The Springs

Lee Krasner
Different Strokes

Abstract Expressionism, considered America’s first avant-garde movement, combined abstract form and subjective content. *The Springs* by Lee Krasner (1908-1984) illustrates the emotional handling of paint, line, and color that defined the style.

Take a closer look

Krasner built up the surface of *The Springs* through a combination of narrow and broad brushstrokes, daubs of paint squeezed directly from tubes, and wide swaths applied with a palette knife. Unpainted areas reveal bare canvas, creating a sense of layering and depth.

In her own words

“Traditionally women have not produced great art, but this is because of social views rather than any in-born ability. A woman must face prejudice in this field, and must be perhaps one and a half times as good as her male counterpart to gain recognition.”