

Konrad Cramer

Dates: 1888-1963

Residency: Wurzburg, Munich, Germany. Woodstock, New York.

Bio: Cramer was born in Wurzburg, Germany and studied at the Karlsruhe Academy from 1906-1908. He moved to Munich in 1910 where he became familiar with cubist art by Pablo Picasso and George Braque. Soon after, he was influenced by the abstract work and ideas of the Blaue Reiter group, which included Wassily Kandinsky and Franz Marc. These artists veered from realistic representation and instead focused on individual interpretation and expression of emotions. Cramer met and married American art student Florence Ballin. The two immigrated to America in 1911, settled in Woodstock, New York, and became fixtures of the artist community there. Cramer founded the Woodstock Art Association and the Woodstock School of Painting, where he introduced the community to non-objective European modernism. During his first decade in America, Cramer's paintings were purely abstract. He began a pioneering series of non-objective paintings before the important Armory Show in 1913. Although he was primarily an abstract painter, Cramer was influenced by the conservative wave of World War I and began painting portraits and still lifes. In the 1920's, Cramer taught at the Woodstock School of Painting and the Dalton School for Girls in New York City. At the Dalton School, Cramer painted a radical and abstract mural. In the 1930's, Cramer began to focus on photography. The artist took photographs for the Works Progress Administration while pursuing his own modern photograms, photo-montages, and photographic studies of light in motion. Cramer died in Woodstock on January 28, 1963.



Untitled (Vessels), 1949 vintage solarized gelatin silver print

9-7/8 x 8 inches

More info: http://www.hollistaggart.com/artists/biography/konrad_cramer/

<http://www.zabriskiegallery.com/exhibition.php?ex=42&page=115>