

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 23, 2011



Al Held, Untitled, 1967, 20 1/2 x 24 3/4 Inches

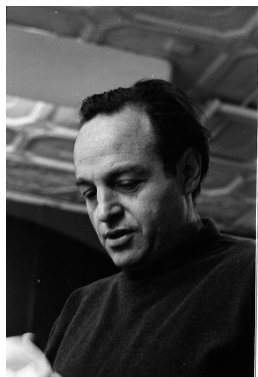
AL HELD: BLACK AND WHITE, 1967

March 1- April 14, 2012

Join us for an opening reception on March 1st from 6-8 PM

Catalog featuring an essay by [Robert Storr](#) is available online and at the gallery.

Loretta Howard Gallery is pleased to present "Al Held: Black and White 1967." This exhibition highlights early black and white works from a pivotal moment in the artist's career before his monumental black and white paintings of the late '60s and '70s. Here we see the



artist as he turns a corner, playing with scale, space and geometry but still dedicated to the physical realities of painting. Held's forms vibrate and collide in space, marking the artist's shift from flat color to optical geometry and tearing open the picture plane of Abstract Expressionism.

Art Historian Robert Storr writes: "What he was trying to do was to muscle painting back into three dimensions without betraying its character as painting or his own long-standing commitment to the primacy of gesture."

Exceptional in their own right, these pictures mark the beginning of an almost four decade long dialog wherein Held changed the language of abstraction.

Al Held, Photo by Andre Emmerich

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