

# CAPE ANN Museum

## ***Cape Ann Modern* features 20<sup>th</sup> century works by modernist artists**

*Special exhibition on view: Feb. 26 to April 6, 2022*



*Zygmund Jankowski (1925-2009). Table Top II, c. early 1960s. Oil on canvas. Gift of Myra Hall, 2013. [Accession # 2013.94]*

GLOUCESTER, MASS. (February 2022) – [Cape Ann Modern](#) is a special exhibition drawn from Cape Ann Museum’s permanent collection and spotlights the works of modernist artists who found inspiration in the region during the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. Included are works by more than 22 artists including Zygmund Jankowski, Sam Feinstein, Elaine Wing, and George Aarons. Recent acquisitions on view will include works by Thorpe Feidt, Celia Eldridge, and Vivian Berman.

Artists working on Cape Ann during the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, who experimented with abstract styles and explored fresh subject matter, broke new ground with their work. The “modernists,” as the late Boston art critic Dorothy Adlow called them, moved boldly away from the established forms of art associated with the area, leaving behind the traditional land and seascapes created by Cape Ann School painters and the figurative sculptures modeled by artists who followed in the footsteps of Charles Grafly.

Academic painters like Emile Gruppé, Aldro Hibbard, and Margaret Fitzhugh Browne continued to create and exhibit their work. “Increasingly, however, they were joined by a more *edgy* progressive group of men and women who worked in a range of mediums, exhibited their work wherever they could and in doing so succeeded in engaging new and diverse audiences,” said Cape Ann Museum Curator Martha Oaks who organized the show.

On exhibit will be works by the *modernists* who found inspiration here on Cape Ann, dating from the mid-1930s through the 1990s and a critical mass from the 1950s. Among them are: Roger Martin (1925-2015), Dehirsh Margules (1899-1965), Tom O’Hara (1920-1981), Vivian Berman (1926-2016), Bernard Chaet (1924-2012), Sam Feinstein (1915-2003), Alfred Levitt (1894-2000), Elaine Wing (b. 1931), Jan Matulka (1890-1972), Robert Anderson (1934-2016), Thorpe Feidt (b. 1940), Celia Eldridge, Zygmund Jankowski (1925-2009), Albert Alcalay (1917-2008), and George Aarons (1896-1980).

“Cape Ann has been an internationally significant destination for artists, sculptors, poets, and writers to work for well over a century,” said Cape Ann Museum Director Oliver Barker. “The Museum is dedicated to celebrating the local artists who continue to produce compelling, inspiring works of art spurred by Cape Ann as a place to this day. And, as we plan to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Museum’s founding in 2025, we are looking to strategically expand our collection, particularly with artwork from the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century.”

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*The Cape Ann Museum, founded in 1875, exists to preserve and celebrate the history and culture of the area and to keep it relevant to today’s audiences. Spanning 44,000 square feet, the Museum is one of the major cultural institutions on Boston’s North Shore welcoming more than 25,000 local, national, and international visitors each year to its exhibitions and programs. In addition to fine art, the Museum’s collections include decorative art, textiles, artifacts from the maritime and granite industries, three historic homes, a Library & Archives and a sculpture park in the heart of downtown Gloucester. In Summer 2021, the Museum opened the 12,000 square foot Janet & William Ellery James Center at the [Cape Ann Museum Green](#). The campus also includes three historic buildings – the White-Ellery House (1710), the recently acquired Babson-Alling House (c.1740), and an adjacent Barn (c. 1740), all located on the site at the intersection of Washington and Poplar Streets in Gloucester. CAM Green will re-open in the spring.*

*The Cape Ann Museum is located at 27 Pleasant Street in Gloucester and is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is \$12.00 adults, \$10.00 Cape Ann residents, seniors, and students. Youth (under 18) and Museum members are free. Cape Ann residents can visit for free on the second Saturday of each month. For more information please call (978)283-0455 x110 or visit [www.capeannmuseum.org](http://www.capeannmuseum.org). For a detailed media fact sheet please visit [www.capeannmuseum.org/press](http://www.capeannmuseum.org/press).*

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