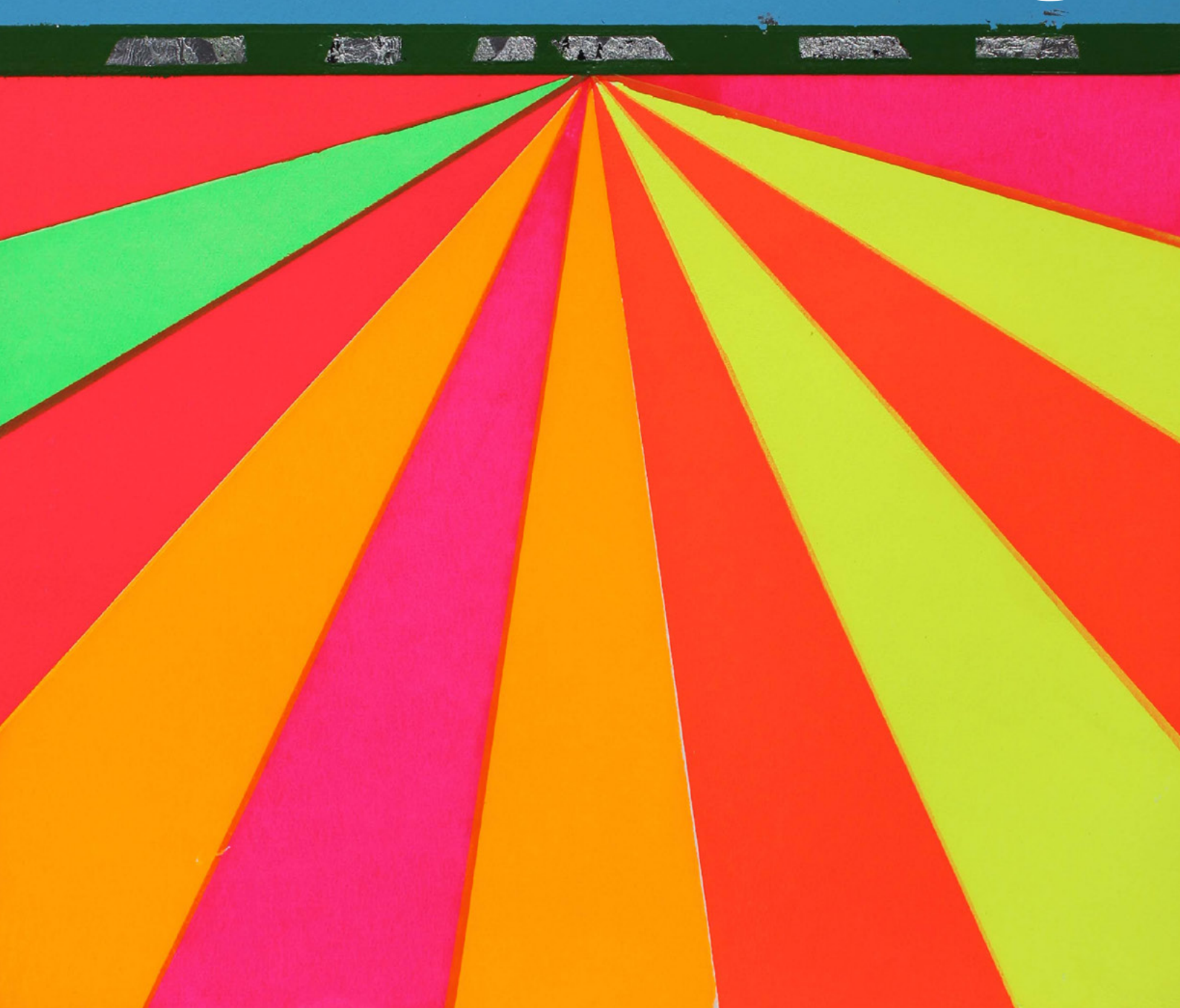
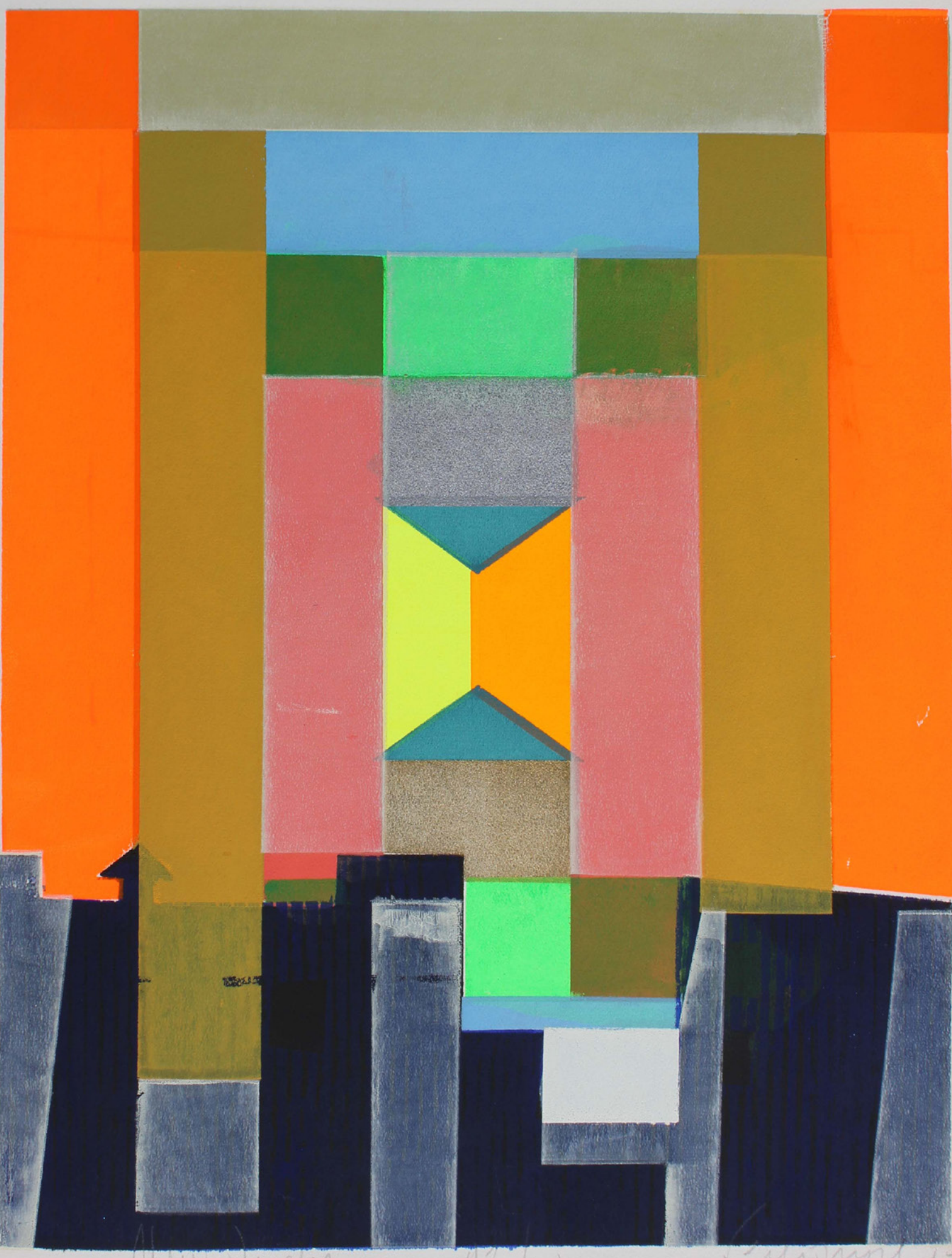


Celebrating
250 Years:
A Journey
Through
America with

Robert Freimark





Celebrating 250 Years: A Journey Through America with Robert Freimark

Between 1960 and 1968, artist Robert Freimark devoted himself to creating an abstract full-sheet color serigraph representing each of the fifty United States of America. This massive suite was completed under the aegis of a California State Colleges Special Creative Leave and was based on impressions and observations gleaned from a personal sojourn to each state, in which Freimark drew firsthand inspiration from each territory's distinct vibe. As he explained, "Each print has been the result of considerable research and refinement to capture aesthetically the central significance of the geographical area involved."

In the 1970s, Freimark exhibited the works featured in this exhibition throughout Europe while on sabbatical with his wife and daughter. The series became the official US bicentennial offering at the 1976 opening of the Amerika Haus in Munich and has since been shown worldwide.

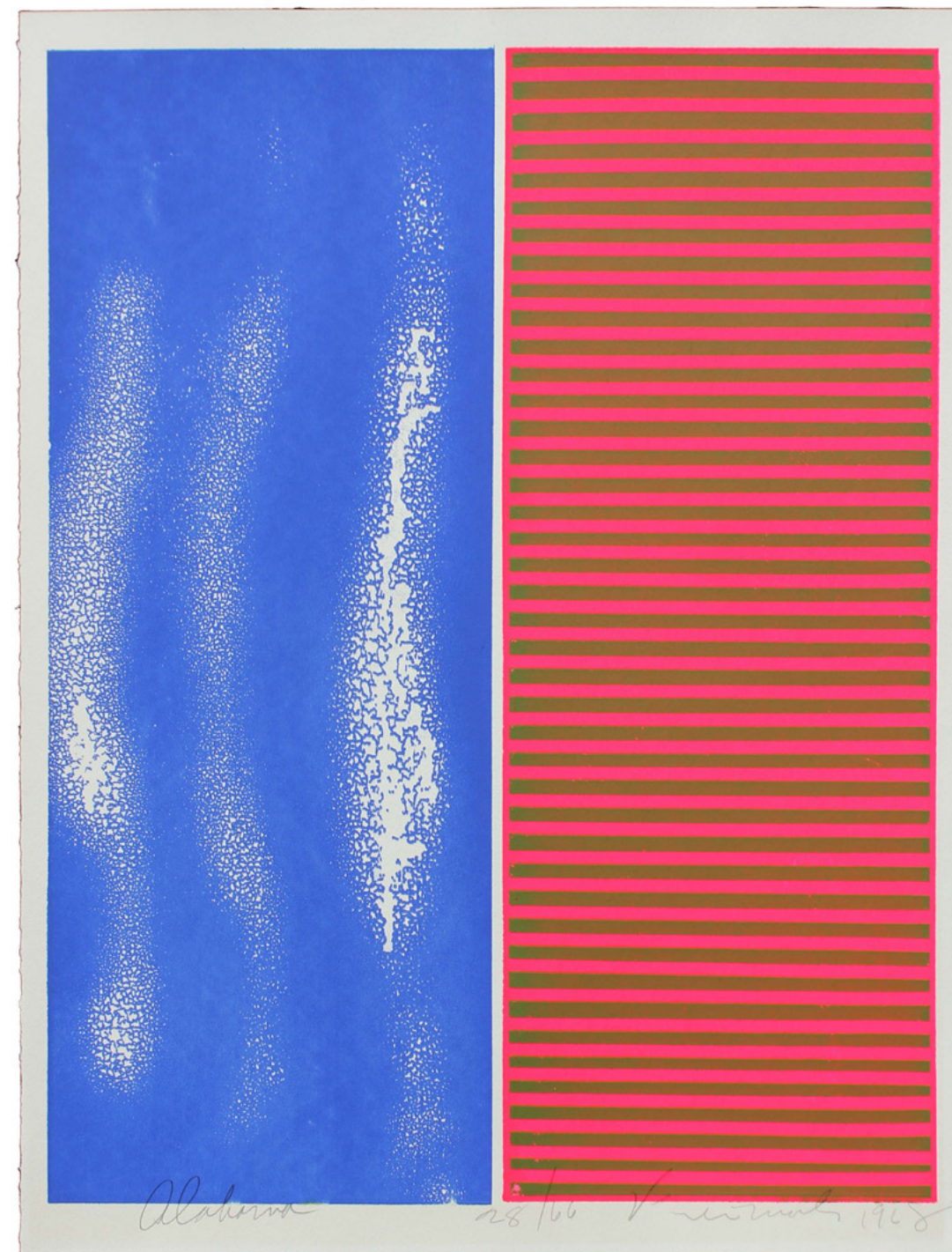
Celebrating 250 Years: A Journey Through America with Robert Freimark provides grand testimony to Freimark's inexhaustible creativity, integrity, work ethic, perpetual curiosity, and passion as an artist. It is also a comprehensive homage to the joys of printmaking—a visual ode honoring place and process.

Opposite Page: Robert Freimark, *New Jersey*, 1967, serigraph, 31½" x 26", Image courtesy of Hohmann, Inc. Photograph by Hohmann, Inc., © Robert Freimark.

Cover: Robert Freimark, *Mississippi*, 1967, serigraph, 31½" x 26", Image courtesy of the Hohmann Gallery. Photograph by Hohmann, Inc., © Robert Freimark.



Robert Freimark, *Illinois*, 1968, serigraph, 31½" x 26",
Image courtesy of Hohmann, Inc. Photograph by
Hohmann, Inc., © Robert Freimark.



Robert Freimark, *Alabama*, 1968, serigraph, 31½" x 26", Image
courtesy of Hohmann, Inc. Photograph by Hohmann, Inc., ©
Robert Freimark.



The Serigraph in Art History

Robert Freimark's *A Journey Through America* reflects an exciting time in the history of printmaking.

The origin of silkscreen printing has been traced to the stencil practices of ancient China and Japan, which utilized a screen-type matrix formed by silken threads to mark textiles. The process gained wider attention in the 1930s, when artist-printmaker Anthony Velonis popularized its artistic possibilities while working for the federal Works Progress Administration. Prior to that, it had largely been used as an industrial technique, due to its adaptability for printing on diverse surfaces such as paper, glass, and fabric. Velonis's experimentations with the medium helped introduce the term *serigraph*, which combines the Latin words "seri" (silk) and "graphos" (to write), to distinguish silkscreen prints created as fine art from those made for commercial purposes.

In 1960s America, due to rapid advances in commercial and graphic design, the art world began to embrace printmaking as a valid creative endeavor. Pop Art giants such as Andy Warhol borrowed heavily from consumer culture and its burgeoning mass-produced imagery—a striking feature of American newspapers, brochures, catalogs, magazines, billboards, posters, etc. This graphic revolution also had a resounding impact on Abstractionism, whose artists, including Robert Freimark, began to eschew traditional materials in favor of these progressive new methods, working with printers and publishers to create bold, dynamic 2-D works.

Freimark's ventures into serigraphy soon led him to visit all fifty American states, an ambitious artistic odyssey that injected his work with vivid firsthand experience, allowing him to connect the states' geographical singularities with their deeper historical contexts.

Robert Freimark, *Kentucky*, 1962-64, serigraph, 26" x 31½",
Image courtesy of Hohmann, Inc. Photograph by Hohmann,
Inc., © Robert Freimark.



Robert Freimark, *Alaska*, 1966, serigraph, 26" x 31½", Image courtesy of Hohmann, Inc. Photograph by Hohmann, Inc., © Robert Freimark.



Robert Freimark, *California*, 1962, serigraph, 26" x 31½", Image courtesy of Hohmann, Inc. Photograph by Hohmann, Inc., © Robert Freimark.



Biography of Robert Freimark

Born in Michigan in 1922, artist Robert Freimark came of age during a time of remarkable creative ferment and experimentation, leading him to explore a range of artistic mediums, including painting, watercolor, drawing, print media, tapestry, and sculpture. His commitment to consistent practice and creative evolution, coupled with his insatiable curiosity, urged him to expand his artistic horizons into other, time-based mediums such as video and film.

Freimark was educated at the University of Toledo, where he would later return to instruct new generations of artists. He earned his MFA from the Cranbrook Academy of Art, studying architecture under Eliel Saarinen and sculpture with Carl Milles. He was a noted student of the American painter Max Weber and received a prestigious New Talent in the USA award in 1957. In the 1960s, he was the recipient of a "Rehabilitation Through Art" grant, which he used to open a studio and work with inmates at Soledad State prison. He also lectured around the world, was a visiting professor at Harvard University from 1972-73, and spent 22 years teaching at San Jose State University.

For most of his career, Freimark would utilize the figurative references and profound impressions derived from his

experience of various landscapes to inform an extensive body of work. He drew inspiration from his early life in Michigan and Ohio, the residency programs he participated in in Iowa and the Midwest, his extensive travels throughout Mexico, and his studio practice in California. Each of these experiences informed his unique approach to his artistic practice.

Freimark traveled to all fifty states to produce the works presented in *A Journey Through America*. Being innately curious, he also traveled abroad to Canada, Indonesia, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Argentina, and Cuba—trips he described as "greatly instrumental in freeing my mind of contemporary dogma."

Before his death in 2010, at 88 years old, Freimark's work was included in over 250 solo exhibitions. Today, his pieces reside in such notable collections as the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, the Fogg Museum, the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, The British Museum, the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris, the Honolulu Academy of Arts, the Library of Congress, and the National Gallery in Prague.

Freimark's legacy remains that of a true West Coast abstract expressionist.



Robert Freemark, *Texas*, 1968, serigraph, 45" x 55",
Image courtesy of Hohmann, Inc. Photograph by
Hohmann, Inc., © Robert Freemark.

Opposite Page: Robert Freemark, *Utah*, 1962, serigraph,
31½" x 26", Image courtesy of Hohmann, Inc.
Photograph by Hohmann, Inc., © Robert Freemark.

About Hohmann Fine Art

Celebrating 250 Years: A Journey Through America with Robert Freimark is made possible by Hohmann Fine Art, or HOHMANN, a second-generation contemporary art gallery in Palm Desert, California. Established in 1976 in Germany, the gallery has a rich history in both the European and American art scenes. HOHMANN features a curated selection of works by over sixty artists, promoting them through an active exhibition schedule, publications of books and catalogs, participation in art fairs, and collaborations with museums and other galleries.

Christian Hohmann, owner of Hohmann Fine Art, met Robert Freimark over twenty years ago, during the artist's prolific Morgan Hill existence, when he became a

beloved fixture of the Silicon Valley art and culture scene. Freimark's charisma and incandescent passion for making and teaching art made a deep impression on the young gallery owner, sparking a long-term friendship.

Hohmann's desire to share this exhibition with a broader audience stems from his deep admiration for Freimark—"that rare artist whose devotion to a project of such exhaustive and ambitious scope not only brought it to fruition (a feat amongst itself) but produced a historically-relevant survey of our nation illustrating key periods in both Abstraction and printmaking within the modern art canon."

EXHIBITION SPECIFICATIONS

Number of works:

Approximately 50 serigraphs

Organized by:

Hohmann Art Gallery, CA and
International Arts and Artists,
Washington, DC

Requirements:

Moderate security

Participation fee:

Please inquire.

Shipping:

Arrangements made in collaboration
with International Arts and Artists

Booking Period:

12 weeks

Tour:

Fall 2025 – Fall 2029

Size:

2,500 – 3,000 square feet

Contact:

For bookings contact:
travelingexhibitions@artsandartists.org

For more information about the
exhibition contact:
projectmanager@artsandartists.org

IA&A address: 9 Hillyer Court NW,
Washington, DC 20008



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