

VALENTINE
FOR
MR. WONDERFUL

by Helen Frankenthaler

St. Valentine

A woman's breath
for beauty
A man's delights
for charm

The rod and staff
of duty
to serve us
from harm!

A woman's eyes
a woman's
slights and a man's
straight look!

Cities rotted to
pig-sties
will stand up by
their book!

—William Carlos Williams

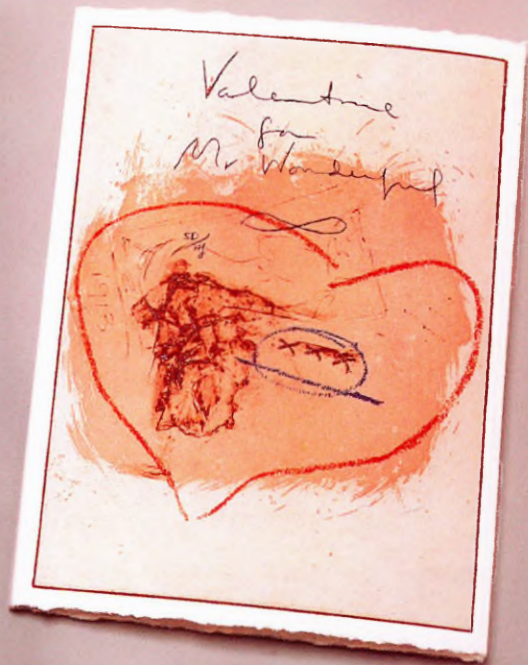


FRANKENTHALER

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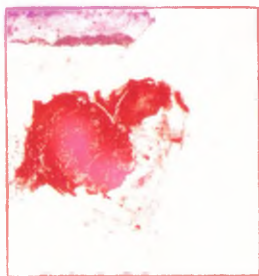
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This valentine for my husband seemed to pour right out of me, as if it flowed from my heart through my fingertips and onto the copper plates. My first book, it fell into place like a little rose—and a surprise to me! Once made, I felt a combination of pride and shyness; the book itself and all that it meant were so new to me—and so beautiful. In a way, I felt I had very little to do with it. A direct hit from Cupid's arrow.

— *Helen Frankenthaler*, 1995









Helen Frankenthaler's *Valentine for Mr. Wonderful* is the artist's first limited edition book. Encased in a 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 10 x 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ inch burgundy cloth-covered box with gold stamping, the valentine consists of a suite of colorful intaglios and William Carlos Williams' poem, *St. Valentine*. The seven 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ inch prints are on HMP linen-textured handmade paper. They are enclosed in a 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 9 x $\frac{1}{4}$ inch (folded) TGL handmade paper, intaglio and lithography printed folio. The book is signed and dated by the artist on the colophon page in a limited edition of 35.

Frankenthaler created the intaglios at Tyler Graphics Ltd. in January 1995. They were printed from eleven copper and five plastic plates, with an additional copper plate for embossing the lithographed poem. Papermaking of the folio was by Tom Strianese, John Hutcheson, and Christopher Creyts; intaglio printing by Anthony Kirk, Kathy Cho, Susan Hover, Brian Maxwell, and Yasuyuki

Shibata. Plastic plate preparation and processing was by Kirk, Hutcheson, and Creyts. Offset lithography text was set in Adobe Garamond typeface and printed from an aluminum plate by Lee Funderburg. Typography by Lorraine Ferguson. Box fabricated by Portfoliobox, Inc. The poem, *St. Valentine* from *William Carlos Williams: Collected Poems 1939-1962, Volume II* (Copyright © 1941 by William Carlos Williams), was reprinted by permission of New Directions Publishing Corporation.

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