



**GEORGIA  
O'KEEFFE**



# CONTENTS

**IMPORTANT FACTS**

**DETAIL IMAGES**

**BLACK PLACE SERIES**

**TOP PAINTINGS SOLD AT AUCTION**

**COMPARABLE PAINTINGS SOLD AT AUCTION**

**HISTORY**



# GEORGIA O'KEEFFE (1887-1986)

## *Black Place II*

1945

oil on canvas

24 × 30 in. (60.9 × 76.2 cm)



## WATCH VIDEO

### PROVENANCE

An American Place, New York  
Downtown Gallery, New York  
Katrina McCormick Barnes, Denver, Colorado  
Medill McCormick Barnes, acquired by descent in 1971  
Washburn Gallery, New York  
Hirschl & Adler Galleries, New York  
Daniel Dietrich, Philadelphia, until 1985  
Hirschl & Adler Galleries, New York  
The Owings Gallery, Santa Fe, New Mexico  
Private Collection, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 2000  
The Owings Gallery, Santa Fe, New Mexico  
Jan T. and Marica Vilcek, New York, 2011–2015  
Private Collection, gifted from the above

### EXHIBITION

New York, An American Place, *Georgia O'Keeffe*, February 4 – March 27, 1946, no. 10  
New York, Whitney Museum of American Art, *Annual Exhibition of Contemporary American Painting*, November 13, 1948 – January 2, 1949  
Dallas, Texas, Dallas Museum of Fine Arts, *An Exhibition of Paintings by Georgia O'Keeffe*, February 1 – February 22, 1953, traveled to: Delray Beach, Florida, Mayo Hill Galleries, March 16– April 11, 1953  
New York, Hirschl & Adler Galleries, *Important Recent Acquisitions: Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Paintings*, February 2 – 23, 1972  
New York, Washburn Gallery, *Mind over Matter: Painters of the Immanent Things*, September 20 – October 21, 1972  
New York, Hirschl & Adler Galleries, *Georgia O'Keeffe: Selected Paintings and Works on Paper*, April 26 – June 6, 1986, traveled to: Dallas, Texas, Gerald Peters Gallery, June 14 – July 14, 1986  
Santa Fe, New Mexico, Georgia O'Keeffe Museum, *Georgia O'Keeffe in New Mexico: Architecture, Katsinam, and the Land*, May 17 – September 2013 (organizing institution), traveled to: Montclair, New Jersey, Montclair Art Museum, September 28, 2012 – January 20, 2013, Denver, Colorado, Denver Art Museum, February 10 – April 28, 2013  
Tulsa, Oklahoma, Philbrook Museum of Art, *Phoenix, From New York to New Mexico: Masterworks of American Modernism from the Vilcek Foundation Collection*, February 8 – May 3, 2015, traveled to: Arizona, Phoenix Art Museum, June 7 – September 7, 2015, Santa Fe, New Mexico, Georgia O'Keeffe Museum, September 25, 2015 – January 10, 2016  
Santa Fe, New Mexico, Georgia O'Keeffe Museum, extended loan, January – April 2016  
London, Tate Modern, *Georgia O'Keeffe*, July 6– October 30, 2016, then traveled to Vienna, Bank Austria Kunstform, December 7, 2016– March 26, 2016, Toronto, Art Gallery of Ontario, April 22 – July 30, 2017  
Santa Fe, New Mexico, Georgia O'Keeffe Museum, *The Black Place: Georgia O'Keeffe and Michael Namingha*, April 28 – August 20, 2018  
Corpus Christi, Texas, The Art Museum of South Texas, *Masterpieces of American Modernism from the Vilcek Collection of American Art*, September 13, 2018 – January 6, 2019  
Wichita, Kansas, Wichita Art Museum, *Georgia O'Keeffe: Art, Image, Style*, March 30 – June 23, 2019, traveled to: Reno, Nevada, Nevada Museum of Art, July 20 – October 20, 2019, West Palm Beach, Florida, Norton Museum of Art, November 21, 2019 – February 9, 2020

Paris, Centre Pompidou *Georgia O'Keeffe*, September 8 – December 6, 2021, traveled to: Basel, Switzerland, Fondation Beyeler, January 23 – May 22, 2022  
Newport, Rhode Island, Newport Art Museum, *Georgia O'Keeffe: "Things I Had No Words For,"* July 16 – October 16, 2022  
San Diego, California, San Diego Museum of Art, *O'Keeffe and Moore*, May 13–August 27, 2023, traveled to: Albuquerque, New Mexico, Albuquerque Museum, September 30 - December 31, 2023, Montreal, Canada, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, February 10 - June 2, 2024, Boston, Massachusetts, Museum of Fine Arts, October 13, 2024 – January 20, 2025

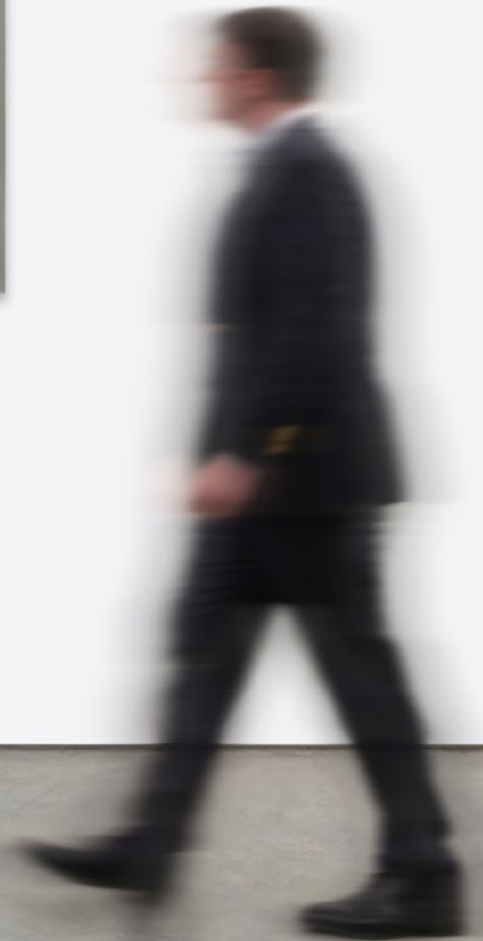
### LITERATURE

R. M. Coates, "The Art Galleries – Contemporaries, Including the Whitney," *The New Yorker* XXII, February 16, 1946, p. 84  
"New York Exhibitions – Georgia O'Keeffe," *MKR's Art Outlook*, Apr. 1946, p. 1, 3 (ill.)  
Whitney Museum of American Art, *Annual Exhibition of Contemporary American Painting*, New York, 1948, no.105  
Dallas Museum of Fine Arts, *An Exhibition of Paintings by Georgia O'Keeffe*, Dallas, 1953, no. 22  
Hirschl & Adler Galleries, *Important Recent Acquisitions: Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Paintings*, New York, 1972, no. 52 (ill.)  
Washburn Gallery, *Mind over Matter: Painters of the Immanent Things*, New York, 1972, no. 7, p.3 (ill.)  
H. Kramer, "Artists Looking West: New Shows at A.C.A. Galleries Present Wide Range of Styles and Mediums," *The New York Times*, September 23, 1972, p. L27  
J. R. Mellow, "Landscapes: The Real and the Imaginary – in American Art," *The New York Times*, October 8, 1972, p. D27  
John Perreault, "Does anyone want all that art?," *The Village Voice*, October 5, 1972, p. 29  
S. Schwartz, "New York Letter," *Art International* XVI, December 1972, p. 61  
Hirschl & Adler, *Georgia O'Keeffe: Selected Paintings and Works on Paper*, New York, 1986, no. 28 (illustrated and on front cover)  
S. Udall, *Contested Terrain: Myth and Meanings in Southwest Art*, Albuquerque, 1996, pl. 8, pp. xi, 120-134, 174 (ill. and on front cover)  
B. Buhler Lynes, *Georgia O'Keeffe: Catalogue Raisonné. Volume Two*, New Haven, Washington, D.C., and Abiquiu, NM, 1999, p. 119, p. 1107 (ill.)  
B. Buhler Lynes & Carolyn Kastner, *Georgia O'Keeffe in New Mexico: Architecture, Katsinam, and the Land*, Santa Fe, NM, 2012, pl. 49, p. 140 (ill.)  
D. Bischoff, "Artist Georgia O'Keeffe's Sense of Place," *Star-Ledger*, September 30, 2012  
M. Schwendener, "The Spirit of Cultural Objects," *The New York Times*, January 4, 2013, p. NJ11  
R. M. Rinaldi, "Georgia O'Keeffe's inspired Western art comes to Denver Art Museum," *Denver Post*, February 15, 2013  
W. C. Agee and Lewis Kachur, *Masterpieces of American Modernism: From the Vilcek Collection*, London, 2013, p.11, 160–61, 235, 240, 267 (ill.)  
Tanya Barson & Erin B. Coe, *Georgia O'Keeffe*, London, 2016, p. 178, 255 (ill.)  
Marta Ruis del Arbol, *Georgia O'Keeffe*, Paris, 2021, no. 75, p. 40, 206-207, 312 (ill.)  
A. Feldman, H. Higham, J. Laurent, B. Buhler Lynes, A. Plotek, & C. Stephens, *O'Keeffe and Moore*, San Diego, 2023, p. 142 (ill.)

# IMPORTANT FACTS

- *Black Place II* belongs to a rare series of landscape paintings that O’Keeffe painted of the Bisti Badlands, a remote part of northwestern New Mexico, from 1936 to 1949. Of the 14 paintings in the series, only 4 - including this one - remain in private collections.
- *Black Place II* has an illustrious lineage, from its earliest days in the holdings of Alfred Stieglitz’s famous New York gallery, An American Place, to the noted Philadelphia philanthropist and collector Daniel Dietrich, to the esteemable collection of Jan T. and Marica Vilcek.
- *Black Place II* has been published and exhibited extensively over the last 80 years, from its first showing in Alfred Stieglitz's An American Place to the recent major retrospective at the Centre Pompidou in Paris and Fondation Beyeler in Basel.
- According to ARTDAI, a third-party art market analytics company, the median compound annual growth rate for O’Keeffe’s market prices is 8.39%.

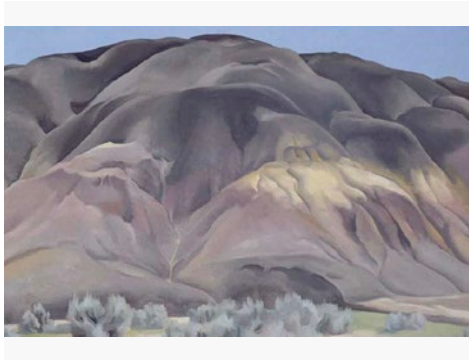
# DETAIL IMAGES







# BLACK PLACE SERIES



*Grey Hill Forms*  
1936  
oil on canvas  
20 × 30 in. (51 × 76.2 cm)

**New Mexico Museum of Art  
Santa Fe**



*Grey Wash Forms*  
1936  
oil on canvas mounted on Masonite  
16 × 30 1/8 in. (40.6 × 76.5 cm)

**Museum of Fine Arts  
Boston**



*Grey Hills*  
1941  
oil on canvas  
20 × 30 in. (50.8 × 76.2 cm)

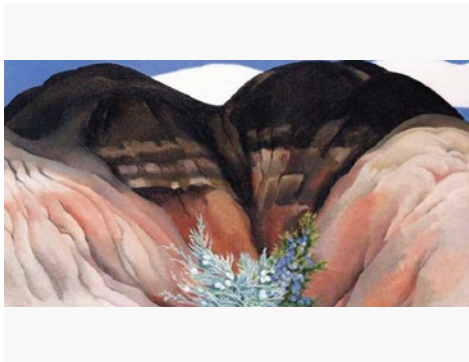
**Indianapolis Museum of Art  
Indianapolis**



*Black Place*  
1942  
oil on canvas  
20 × 30 in. (50.8 × 76.2 cm)

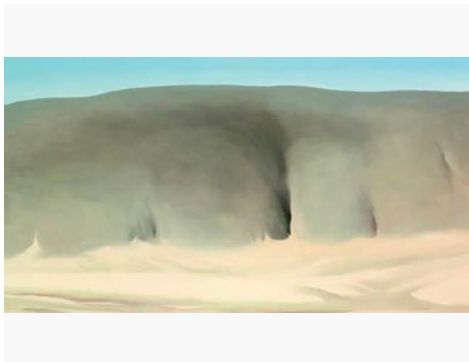
**\*PRIVATE COLLECTION**

# BLACK PLACE SERIES



*Black Hills with Cedar*  
1942  
oil on canvas  
16 × 30 in. (40.6 × 76 cm)

**Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden  
Washington D.C.**



*The Black Place*  
1943  
oil on canvas  
20 × 36 in. (50.8 × 91.4 cm)

**The Art Institute of Chicago  
Chicago**



*Black Place I*  
1944  
oil on canvas  
20 × 30 1/8 in. (66 × 76.5 cm)

**San Francisco Museum of Modern Art  
San Francisco**



*Black Place II*  
1944  
oil on canvas  
23 7/8 x 30 in. (60.6 × 76.2 cm)

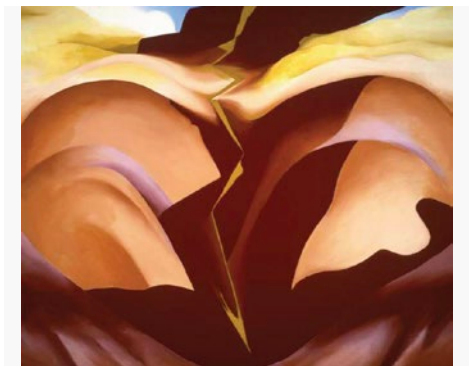
**The Metropolitan Museum of Art  
New York**

# BLACK PLACE SERIES



*Black Place III*  
1944  
oil on canvas  
36 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>16</sub> x 40 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> in. (91.9 x 101.9 cm)

**Georgia O'Keeffe Museum  
Santa Fe**



*Black Place No. IV*  
1944  
oil on canvas  
30 x 36 in. (76.2 x 91.4 cm)

**\*PRIVATE COLLECTION**



*Black Place I*  
1945  
oil on canvas  
29 <sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 35 <sup>11</sup>/<sub>16</sub> in. (75.3 x 90.7 cm)

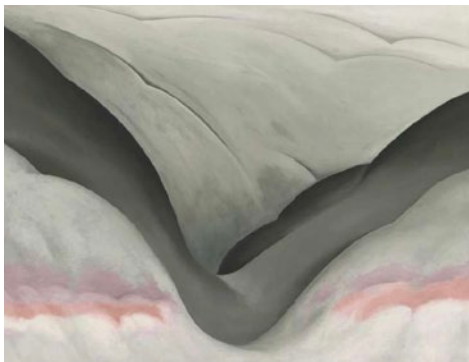
**Minneapolis Institute of Art  
Minneapolis**



*Black Place II*  
1945  
oil on canvas  
24 x 30 in. (61 x 76.2 cm)

**\*PRIVATE COLLECTION  
Courtesy Heather James**

# BLACK PLACE SERIES



*Black Place, Grey and Pink*  
1949  
oil on canvas  
36 × 48 in. (91.4 × 121.9 cm)

**Georgia O'Keeffe Museum  
Santa Fe**



*Black Place Green*  
1949  
oil on canvas  
37 ¼ x 47 ¼ in. (94.6 × 120 cm)

**\*PRIVATE COLLECTION**

# TOP PAINTINGS SOLD AT AUCTION

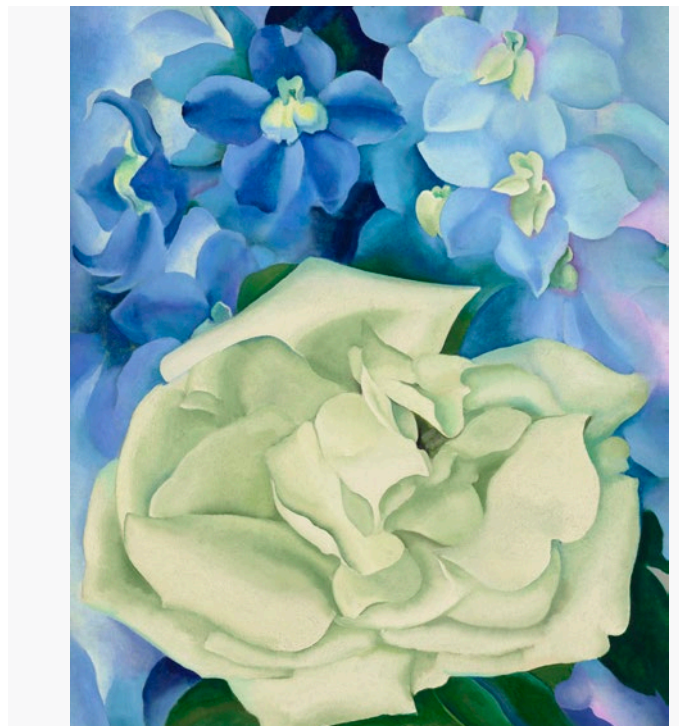


*Jimson weed/ White flower no. 1*  
1932  
oil on canvas  
48 × 40 in. (121.9 × 101.6 cm)

**Sold at Sotheby's New York:  
November 2014 for \$44,405,000**

*White Rose with Larkspur No. 1*  
1927  
oil on canvas  
36 × 30 in. (91.4 × 76.2 cm)

**Sold at Christie's New York:  
November 2022 for \$26,725,000**



# TOP PAINTINGS SOLD AT AUCTION

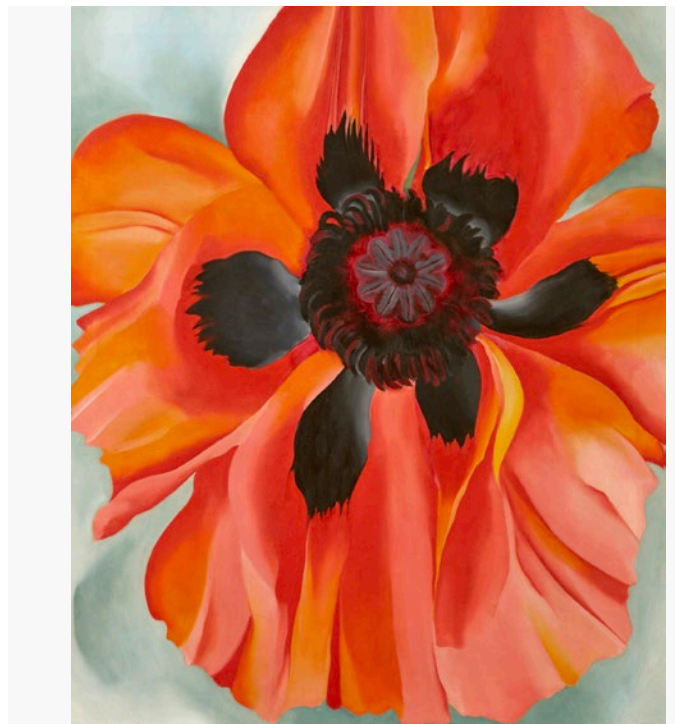


*Black Iris VI*  
1936  
oil on canvas  
36 × 24 in. (91.4 × 60.9 cm)

**Sold at Christie's New York:  
May 2023 for \$21,110,000**

*Red Poppy*  
1928  
oil on canvas  
36 × 30 in. (92.1 × 76.2 cm)

**Sold at Christie's New York:  
May 2024 for \$16,510,000**



# TOP PAINTINGS SOLD AT AUCTION



*Autumn Leaf II*

1927

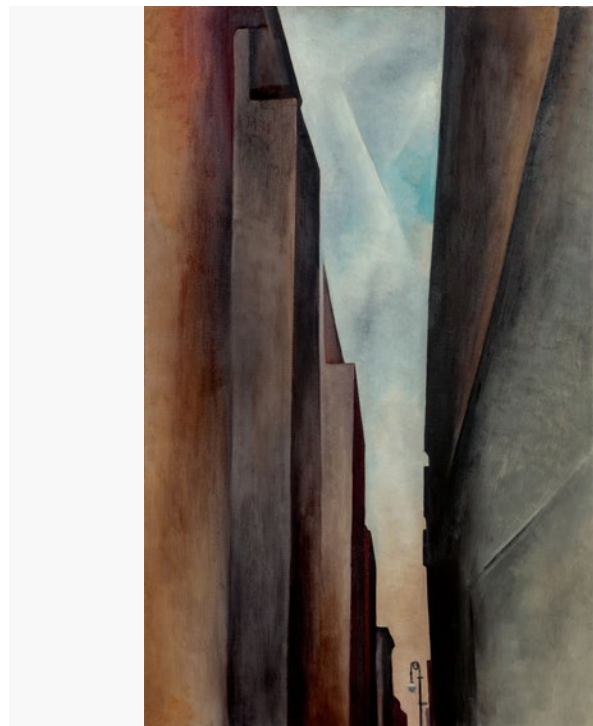
oil on canvas

36 × 24 in. (91.4 × 60.9 cm)

**Sold at Christie's New York:  
November 2022 for \$15,275,000**

*A STREET*  
1926  
oil on canvas  
48 × 30 in. (81.3 × 53.3 cm)

**Sold at Sotheby's New York:  
November 2018 for \$13,282,500**



# COMPARABLE PAINTINGS SOLD AT AUCTION

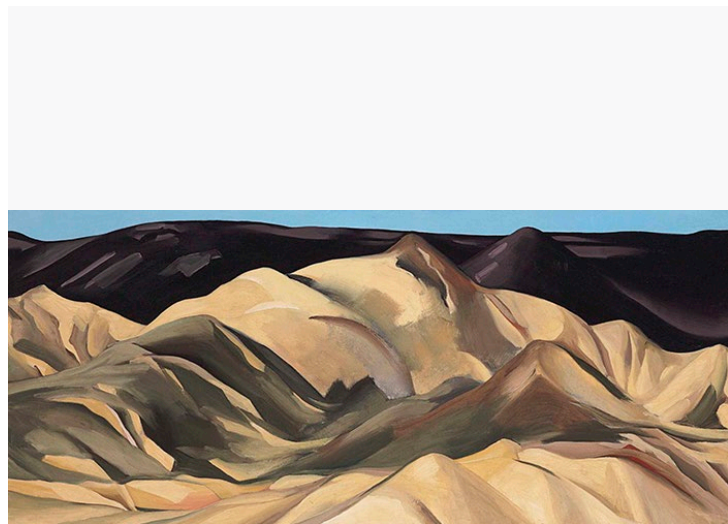


*Red Hills with Pedernal, White  
Clouds*  
1936  
oil on canvas  
20 × 30 in. (50.8 × 76.2 cm)

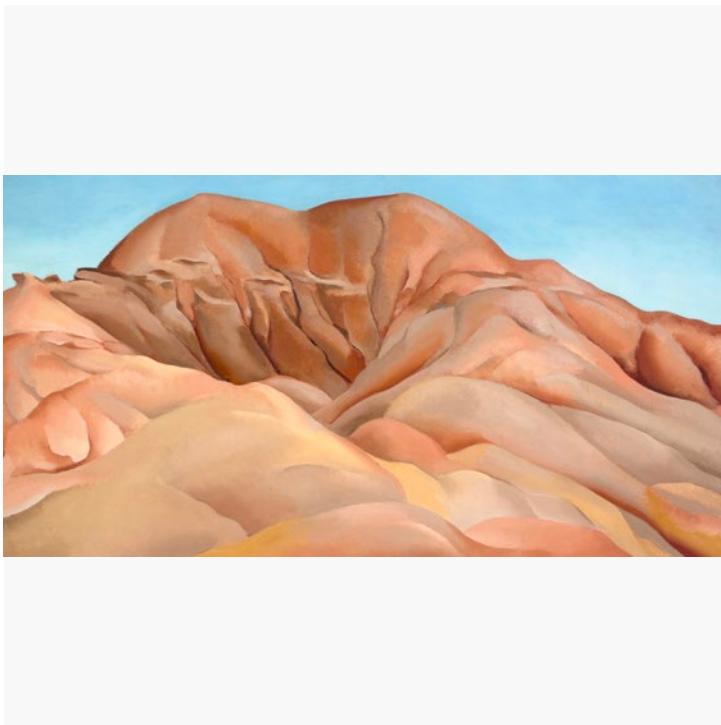
**Sold at Christie's New York:  
November 2022 for \$12,298,000**

*Near Abiquiu, New Mexico*  
1931  
oil on canvas  
16 × 36 in. (40.6 × 91.4 cm)

**Sold at Christie's New York:  
May 2018 for \$8,412,500**



# COMPARABLE PAINTINGS SOLD AT AUCTION



*On the Old Santa Fe Road*  
1930

oil on canvas

16 × 30 in. (40.6 × 76.2 cm)

**Sold at Christie's New York:  
May 2023 for \$7,885,000**

“I found I could say things with color and shapes that I couldn’t say any other way – things I had no words for.”

**Georgia O'Keeffe**

# HISTORY



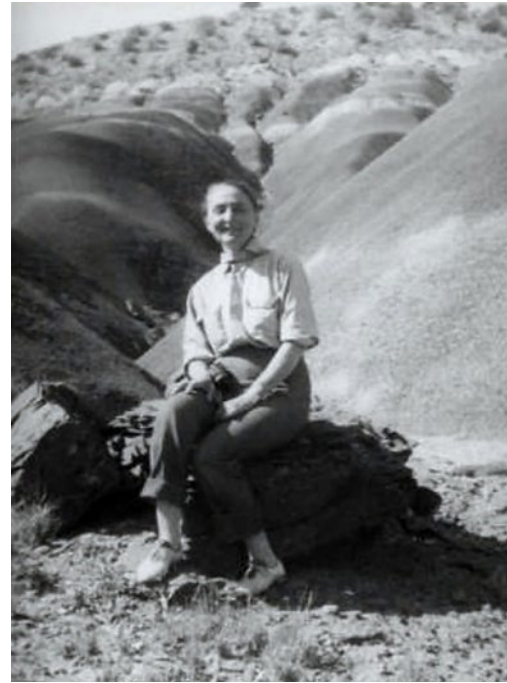
Georgia O'Keeffe painting at Ghost Ranch, New Mexico, photograph by Ansel Adams.

Georgia O'Keeffe's *Black Place II* (1945) belongs to one of the most profound and austere series of her career, inspired by repeated journeys to the Bisti Badlands, a remote, otherworldly area of northwestern New Mexico that she called the Black Place. Deeply compelled by this landscape, O'Keeffe often camped there so she could study its shifting forms and tonal subtleties at different hours of the day. In this work, she reduces the scene to its essentials: two massive hills pressing together, no visible horizon, and a composition defined by gravity, stillness, and quiet monumentality. The sweeping, interlocking forms create a sense of scale that feels both intimate and immense, evoking a landscape experienced as presence rather than panorama.

Works from the *Black Place* series are exceptionally rare. Of the fourteen canvases O'Keeffe painted, only four remain in private hands; the remainder are held by

major institutions including The Metropolitan Museum of Art, SFMOMA, and the Art Institute of Chicago. As a result, opportunities to encounter a work from this group outside of museum collections are exceedingly uncommon.

*Black Place II* has an illustrious lineage, from its earliest days in the holdings of Alfred Stieglitz's famous New York gallery, An American Place, to the noted Philadelphia philanthropist and collector Daniel Dietrich, to the collection of Jan T. and Marica Vilcek. The painting's legacy is further underscored by its unusually long institutional life. It was shown as early as 1946 at Stieglitz's An American Place, and has continued to appear in major institutional retrospectives, including exhibitions at the Centre Pompidou and, most recently, the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. This sustained public and scholarly attention has firmly established the importance of the *Black Place* paintings within O'Keeffe's oeuvre.



Georgia O'Keeffe in front of her *Black Place*. Photo by Maria Chabot (1944).



Georgia O'Keeffe in front of her Black Place. Photo by Maria Chabot (1944).