

Press Release

Brooklyn Museum



Image: Ed Clark (American, born 1926). *Untitled*, 1978–80. Acrylic on canvas, 66 x 77 in. (168 x 195 cm). Courtesy of Weiss Berlin and the artist. © Ed Clark. (Photo: Studio Lepkowski)

The Brooklyn Museum Acquires Work by Ed Clark at Frieze through The LIFEWTR Fund

The Brooklyn Museum has acquired *Untitled* (1978–80), a large-scale abstract painting by the American artist **Ed Clark**, which will join the Museum's permanent collection through the generous support of The LIFEWTR Fund at Frieze New York.

Born in 1926 in New Orleans, Ed Clark is an abstract painter who is considered one of the early innovators of the shaped canvas. The Museum's new acquisition is an early example of the artist's push-broom technique, which allowed him to move paint swiftly across the canvas in wide, bold strokes. The painting will be included in the Museum's upcoming presentation of *Soul of a Nation: Art in the Age of Black Power*, opening September 14, 2018.

The work was selected by a panel composed of the Brooklyn Museum's Shelby White and Leon Levy Director, **Anne Pasternak**; Deputy Director and Chief Curator, **Jennifer Chi**; and curators **Eugenie Tsai**, **Catherine Morris**, **Ashley James**, and **Carmen Hermo**. The fund is chaired and organized by **Olga Osminkina**, Vice President, Hydration & Innovation, Global Beverage Group, PepsiCo.

Anne Pasternak stated: "We're so grateful to Frieze and LIFEWTR for the continued partnership and opportunity to acquire this important work by Ed Clark from the late 1970s—the first work of the artist's to enter our collection. The acquisition further deepens our commitment to African American artists and we're thrilled to include the painting in our upcoming exhibition, *Soul of a Nation: Art in the Age of Black Power*, which will also include the work by Virginia Jaramillo that we added to our collection last year through the support of the fund."

LIFEWTR, a premium water brand committed to advancing and showcasing sources of creativity, contributed \$100,000 to support the Museum's acquisition of *Untitled*, purchased at Frieze New

York. The LIFEWTR Fund was launched last year, when it made possible the Museum's acquisition of *Untitled* (1971), by **Virginia Jaramillo**.

Olga Osminkina said: "LIFEWTR is committed to advancing emerging artists in everything we do. We are so proud that The LIFEWTR Fund can make a lasting impact and deliver on our purpose of supporting the creative community. Frieze and the Brooklyn Museum are wonderful partners, now close members of our family, and together we are committed to supporting creativity one initiative at a time."

Loring Randolph, Artistic Director, Frieze Fairs, added: "Following the fund's exceptional acquisition last year by Virginia Jaramillo—which has been touring from Tate Modern to Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, and soon will be at the Brooklyn Museum—it is not surprising to me that LIFEWTR has the vision and desire this year to deepen its commitment to the fund with a \$100,000.00 contribution. I want to personally thank LIFEWTR for their partnership with Frieze, especially for their contribution to Frieze New York and to the Brooklyn Museum with the large increase of the dollar amount for the acquisition fund. This is an enormous contribution to the cultural fabric of this city—and the Brooklyn Museum could not be more deserving of this gift."

About the Brooklyn Museum: Founded in 1823 as the Brooklyn Apprentices' Library Association, the Brooklyn Museum houses one of the nation's most comprehensive and wide-ranging collections and has a distinguished record of exhibitions, scholarship, and service to the public. The Museum's vast holdings span five thousand years of human creativity from cultures in every corner of the globe. Highlights include the world-class ancient Egyptian collection and the arts of the Americas, encompassing pre-Columbian art, Spanish colonial painting, Native American art, and nineteenth- and early twentieth-century American painting, sculpture, and decorative objects. The Museum is also home to the Elizabeth A. Sackler Center for Feminist Art, which is dedicated to the study and exhibition of feminist art and is the only curatorial center of its kind. The Brooklyn Museum is both a leading cultural institution and a community museum dedicated to serving a wide-ranging audience. Located in the heart of Brooklyn, the Museum welcomes and celebrates the diversity of its home borough and city. Few, if any, museums in the country attract an audience as varied as Brooklyn Museum's with respect to race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, educational background, and age.

About LIFEWTR: LIFEWTR, supporter of The LIFEWTR Fund, is a premium water brand committed to advancing and showcasing sources of creativity. LIFEWTR has been named the Official Global Water and Emerging Program Partner for Frieze and has entered into a wide-ranging, multifaceted global partnership with Frieze that will further the brand's commitment to supporting emerging artists through various touchpoints, beginning with a robust activation at Frieze New York that includes the introduction of The LIFEWTR Fund; a series of panel discussions around the theme "Art Beyond Borders"; and the announcement of LIFEWTR's sponsorship of the Frieze Academy.

About Frieze: Frieze is the world's leading platform for modern and contemporary art for scholars, connoisseurs, collectors, and the general public alike. Frieze publishes three magazines—*frieze*, *Frieze Masters Magazine*, and *Frieze Week*—and organizes four international art fairs—Frieze London, Frieze Masters, Frieze New York, and Frieze Los Angeles. Additionally, Frieze organizes a program of special courses and lectures in London through Frieze Academy.

Frieze was founded in 1991 by Matthew Slotover and Amanda Sharp, with the launch of *frieze*, the leading international magazine of contemporary art and culture. In 2003 Slotover and Sharp launched Frieze London art fair, which takes place each October in Regent's Park, London. In 2012 they launched Frieze New York, which occurs each May in Randall's Island Park, and Frieze Masters, which coincides with Frieze London in October and is dedicated to art from ancient to modern. In 2018 Frieze announced the launch of Frieze Los Angeles, which will take place February 14–17, 2019, at Paramount Pictures Studios, Los Angeles.