



Untitled

Date

1965

Primary Maker

Beauford Delaney

Medium

Oil on canvas

Description

Beauford Delaney was always interested in the visualization of light. While he had become well-known for his colorful, soulful portraits while living in New York City, Delaney began to explore abstraction in earnest after his move to Paris in 1953. Delaney's friend and mentee James Baldwin noted that the artist found inspiration for his abstractions in looking out of a large window in his Clamart studio. His paintings, then, are like a portal, which Delaney himself compared to the gospel song, "Lord, Open the Unusual Door." These images, like *Untitled* (1965), often feature vibrant yellows and an ecstatic sense of motion. Fellow painter Paul Jenkins noted that Delaney's abstractions were "more of a veil than a grid...as if he had cut hundreds of flowers and crushed them. Stems and all."

Dimensions

Canvas: 16 x 13 in. (40.6 x 33 cm) Frame: 17 3/4 x 14 3/4 x 1 3/4 in. (45.1 x 37.5 x 4.4 cm)