

PRESS RELEASE**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****PERLE FINE: NINTH STREET WOMAN OPENS AT BERRY CAMPBELL*****Perle Fine: Ninth Street Woman* | September 10 – October 24, 2026**

August 10, 2026, New York, NY– Berry Campbell is pleased to announce *Perle Fine: Ninth Street Woman*, an exhibition of paintings by the pioneering Abstract Expressionist Perle Fine (1905–1988). Spanning the 1940s through the early 1960s, Fine’s most celebrated period, this exhibition explores an important but long-underrecognized artist from the New York School and a woman who stood at the center of Abstract Expressionism.

This marks Perle Fine’s third exhibition at Berry Campbell, and it brings together fifteen of her most rare, important, and coveted paintings and works on paper. The exhibition highlights Fine’s remarkable ability to balance gesture, color, and structure in a purely abstract language. The show’s centerpiece, *Wall of Silence* (1961), is a monumental diptych approximately fourteen feet in length, exemplifying Fine’s ambitious approach to scale. Coming directly from the artist’s estate, this painting juxtaposes Fine’s iconic sweeping gestures with its large geometric fields. Other key works from the 1950s include *Aftermath of a Sweeping Storm* (1958) and *Pounding Surf* (1959). These works will be presented alongside several paintings from Fine’s *Prescience Series* from the early 1950s, which explore Fine’s interest in softer colors, atmosphere, and curvilinear forms, a series that anticipated the Color Field movement by almost a decade. The earliest works in the show from the 1940s include *Bristling* (1946) and *Soft Spot* (1945), showcasing Fine’s lifelong exploration of the grid.

Perle Fine’s commitment to abstraction was grounded in a rigorous artistic education. She studied at the Grand Central Art School and the Art Students League in New York before studying with Hans Hofmann, both in New York and at his summer school in Provincetown. Fine joined the American Abstract Artists group in 1946 and was among the eleven women included in the landmark 1951 *Ninth Street Exhibition*, the groundbreaking exhibition that brought together the artists who would define the New York School. She was also one of the first women admitted as a voting member of the 8th Street Club, “The Club,” the influential gathering place for the downtown avant-garde.

Perle Fine exhibited extensively during her lifetime, including at Art of this Century, Betty Parsons Gallery, Stable Gallery, Tanager Gallery, and Graham Gallery. She is in numerous museum collections, including the Brooklyn Museum; the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.; the Metropolitan Museum of Art; the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum; and the Whitney Museum of American Art. Fine’s historical significance has received renewed recognition in recent years. Her work was included in the Denver Art Museum’s groundbreaking 2016 exhibition *Women of Abstract Expressionism*, which brought together the work of twelve women artists associated with the movement. She is also currently featured in *Abstract Expressionists: The Women*, a traveling museum exhibition organized by the American Federation of Arts from the FAMM (Female Artists of the Mougins Museum) collection.

Perle Fine: Ninth Street Woman offers a rare opportunity to explore a group of Fine’s most important works from the 1940s to the early 1960s and to recognize her sustained contributions and achievements as part of the New York School. Forthcoming in December 2026, Berry Campbell is producing a fully illustrated 98-page hardcover monograph featuring color reproductions and an essay by art historian and former Director of the Pollock-Krasner House, Helen A. Harrison. The exhibition opens on Thursday, September 10, 2026, with a reception from 6 to 8 pm and continues through October 24, 2026.

ABOUT THE GALLERY

Christine Berry and Martha Campbell founded Berry Campbell Gallery in 2013 in a 1,000-square-foot gallery in Chelsea. Now housed in a custom-built, 9,000-square-foot location on one of Chelsea’s most prestigious blocks, Berry Campbell Gallery has cemented its position among New York City galleries as a champion of artists historically marginalized due to gender, race, age, and geography.

BERRY CAMPBELL

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Central to Berry and Campbell's collective vision is a blend of scholarly dedication and enduring desire to honor their artists' lives and work. Focusing on a selection of postwar and contemporary artists, the gallery addresses a critical gap in art history, revealing a depth within American Modernism that is only now coming to light. Notably, since its inception, Berry Campbell has elevated the profiles of postwar Abstract Expressionist women like Bernice Bing, Lynne Drexler, Perle Fine, Judith Godwin, and Ethel Schwabacher, presented alongside a growing roster of contemporary talents such as Nanette Carter, Beverly McIver, and Susan Vecsey, to name a few.

Berry Campbell's signature ability to construct new narratives for artists lost to art history has caught the attention of the wider art world, with participation in renowned fairs like Art Basel and Frieze and artist placement within prestigious institutions worldwide. Situated at 524 W 26th Street, the gallery's current location boasts 4,500 square feet of exhibition space, including a skylit main gallery, four smaller galleries, private viewing areas, a library, executive offices, and extensive on-site storage.

Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. or by request. For further information, visit the gallery's [website](#) and follow on [Instagram](#) or [Facebook](#).

Press Inquiries

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