



Milton Avery

**Edith Devaney
Erin Monroe
Marla Price
Waqas Wajahat
March Avery Cavanaugh**

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- An authoritative study of the artist Milton Avery, an influence on the generation of Mark Rothko and Barnett Newman
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Born in 1885 to a working-class family in Connecticut, Milton Avery left school at 16 to work in a factory. Intending to study lettering but soon transferring to painting, he attended evening school for fifteen years before moving to New York in the 1920s to pursue a career as a painter.

Although he never identified with a particular movement, Avery was a sociable member of the New York art scene. He became a figure of considerable influence for a younger generation of American artists, including Mark Rothko, Adolph Gottlieb and Barnett Newman. His talent was praised by Rothko, who said of his work 'the poetry penetrated every pore of the canvas to the last touch of the brush'.

Edith Devaney introduces Avery and his work, while Erin Monroe looks at Avery's early years in Hartford, and Marla Price examines Matisse's influence upon his art. A conversation with the artist's daughter March Avery Cavanaugh and an illustrated chronology by Isabella Boorman complete the book.



Milton Avery
Two Shapes, 1940
Oil on canvas, 10 1/2 x 14 1/2 in.
Museum of Modern Art, New York and C. D. Baker, White Plains
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Milton Avery
Owl, 1945
Oil on canvas, 10 1/2 x 14 1/2 in.
Cleveland Museum of Art
Purchase College, State University of New York
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Photo: Artforum



Milton Avery
Interior, 1945
Oil on canvas, 10 1/2 x 14 1/2 in.
Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, CT. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Roy F. Heckerling
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