ALMINE RECH

Quiet Elegance
A Remarkable Bequest

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In 2023, an anonymous donor bequeathed to the Buffalo AKG a group of artworks by some of the most prominent artists of the mid-twentieth century. A self-described "friend of the museum," this individual was a vital intellect who brought beauty into everyone's life through a deep knowledge of art, literature, music, and opera.

'Quiet Elegance: A Remarkable Bequest' supports the museum's goal to share recent acquisitions through an ongoing series of exhibitions. This group of works—which includes a significant painting by Ellsworth Kelly (American, 1923–2005), a wall sculpture by Alexander Calder (American, 1898–1976), and three notable prints by Pablo Picasso (Spanish, 1881–1973)—resonates with the surrounding collection galleries.

In some cases, other works by these artists can be found throughout the Robert & Elisabeth Wilmers Building, whereas others fill important gaps in the collection. Such donations and bequests play a critical role in developing the museum's collection and strengthening existing holdings.

This exhibition is curated by Holly E. Hughes, Godin-Spaulding Senior Curator for the Collection.