



**OGDEN MUSEUM  
OF SOUTHERN ART**  
EDUCATION DEPT

## Eugene Martin



Born: July 24, 1938 Washington, D.C.  
Died: January 1, 2005 Lafayette, Louisiana

Eugene Martin was a visual artist best known for his imaginative, complex mixed media collages on paper, his pencil and pen and ink drawings, and his paintings on paper and canvas. His father was a traveling jazz musician and after Eugene's mother died in 1942 giving birth to Jerry Martin, the two brothers were placed in foster care in Washington DC. As a child, Eugene ran away on several occasions, was placed in reform school at six years of age, and

eventually spent the remainder of his childhood on a farm in Clarksburg, Maryland with his foster parents Franie and Madessa Snowdon. On the farm he drew realistic portraits and nature scenes, and also played upright bass, thunder bass, and slide trombone in the local rhythm & blues band *The Nu-tones*.

After a brief stint in the Navy, Martin attended the Corcoran School of Art from 1960-1963. He said many of his works straddled both abstraction and representation - "satirical abstracts" – but ultimately did not adhere to any particular school or art movement, remaining an individualist throughout his life. In 1996 Martin and his wife, Suzanne Redericq, moved to Lafayette, Louisiana where he continued to create art until his death.

Eugene Martin, *Geometric Abstract*, 1999,  
Acrylic on canvas, Gift of Suzanne Fredericq



## Robert Reed



Born: July 9, 1938, Charlottesville, VA  
Died: December 26, 2014

Robert Reed was known as a steadfast geometric painter and demanding tenured professor at Yale University. He was the only tenured African American professor ever in the Yale School of Art's history, teaching both undergraduate and graduate programs for nearly fifty years. His work is included in the permanent collections of the Hirshhorn Museum, the Walker Art Center, the

Whitney Museum of American Art, the Yale University Art Gallery, and the Bayly Museum.



Robert Reed, *San Romano, Monticello, Brick II*, 1982, Aqua-Tec on canvas, Gift of Donna C. Perret and Gallerie Simone Stern