

Shape, Ground, Shadow: The Photographs of Ellsworth Kelly

Overview

This landmark exhibition features 60 photographs by renowned American artist Ellsworth Kelly (1923–2015), who perceptively created a commanding body of abstract art drawn from forms he found in the everyday world. Extraordinary works of art in their own right, Kelly's photographs allow viewers to precisely see how the artist registered the shapes, shadows, and other visual phenomena that resonated within his work in other media over seven decades. This is the very first museum exhibition solely devoted to Kelly's photographs, which are being lent by the Ellsworth Kelly Foundation in Spencertown, New York.

The Santa Barbara Museum of Art is the only West Coast museum participating in **EK100**, the 2023 centennial celebration of Kelly's birth with exhibitions at The Museum of Modern Art, New York; Art Institute of Chicago; Glenstone Museum, Potomac, MD; Philadelphia Museum of Art; La Fondazione Nicola Del Roscio, Rome; and further international venues in 2024.