

Lee Bontecou and Louise Nevelson

This focus exhibition brings together eight works from the museum's collection by American artists Lee Bontecou (born 1931) and Louise Nevelson (1899–1988). Iconic pieces familiar to museum visitors are on view, along with seldom seen objects including sculptures, prints, and a newly acquired drawing. Two of the most influential artists from the latter half of the 20th century, Bontecou and Nevelson were trailblazers in the art world. Their assemblage sculptures were often large scale and created from industrial materials such as wood, canvas, metal, and plastic—media traditionally considered to belong to a male domain. Bontecou's artworks can appear ominous or foreboding, with futuristic references to outer space, along with contemporary concerns surrounding war and environmental damage; while Nevelson's sculptures display an interest in modern formalism, and relate to architectural motifs and the built environment. Painted black, they resonate a sense of spirituality as they work to create order out of chaos.