

TYLER GRAPHICS LTD.



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Josef Albers

Never Before

Never Before, completed in 1976, is the fourth and final screenprint portfolio by Josef Albers containing twelve prints and interleaving pages of verse written by the artist. In a statement reproduced on the second page, Albers explains that the portfolio began twenty-seven years before it was printed, with the painting *Indicating Solids* (1949), which he "raised... to a more intense or more sculptural plasticity" with his 1971 painting *Never Before* and its "following variants," the twelve portfolio prints. Print editions *Never Before d*, *Never Before h*, *Never Before i*, and *Never Before 1* bear the artist's chop mark but are unsigned. At the time of his death, on March 25, 1976, Albers had already approved the twelve portfolio print editions but had not finished signing them. With Anni Alber's permission, the portfolio was published complete.

The portfolio text (title page, artist's statement, verse, and colophon page) was designed by Kenneth Tyler and set in Baskerville phototypesetter typeface by Stamford Typesetting Corporation. The photo aluminum plate was prepared, processed, and printed by John Hutcheson on Japanese Masa Dosa paper. The blue cloth-covered portfolio box and slipcase were designed and fabricated by Jordan Specialty Company.