

## MFAH to showcase Dorothy Hood, Louise Nevelson work

By Molly Glentzer



Photo: Pace Gallery / Pace Gallery

Sculptor Louise Nevelson in an undated photograph from her estate.

The long under-appreciated Houston artist Dorothy Hood, who once chided a Museum of Fine Arts, Houston director for keeping her work relegated to a basement, finally gets prime treatment in the museum where she taught. Her paintings and drawings will appear alongside works by the iconic Louise Nevelson in the two-woman exhibition “Kindred Spirits,” opening in early November. Although Hood was widely collected and admired during her lifetime, many of her works were brought to light only recently in a major retrospective mounted by the Art Museum of South Texas in Corpus Christi. That’s where MFAH curator Alison de Lima Greene became convinced it was time to

reconsider her work.

**ART LOVERS REJOICE: [The Menil Collection is reopening on Saturday](#)**

Nevelson and Hood both impacted Houston’s cultural scene and shaped its history of Modernism, said MFAH director Gary Tinterow, adding that the show will “throw a fresh light” on their careers.

Nevelson and Hood each synthesized the lessons of Cubism and Surrealism into the bold language of mid-century Modernism. Although Nevelson was 19 years older, both came of age as professional artists in the 1940s as independent spirits committed to assuming leading roles at the forefront of the American vanguard. And both drew inspiration from common sources, ranging from pre-Columbian art to that of their contemporaries, as their work evolved through decades of rigorous studio practice. "Kindred Spirits: Louise Nevelson and Dorothy Hood" will be on view Nov. 3-Feb. 3. [molly.glentzer@chron.com](mailto:molly.glentzer@chron.com)