

Basic Detail Report

The Cellist

Date

1946

Primary Maker

Byron Browne

Medium

Oil on canvas

Description

The New York-born abstract painter Byron Browne received his first artistic training at New York's National Academy of Design. There he studied from 1925 through 1928 with Robert Aitken, Charles Courtney Curran, Charles Hawthorne, Alice Murphy, and Ivan Olinsky. After meeting Arshile Gorky about 1928, Browne turned away from his earlier academic approach and began to create abstract collages. Influenced by the Cubist art of Picasso, he began to treat the figure in a liberal fashion, creating works in which figures are subsumed by almost purely abstract patterns. His style consisted of bold forms, high colors, hard edges, and geometric shapes, and his subject matter derived largely from the classical world as well as from the art of Mesoamerican cultures. Browne's art had a significant influence on the Abstract Expressionists Jackson Pollock, Arshile Gorky, and Willem de Kooning. ("America Gone Modern: From the Twenties to the Sixties," Spanierman Gallery, March 11- April 29, 2000.)

Dimensions

50 x 40 inches (127 x 101.6 cm)