

# Lauren Olitski

## *A Glimmer, 2017*

30 x 14 inches

Acrylic and metallic pigment on canvas

*Opening Bid - \$1800*

In September of 1963 as a six year old child my family moved to South Shaftsbury, Vermont. My father, Jules Olitski, had been appointed to the art faculty of Bennington College. At the time my father's generation of artists were considered "difficult", "unconventional", or as Clement Greenberg wrote in his introduction to *Three New American Painters - Louis, Noland, Olitski*, when it opened in Regina Saskatchewan in January, 1963 "*...(the) official art world in New York still feels too much challenged by this kind of art...*" He goes on to praise the Norman Mackenzie Art Gallery in Regina as "*unusual*" for taking on the exhibit of "*...three such very new artists...*" He writes, "*The only place north of the Rio Grande where it has been done before is ...Bennington College...*" Bennington College, in addition to giving Morris Louis, Kenneth Noland and Jules Olitski one person exhibitions, Greenberg notes, is also where "*...artists like Pollock, Gottlieb, Motherwell and Newman were given retrospectives before anyone else ventured to do so.*"

Suffice to say in the early 1960s, Bennington was very much at the heart of an abstract art revolution. To me the critics that came through our house in those years, Clement Greenberg, Michael Fried, Charles Millard, Kenworth Moffett, and the artists, Kenneth Noland, Anthony Caro, Larry Poons, Frank Stella, and more, were the artistic family I grew up with. I continue to be influenced and challenged by the art that was born of that time and am honored to be selected for this exhibit inspired by the Bennington artists of the 1960s.

Lauren Olitski

November, 2018



220. Olitski with his daughter, Lauren, at home in South Shaftesbury. c. 1964. Diamond painting by Kenneth Noland and an early experimental spray picture by Olitski (*Pizzazz*, 1963), at right  
Photograph by Ugo Mulas, Jules Olitski by Kenworth Moffett, 1981