

Kline, Franz (1910-1962)
Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania

EDUCATION/INFLUENCES

- Boston University School of Education, Boston Art Students League, Heatherley' School of Fine Art, London
- Began career with conservative, representational style. Was later influenced by Willem DeKooning.

BIG IDEAS/THEMES

- Possessed Abstract Expressionist ideas-showing emotion on canvas, working abstractly, quickly and with attention to process and materials rather than product
- Called paintings, "situations". Works were well-received, achieved much \$ success
- Began his trademark calligraphic black and white images after using a Bell Opticon projector (borrowed from DeKooning) to project an enlarged version of a drawing. Image was so large that it became completely abstract-just dark lines and white voids.
- Wife spent 12 years in hospital-depression and schizophrenia. Kline died in 1962 from rheumatic heart trouble.

KIA WORK-*Red Crayon*, oil and crayon on canvas, 1959

- Painted at end of artist's life-turned back to color after 10 years only black and white
- Sensuous color and gestural style give work great emotion. Crayon marks are unique in his works.
- Added to KIA same year as Diebenkorn and Calder. Most frequently requested work for loan-exhibitions throughout U.S., Europe and Mexico and has been reproduced in numerous catalogues on Kline's work.

