

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.