

ALTMAN SIEGEL

1150 25TH ST. SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94107

tel: 415.576.9300 / fax: 415.373.4471

www.altmansiegel.com

SFGATE

Bonetti, David, "SFMOMA names curator / Rosa to succeed Betsky in architecture post," *SFGATE*, October 2, 2001

ENTERTAINMENT

SFMOMA names curator / Rosa to succeed Betsky in architecture post

By David Bonetti

Oct 2, 2001



ADALINE KENT UNTITLED
HANDOUT

ALTMAN SIEGEL

1150 25TH ST. SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94107

tel: 415.576.9300 / fax: 415.373.4471

www.altmansiegel.com

ADALINE KENT SOLO SHOW: Adaline Kent. The name is familiar because of the annual award named after her given to California artists by the [San Francisco Art Institute](#). But if you're not familiar with her own work, you're not alone. The last time Kent (1900–1957) had a solo show was a memorial exhibition in 1958 at the San Francisco Museum of Art (today's SFMOMA).

Adrienne Fish has remedied that situation by mounting a solo show of Kent's sculpture and drawings (through Dec. 22 at 871 [Fine Arts](#), 49 Geary St.).

Kent's work belongs to the biomorphic school of surrealism that was popular internationally in the '40s and '50s, and the work in the show, although understandably dated in look, should appeal to those who want to fill in their knowledge of Bay Area art.

Fish reports that the work is selling well and that several major collectors and California museums have acquired work or have expressed interest in doing so.

Kent's biography alone might attract attention. She was born into a wealthy family -- Kentfield was named after its estate -- and she married into the Howard clan, which has been dubbed "the first family of Bay Area Modernism." Scion of the family was John Galen Howard (1864–1931), supervising architect of the [University of California at Berkeley](#) who designed the [Bancroft Library](#), Sather Tower, California Hall, the [Greek Theatre](#) and other familiar Cal landmarks.

Kent's husband, sculptor [Robert Boardman Howard](#), was one of three sons who became artists. His brothers Charles Howard and [John Langley Howard](#) were painters, but of entirely different stripes. Charles, who moved to Britain, was an abstract surrealist, and John Langley was a social realist best known for his Coit Tower murals.