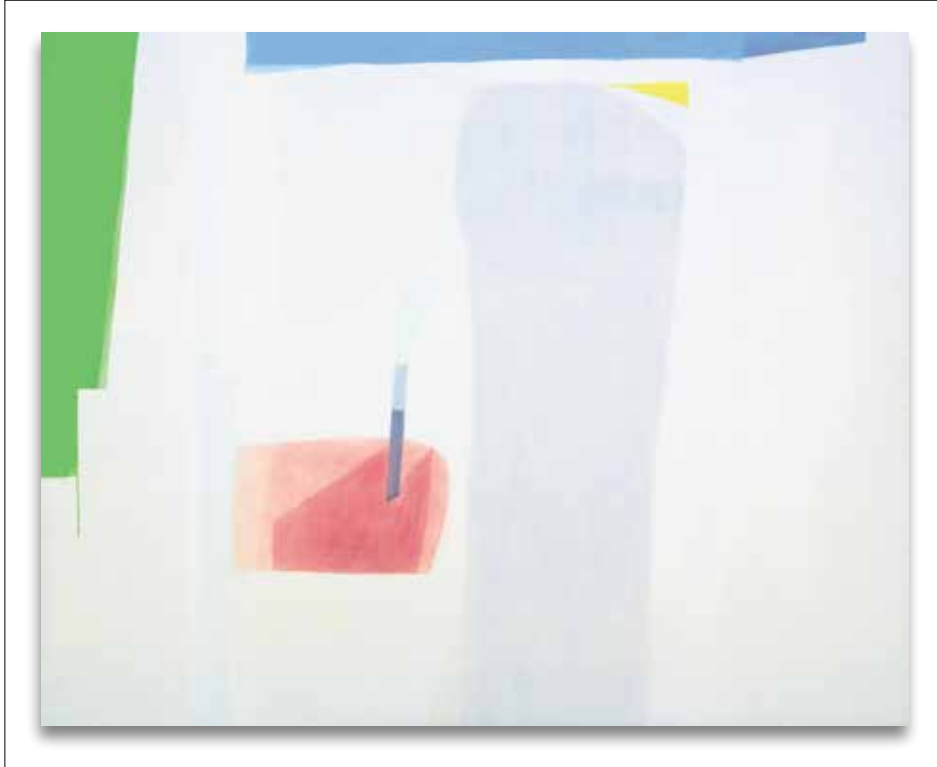
*Untitled, 1970* | 30 x 42" | acrylic on linen | 134378

WALLY FINDLAY GALLERIES INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
165 WORTH AVENUE, PALM BEACH, FL 33480 • (561) 655 2090  
124 EAST 57<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10022 • (212) 421 5390  
[WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM](http://WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM)



*Untitled, 1970 | 30 x 42" | acrylic on linen | 134416*

WALLY FINDLAY GALLERIES INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
165 WORTH AVENUE, PALM BEACH, FL 33480 • (561) 655 2090  
124 EAST 57<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10022 • (212) 421 5390  
[WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM](http://WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM)



*Mooring at Pettipaug Club* | 34 x 42" | acrylic on linen | 134408

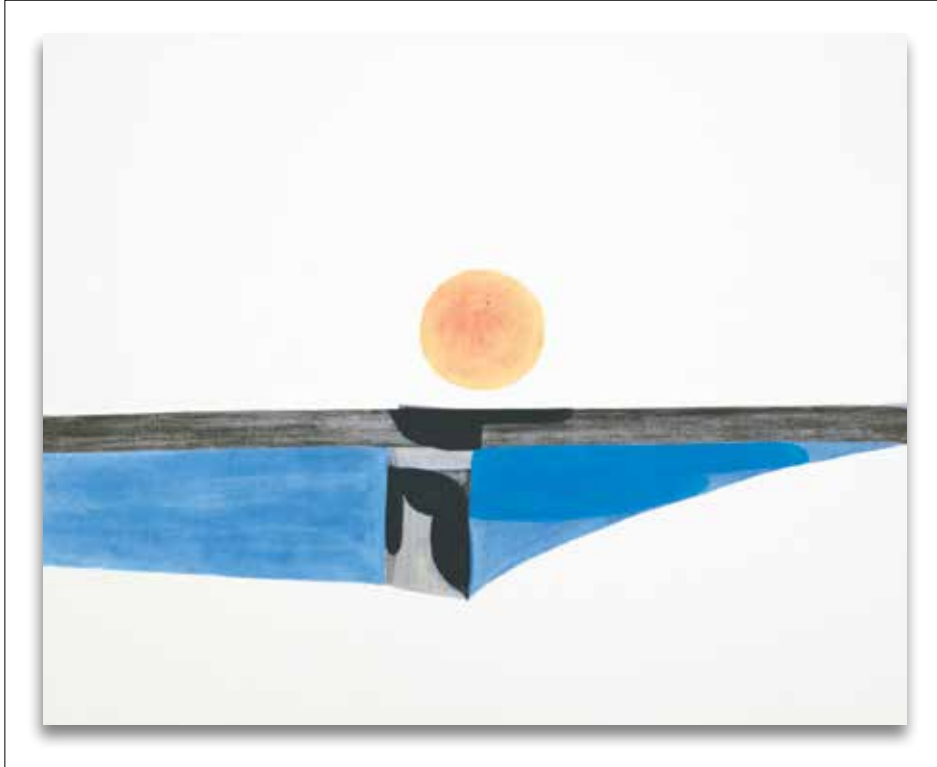
WALLY FINDLAY GALLERIES INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
165 WORTH AVENUE, PALM BEACH, FL 33480 • (561) 655 2090  
124 EAST 57<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10022 • (212) 421 5390  
[WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM](http://WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM)



*Untitled* | 34 x 42" | acrylic on linen | 134387

WALLY FINDLAY GALLERIES INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
165 WORTH AVENUE, PALM BEACH, FL 33480 • (561) 655 2090  
124 EAST 57<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10022 • (212) 421 5390  
[WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM](http://WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM)





*Untitled* | 34 x 42" | acrylic on linen | 134401

WALLY FINDLAY GALLERIES INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
165 WORTH AVENUE, PALM BEACH, FL 33480 • (561) 655 2090  
124 EAST 57<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10022 • (212) 421 5390  
[WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM](http://WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM)





*Untitled* | 34 x 42" | acrylic on linen | 134397

WALLY FINDLAY GALLERIES INTERNATIONAL, INC.  
165 WORTH AVENUE, PALM BEACH, FL 33480 • (561) 655 2090  
124 EAST 57<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10022 • (212) 421 5390  
[WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM](http://WWW.WALLYFINDLAY.COM)

