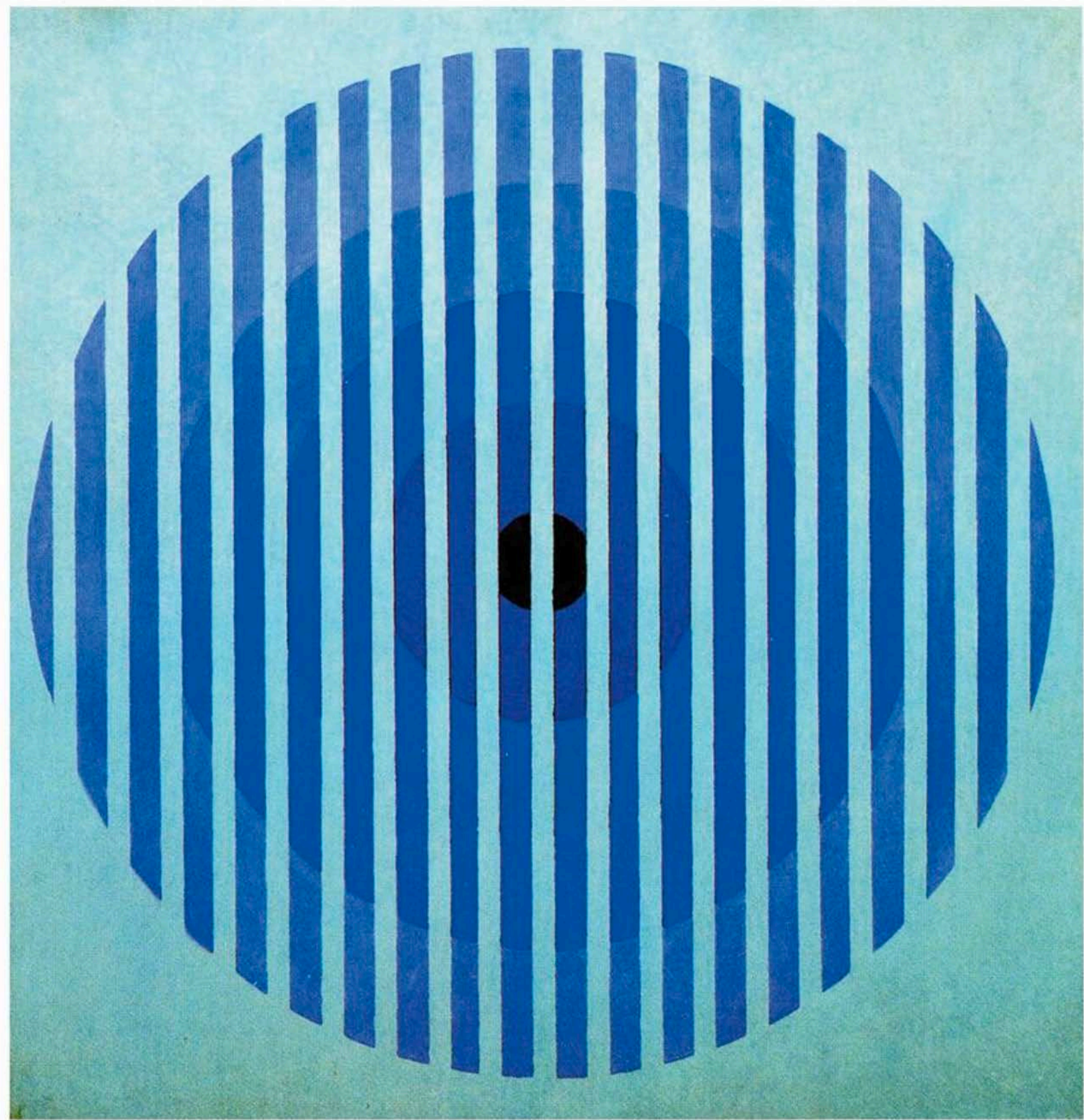


# PAST/PRESENT

AMERICAN ABSTRACT ARTIST MEMBERS  
HONOR THEIR PREDECESSORS

A M E R I C A N   A B S T R A C T   A R T I S T S  
VOLUME 6 | 2023



Mac Wells, *Lavender Blue #2*, 1965, acrylic with oil glaze on Masonite, 37.5 × 36 inches  
Courtesy of Susanna J. Fichera Fine Art, Brunswick, Maine

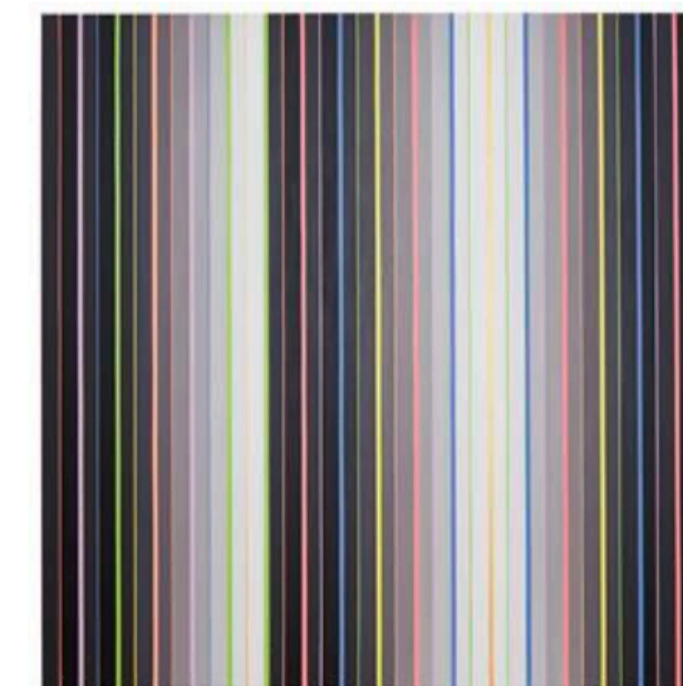
## MAC WELLS

(1925–2009)

Mac Wells's *The Graded Value Series* is a remarkable body of work that goes beyond the concerns of formal, geometric expression. *Lavender Blue #2*, which is a part of this series, is a symmetrical circular motif with each circle painted in progressively lighter gradations of blue. With prolonged observation, we detect that the entirety of the color impression is sensed as a visual emotional quality. Crucially, it is intensified by its negative after-image—a bright orange. This motif suggests the sensation of sight—or perhaps the sun—a flickering yellow orange light hovering above the blue painted surface.

Soft-spoken, a devotee of Zen Buddhism, and interested in all matters of the mind, Wells was persistently attentive to meditation. His work locates us in a luminous space, experienced as a transformation; it momentarily turns the ordinary into serene rapture.

—GABRIELE EVERTZ



Gabriele Evertz  
*End/Begin*  
2018  
acrylic on canvas  
72 × 72 inches