

# PACE

For Immediate Release

## Louise Nevelson

229 Hamilton Avenue

Palo Alto, CA

September 29 – December 11, 2016



*Palo Alto, CA* — Pace Palo Alto is pleased to announce an exhibition of works by Louise Nevelson, highlighting the artist's practice from the mid-1950s until her death in 1988. The exhibition will be on view from September 29 through December 11, 2016 at Pace Palo Alto located at 229 Hamilton Avenue in California. An iconic and vital figure in post-war New York, Louise Nevelson was widely regarded for her groundbreaking sculptural environments as well as her collages, both of which will be in this large survey show.

Nevelson created her first assemblages in the mid-1950s and quickly made an impact in the New York art scene with her pioneering approach to sculpture. Inspired by Cubism, Nevelson took scraps of wood and other materials found on the street near her studio and assembled them into free-standing and wall-mounted sculpture that she would paint a solid color—most famously, black or white. Nevelson's sculptures range from small assemblages to free-standing columns and monumental wall-based works consisting of multiple small compartments. Although the physical form of the scraps remains unchanged in her work, Nevelson subsumes them in an entire system, creating a unified whole from disparate parts. She insisted on the psychological and expressive virtue of her work, which was illustrative of a highly personal cosmology rooted in light and shadow.

The artist's early collages, produced at a smaller size than most of her sculptures, provide important insight into her thinking and working process and the importance of wood in her work. Mostly unpainted, the collages reveal Nevelson's use of raw materials, demonstrating an organizational logic that continues in her larger work as well. In addition to Nevelson's iconic black monochrome sculptures, the exhibition will also include steel maquettes Nevelson produced for public sculptures, now exhibited in Chicago and at Harvard University. These works, intended to be viewed in the round, exemplify the heightened architectural quality of her work in the later decades of her career.

### NOTE TO EDITORS

Louise Nevelson (b. 1899 Kiev; d. 1988, New York) emigrated from czarist Russia as a child and grew up in Rockland, Maine. As an adult, she returned to Europe where she studied with Hans Hofmann. Upon her return to the United States, she served as Diego Rivera's assistant and later as an art instructor in the Works Progress Administration. In 1941, she had her first solo exhibition, and in 1946, was included for the first time in the Whitney Annual exhibition, which she would participate in eleven more times. Nevelson

exhibited her first all-black sculptures in the mid-1950s. Although she worked in white and gold and later with painted steel, her developments in the 1950s sustained her work throughout the rest of her life.

She has been the subject of one-artist exhibitions at numerous institutions including The Jewish Museum, New York (1965, 2007); Whitney Museum of American Art, New York (1967, 1970, 1980, 1987, 1998); Moderna Museet, Stockholm (1973); Walker Art Center, Minneapolis (1973); Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York (1986); Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome (1994); Centre national d'art et de culture Georges Pompidou, Paris (1997); Fondazione Roma Museo (2013). She represented the United States at the Venice Biennale in 1962, and her work was again included in the Biennale in 1976. Nevelson's art has also been featured in prominent group exhibitions including *Sixteen Americans*, The Museum of Modern Art, New York (1959–60); *The Art of Assemblage*, The Museum of Modern Art, New York (1961); and Documenta (1964, 1968).

Many of the most prominent museums and public collections in the world hold work by Nevelson. Additionally, the artist's work is permanently installed at several museums, universities, sculpture centers and civic centers in cities such as Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco; New York is home to several of Nevelson's sculptures including a dedicated plaza in Lower Manhattan.

This is Nevelson's twenty-sixth exhibition at Pace since joining the gallery in 1963.

In October 2016, Thames & Hudson will release the newly published *Louise Nevelson: Light and Shadow*, by Laurie Wilson.

**About Pace Gallery:** Pace is a leading contemporary art gallery representing many of the most significant international artists and estates of the 20th and 21st centuries. Founded by Arne Glimcher in Boston in 1960 and led by Marc Glimcher, Pace has been a constant, vital force in the art world and has introduced many renowned artists' work to the public for the first time. Over the past five decades, the gallery has mounted more than 800 exhibitions, including scholarly shows that have subsequently traveled to museums, and has published over 400 exhibition catalogues. Today, Pace has locations worldwide: four galleries in New York, two in London, a 25,000 square-foot gallery in Beijing, and exhibition spaces in Hong Kong and Paris; with a west coast presence with Pace Art + Technology in Menlo Park, California and the newly opened gallery in Palo Alto, California.

[www.pacegallery.com](http://www.pacegallery.com)

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