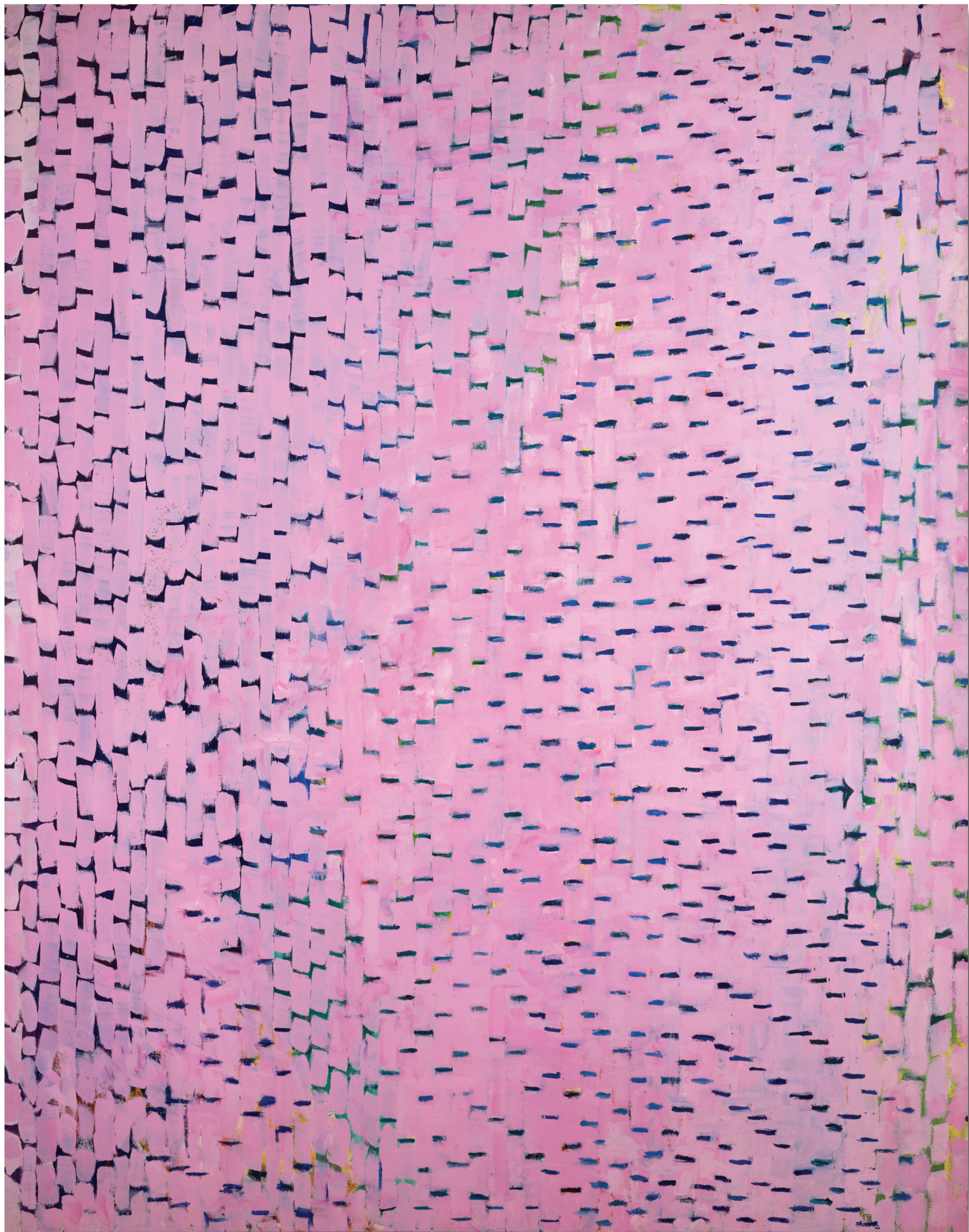


# *Alma Thomas*



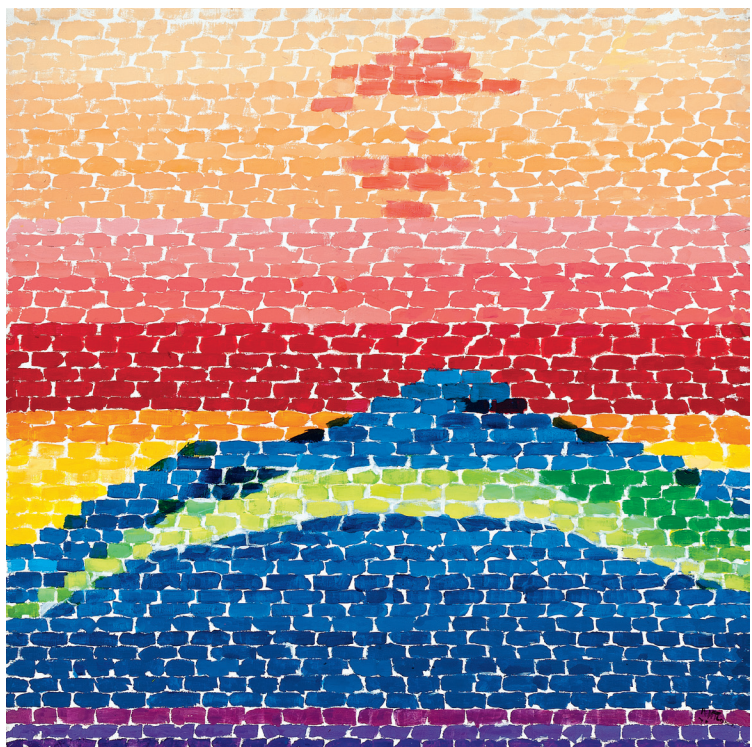
**February 6 – June 5, 2016**

**Tang Teaching Museum**

# Alma Thomas



Alma Thomas, 1976 by Michael Fischer, Courtesy of the National Museum of American Art, Smithsonian Institution



Alma Thomas, *Approaching Storm at Sunset*, 1973. Acrylic and graphite on canvas, 50 1/4 x 50 1/4 inches. Courtesy of Michael Rosenfeld, New York, NY.



Alma Thomas, 1971 by Ida Jervis

Front: Alma Thomas, *Cherry Blossom Symphony*, 1973. Acrylic on canvas, 69 x 54 inches. Collection of halley k harrisburg and Michael Rosenfeld, New York, NY

*Alma Thomas* examines the evolution of an artist who created a highly personal style that expanded upon traditional Abstract Expressionist and Washington Color School practices through experimentation with abstraction, color, line, and pattern. Thomas, who focused on her artistic career after retiring as a school teacher at the age of 69, charted her own course as an African-American woman within Washington, D.C.'s largely white and male mid-20th-century artistic community. She often cited natural elements as inspiration, and her signature style reflects the influences of Henri Matisse, Josef Albers, and Wassily Kandinsky—featuring loosely painted yet meticulously constructed canvases, filled with latticeworks of bright color creating patterns from negative space.

The exhibition features works from every period in her career, including rarely exhibited watercolors and early abstractions, as well as her signature canvases drawn from a variety of private and public collections.

*Alma Thomas* is curated by Ian Berry, Dayton Director of the Tang Teaching Museum, and Lauren Haynes, Associate Curator, Permanent Collection at The Studio Museum in Harlem. On view February 6 – June 5, 2016, at the Tang Museum and July 14 – October 30, 2016, at The Studio Museum, and is supported by Friends of the Tang.

**Dunkerley Dialogue**  
**Saturday, February 6, 5 pm**

**Opening Reception**  
**Saturday, February 6, 6 – 7:30 pm**

**Curator's Tour**  
**Tuesday, April 12, Noon with**  
**Ian Berry, Dayton Director**

The Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery at Skidmore College  
815 North Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866  
518-580-8080 tang.skidmore.edu

