

VAN DOREN
WAXTER

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James Brooks at Van Doren Waxter, New York

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James Brooks: Familiar World 1942 – 1982. Installation View
(Courtesy: Van Doren Waxter)

Van Doren Waxter, New York is hosting an exhibition by artist James Brooks, “Familiar World 1942 – 1982”, on view through June 23, 2017.

The exhibition brings together small-scale paintings by Abstract Expressionist artist James Brooks (1906–1992), tracing the evolution of his career over a period spanning four decades. Starting his career in New York City in 1926, during the Great Depression, James Brooks worked as a muralist under the Works Progress Administration and studied representational painting at the Art Students League. In 1942, he had to move to the Middle-East to serve in the United States Army as an Art Correspondent, the same period when Abstract Expressionism as an established movement started taking place in the United States. Upon his return to New York in 1945, Brooks shifted his artistic practice from representational painting toward abstraction, drawing inspiration from his friendships with peers such as Jackson Pollock, Philip Guston, and Bradley Walker Tomlin. His works also saw a large influence from the synthetic Cubism of Picasso and Braque, as well as impact from the Surrealists. The exhibition, keeping its focal point on the practice of Brooks, presents a larger and unique view into the history of Abstract Expressionism.

The exhibition is on view at Van Doren Waxter, 23 East 73rd Street, New York, NY 10021, USA.