



NEW
MEXICO
USEUM
OF
ART

A LANDSCAPE OF INTERPRETATION

A GEORGIA O'KEEFE EXHIBIT

JUNE 1 - AUGUST 31 2024



A LANDSCAPE

A TRUE VISIONARY

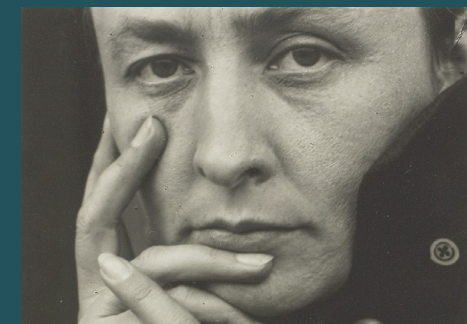
Georgia O'Keeffe, an American modernist painter, is renowned for her beautiful depictions of landscapes, and natural objects. In this exhibit, explore beautiful landscapes through the eye of Georgia O'Keeffe. Her colorful, abstract interpretations of nature create visually stunning and unique portraits of the world.

Born on November 15th, 1887, in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, O'Keeffe started down an artistic path at a very young age. By age 10, she was taking classes, and went on to attend the School of the Art Institute of Chicago for college. She then furthered her education at the University of Virginia, then attended the Teachers College of Columbia University. In her early days, she created through the mediums of watercolor and charcoal, eventually growing into oil paintings drawing inspiration from the world around her. She built a career that that lasted over four

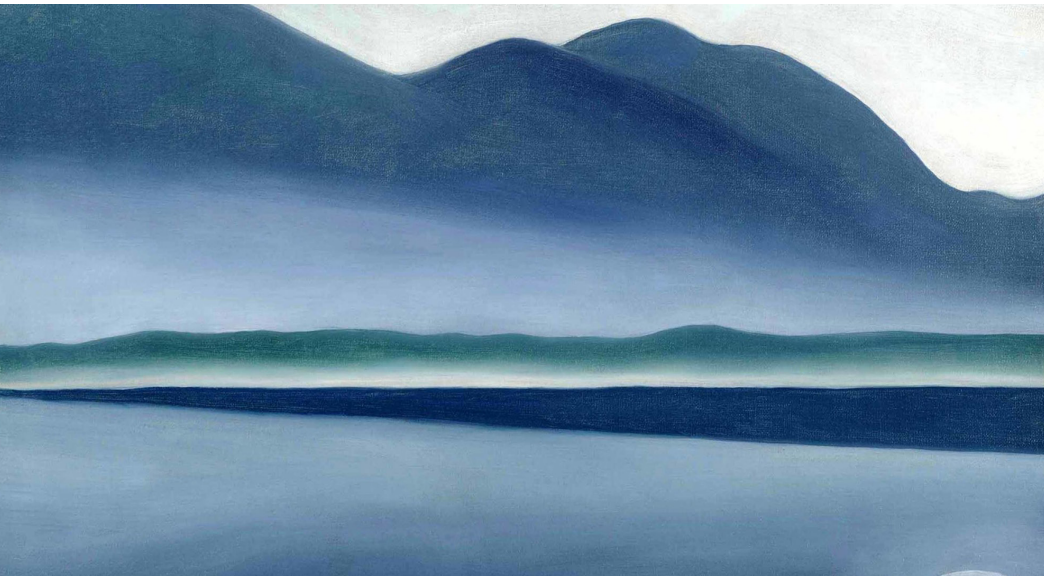
decades, one that brought her a lifetime of fulfillment and beautiful artistry.

She began creating images from charcoal, and eventually began experimenting with watercolors. Her love for expression through color grew as she eventually began to use oil paints that created bright and bold colors. O'Keeffe established her style early in life, always creating abstract imagery that blended reality with her own creative vision. She paid close attention to detail, linework and color palettes.

O'Keeffe's style was new and fresh, unlike any other artist at the time, which earned her a significant spot in the history of modernist painting. In this exhibit, her interpretive renditions of landscapes from her beginnings in Lake George to her forever home of New Mexico can be explored and admired.



OF INSPIRATION



LOVE AND LAKE GEORGE

In the 1910s, O'Keeffe met her eventual husband, Alfred Stieglitz, a photographer and artist from New York City. During the summertime, the couple would travel to her husband's family summer home in Lake George, one of the notable places she drew inspiration from for her floral and landscape paintings. These landscapes were composed of beautiful shapes, lines, and colors that create abstract depictions of her surroundings at Lake George.

These depictions consist of many wide-aspect landscape paintings as well as multitudes of close-up interpretive paintings of flowers and plants. Her landscapes of Lake George are some of her most famous pieces, and can be observed at the beginning of the exhibit.

Lake George Reflection Seascape by Georgia O'Keeffe. One of her most famous paintings of Lake George.

Country Ghost Ranch by Georgia O'Keeffe. The first property she purchased in New Mexico.

“A HILL OR TREE CANNOT
MAKE A GOOD PAINTING
JUST BECAUSE IT IS A HILL
OR A TREE

■ ■ ■



■ ■ ■

IT IS LINES
AND COLORS
PUT TOGETHER
SO THAT
THEY SAY
SOMETHING.”

BREAKING AWAY

After many years of traveling to Lake George, O'Keeffe decided she needed a change of scenery. She had painted countless portraits of the scenery and it began to feel tired and repetitive. Her relationship was struggling and so was her artistry. She felt her inspiration plateau, and wanted to find something new and fresh. She had paintings upon paintings of the scenery and floor of Lake George, and many of those paintings helped her further her career path and gain recognition as a revolutionary modernist painter.

Her husband passed away before she made the decision to relocate to New Mexico 3 years after his death. This would be the end of her paintings of Lake George. She traveled to New Mexico and fell in love with its infinite beauty many years before she moved there.

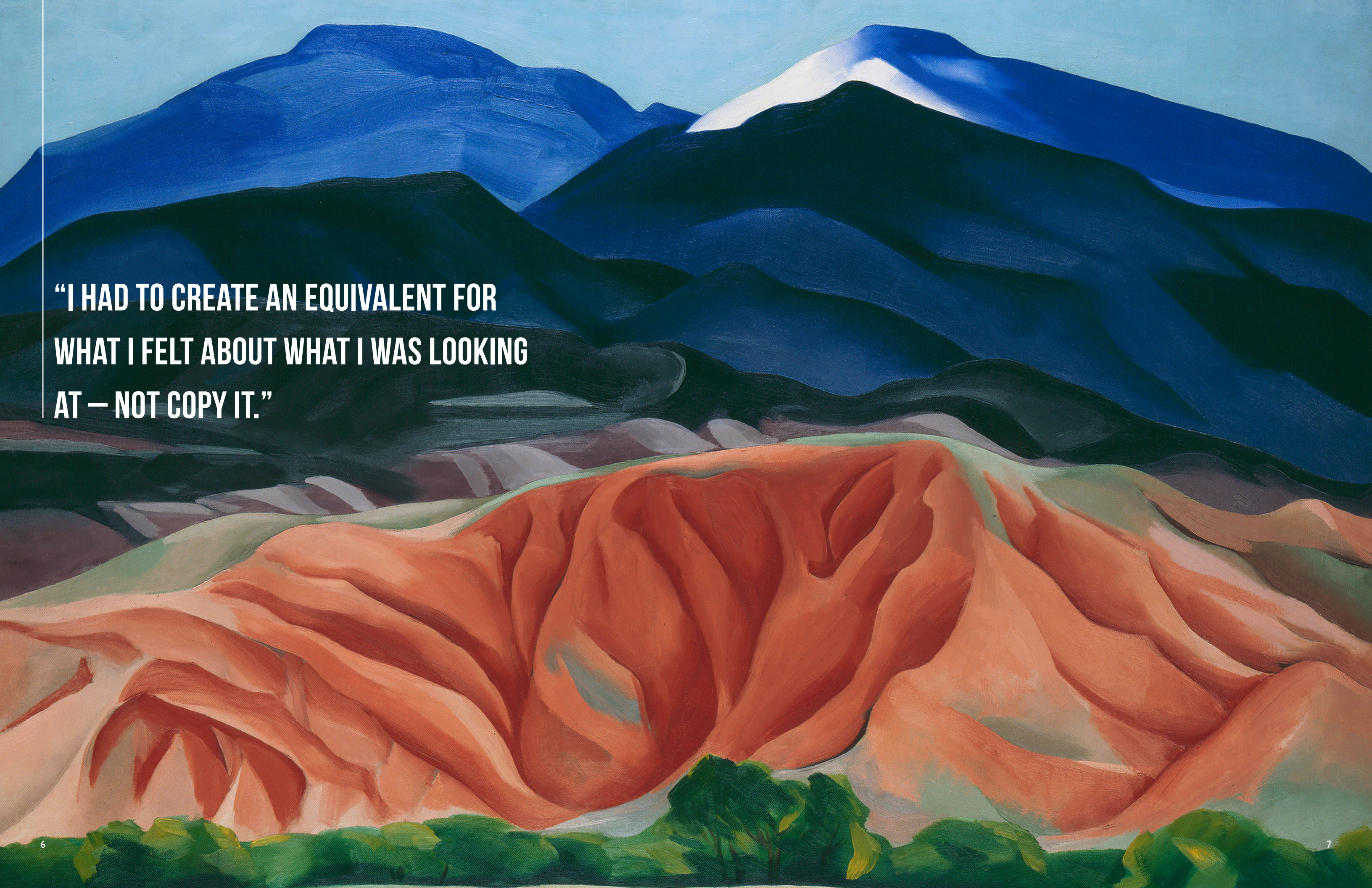
NEW MEXICO

O'Keeffe made her first summer trips to New Mexico in the years 1930 and 1931. After returning to Lake George the summer of 1932, in the year 1934 she spent the fall of that year in New Mexico. While she was there she happened upon a ranch by the name of Ghost Ranch. She fell in love with the scenery and knew she wanted to return there.

In the 1940's, O'Keeffe made the move and began living in New Mexico, just three years after her husband passed away. She spent the majority of that year painting the scenery of New Mexico. By the year 1945, O'Keeffe had purchased two separate properties in New Mexico, one of which was Ghost Ranch.

She began to draw inspiration from the numerous unique natural landforms of New Mexico, experimenting with shape, style and color. She began to experiment with more realistic depictions of these landscapes, while still creating abstract portraits of the area. The majority of her career consists of paintings from her time in New Mexico, and are some of her most notable.

This exhibit displays some of her most famous depictions of New Mexico. From landscapes to landforms to animal skulls, O'Keeffe never fails to capture New Mexico in all of its natural beauty while putting a twist of her own unique style that only adds to the beauty.

A painting of a landscape. In the foreground, there is a large, deep canyon with reddish-orange walls and a green, tree-covered rim. In the background, there are several layers of mountains in various shades of blue, with a small white peak visible on the right. The sky is a light blue.

**“I HAD TO CREATE AN EQUIVALENT FOR
WHAT I FELT ABOUT WHAT I WAS LOOKING
AT — NOT COPY IT.”**



“MY
PAINTING
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HAVE TO
GIVE BACK
TO THE
WORLD

...

LANDMARKS OF STYLE

Georgia O’Keeffe’s landscape paintings of New Mexico are a testament to her connection with the region’s natural beauty. Working with the landscape of the dry desert land, O’Keeffe captures the essence of the Southwest with a mesmerizing blend of color and form. O’Keeffe’s use of bold, saturated hues and fluid brushstrokes give her works with a dynamic energy. Her style creates visually interesting imagery unlike any other artist.

O’Keeffe’s paintings not only celebrate the natural beauty of the land but also offer a deeply personal and spiritual interpretation of the landscape. Her connection and vision of the world around her is translated clearly through the art she creates. Her understanding of composition and her attention to detail give so much life to the desert scene. Her paintings invite viewers to look deeped into the scenery and explore the beauty of the terrain.

*New Mexico Landscape
by Georgia O’Keeffe.
One of many examples
of her stylistic central
composition.*



...

FOR WHAT THE WORLD
GIVES TO ME.”

INSPIRATION FOR LIFE

In the state of New Mexico, O’Keeffe had found herself in a world on infinite inspiration. She fell in love with the landscapes and incredible views of New Mexico. She chose to spend the remainder of her life there, painting and creating beautiful imagery for decades and travelling whenever she could.

She never remarried after her husbands passing, and lived happily withing the peaceful landscape of New Mexico. Many of her most famous paintings were created during this time in her life, and the New Mexico Museum of Art is honored to be able to display those paintings in an exhibit dedicated to O’Keeffe and her incredible repertoire.

*New Mexican Landscape
by Georgia O’Keeffe. A
perfect example of her
daring and bold use of
color palettes.*





A MODERNIST ICON

O'Keeffe's unique and revolutionary style played an important role in modernist history. She had a unique vision and experimented with interpretation, pushing the boundaries of landscape painting. She took many artistic liberties with her use of line, color and form that created a style specific to her.

Throughout her career, she faced adversity of being a woman in a male-dominated industry. Her work speaks for itself in its new and unique style, and she continued to create and pave a new path in her industry.

Her work is an important part of modernism, and even if it wasn't recognized by her colleagues at the time, it is recognized in art histo-

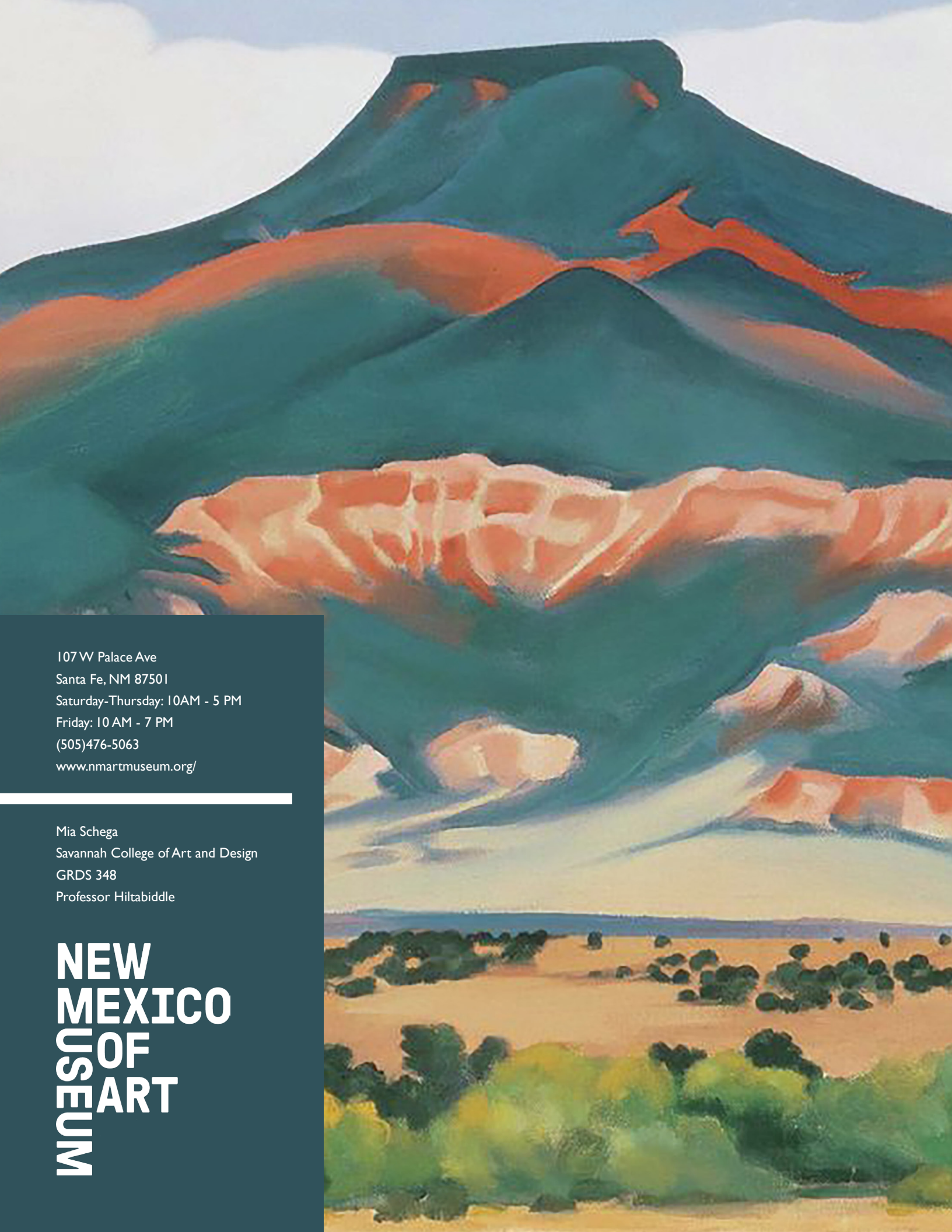
ry of today. She was a visionary and created a path for women in the painting world. Her use of color is one of the most identifiable aspects of her artwork. She made bold choices when it came to her color palette, combining beautiful bright colors that added to the visual identity of her work. By combining colors that were both natural and unnatural, she created visually interesting imagery that draws the viewer in.

Her attention to detail in her composition is also noteworthy. She often centers her work around a landform, drawing attention to its magnitude and natural beauty. Her point of view highlights the beauty of the natural world and emphasizes the presence of nature. O'Keeffe

truly has the ability to combine interpretation with representation in a way that captures the essence of the landscapes she paints.

O'Keeffe never held back in any aspect of her work. She fully committed to her style with interesting compositions and color combinations and never shyed away from them. Her well-deserved confidence is truly displayed in her work. Her incredible skill and precision combined with her keen eye and natural talent propelled her work and her unique vision. Overall, O'Keeffe is an important figure in modernist history, and her paintings will live on as a part of that history as well. Her legacy as a pioneering female artist will inspire generations, as she has left her mark on the landscape of American art.

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