

# ALTMAN SIEGEL

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## *Adaline Kent's Circle*

Ansel Adams, Victor Arnautoff, Ruth Asawa, Jane Berlandina, Elmer Bischoff, Dorr Bothwell, Imogen Cunningham, Gordon Onslow Ford, Charles Houghton Howard, John Langley Howard, Robert B. Howard, Ray Johnson, Madge Knight, David Park, Betty Parsons, and Diego Rivera

May 30 – July 13, 2024

Altman Siegel is pleased to present *Adaline Kent's Circle*, an exhibition of photographs, letters, drawings, paintings, and sculptures from the family and friends of renowned Bay Area artist Adaline Kent (1900-1957). Kent was member of the San Francisco Bay Area's most prolific midcentury artistic circle. The exhibition places the work of this Bay Area legend within the context of the dynamic artistic milieu in which she lived and worked.

In marrying Robert B. Howard, Kent joined the "First Family of Bay Area Modernism" including architect John Galen Howard, who designed the Campanile at the University of California Berkeley; surrealist painter Charles Howard and his wife Madge Knight; social realist muralist and printmaker John Langley Howard; architect of Coit Tower, Henry Temple Howard, and his wife artist Jane Berlandina.

Adaline maintained close artistic friendships throughout her life and the exhibition includes letters from fellow artists, Dorr Bothwell and Ray Johnson, as well as a painted invitation from Gordon Onslow Ford and a portrait of Adaline Kent by Victor Arnautoff, her classmate at California School of Fine Arts. Kent was acquainted with Diego Rivera, who stayed at the "Monkey Block" with his wife Frida Kahlo while working on his *Allegory of California* fresco for the San Francisco Stock Exchange in the 1930s. She shared a drawing group with David Park and Elmer Bischoff, and Mark Rothko stayed in her family home while teaching in San Francisco during the summers of 1947 and 1949. Adaline studied with master calligrapher Hodo Tobase in 1955 alongside Gordon Onslow Ford and Ruth Asawa.

Photographs of the artist, her sculpting tools and a travel journal are featured alongside the work of her family and friends. The exhibition highlights the creative community that Kent was in conversation with throughout her career.

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