

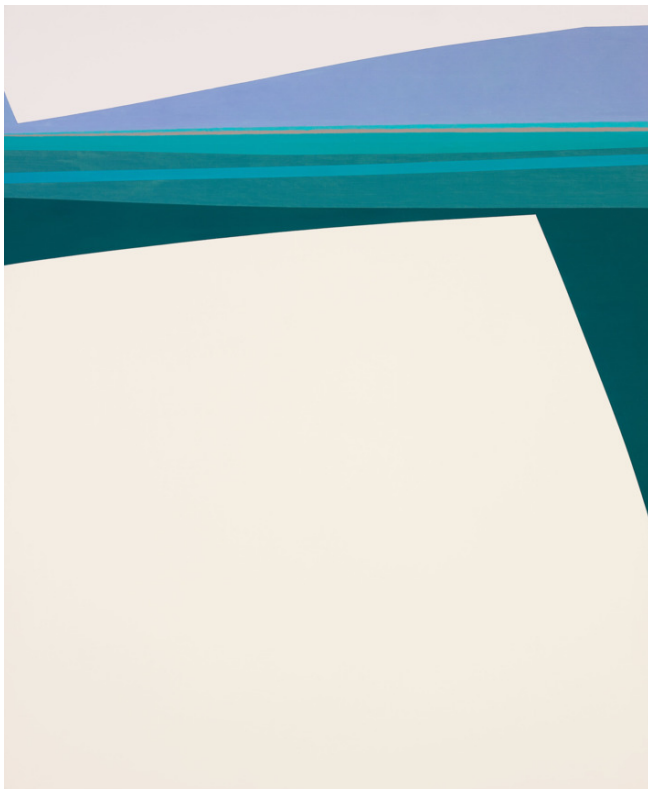
CRISTIN TIERNEY

NEW YORK

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## A Pioneering Female Artist Painted These Zen Landscapes

By Lena Rawley



Seascape by Helen Lundeberg, 1962. Photo: ©The Feitelson / Lundeberg Art Foundation

***The late painter Helen Lundeberg planned to become a writer until a class with artist Lorser Feitelson changed her mind. Feitelson saw great potential in Lundeberg, encouraged her to pursue art, and helped her show her first piece, “Apple Harvest,” at a gallery in San Diego. The two developed a close relationship through art and later married. In 1934, they founded the Post-Surrealist art movement in Southern California, pairing realistic elements with fantastical elements — like painting real people in dreamlike landscapes.***

***Unlike her European contemporaries who used dreamy imagery,***

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***Lundeberg's Post-Surrealist works portrayed carefully planned, concrete subjects. In the 1960s, the art form led her to explore geometric abstraction in landscapes, still lifes, and interiors. Her work during that time helped pioneer California hard-edge painting, a technique that uses abrupt transitions between the colors. It became one of the most distinct American abstract-painting styles of the decade.***

***The exhibit "Helen Lundeberg: Classic Attitude," on view at Cristin Tierney Gallery in New York until December 17, showcases the painter's groundbreaking hard-edged works from the early '60s. Considered to be her finest and most distinguished body of work, the paintings vary in subject matter — like paintings of architecture and nature — while sharing balanced composition and Zen-like subtleties of color.***