

## ALDEN MASON | *A TEACHER'S LEGACY*

June 3 – July 24

*A Teacher's Legacy* is a collection of archived works made by students of Alden Mason's during his 32-year tenure at the University of Washington. The works are on view at Foster/White Gallery on behalf of the Alden Mason Foundation, and proceeds of the sale of the works will go towards the forming of a Fine Arts Scholarship in Alden Mason's name at the University of Washington.

Most notably, the collection includes a watercolor painting made by Chuck Close when he was a student of Mason's. Close credits Mason with having had an immense impact on his career:

"Alden Mason was my teacher, my mentor, and my friend. He has probably had more impact on my work and my career than any other person. I wouldn't be who I am today—or as successful—if it weren't for Alden.

I consider him to be the greatest painter to come out of the Pacific Northwest—for me, even greater than Mark Tobey or Morris Graves. I studied with him from 1960–62. He was encouraging, inspiring, and often tough on me—probably when I needed it. I visited him often after I left for Yale and for the rest of his life whenever I was in Seattle, and he visited me several times in New York. Luckily, we talked a week before he died and I was able to tell him about the impact he had on me, my life, and my work, and that I loved him like a father."

-Chuck Close

*Remembrance from the 2013 exhibition Alden Mason: In Memoriam 1919–2013, at the Wright Space, Seattle*

Close's painting will be available via an auction organized by Foster/White Gallery on behalf of the Alden Mason Foundation.

The artworks included in *A Teacher's Legacy* reflect the types of assignments and exercises Mason gave his students, and his singular approach in imparting his artistic knowledge, ease, and processes. Mason used the pieces here as examples for student assignments. They range broadly in media and style and include work from design, watercolor, mixed media and drawing classes he taught. With the exception of the Chuck Close painting, each of the student pieces is available for \$100.

Alden Mason's retrospective exhibition at the Bellevue Arts Museum, *Fly Your Own Thing*, is on view through October 10, 2021.

CHUCK CLOSE

For ALDEN -  
WITHOUT WHOM THIS BOOK  
WOULD CERTAINLY CONTAIN  
VERY DIFFERENT WORK -  
IF IT EXISTED AT ALL.  
MANY THANKS FOR YOUR  
HELP, INFLUENCE & YOUR  
ENCOURAGEMENT. YOU WERE  
MY BIGGEST INSPIRATION  
& INFLUENCE.  
WITH SINCERE  
AFFECTION,  
Chuck