

# SEAN KELLY

Pogrebin, Robin. "To U.S. From Belgium", *The New York Times*, October 29, 2015.

## The New York Times

### To U.S. From Belgium



A 1996 oil on canvas work by Ilse D'Hollander.  
Estate of Ilse D'Hollander and Sean Kelly, New York

The dealer Sean Kelly recently grew captivated by the Belgian artist Ilse D'Hollander, in part because of her short but prolific life (she committed suicide in 1997 at 29), in part because he became increasingly aware of her geometric paintings, some of which were featured at David Zwirner last year.

"She has this extraordinary talent for distilling form, landscape, abstraction and color," Mr. Kelly said. "Her palette is very unusual. It has a lot to do with that great tradition of Belgian Northern European artists dealing with a quality of light."

So he decided to give the artist her first solo show in the United States, traveling to Belgium recently to choose the paintings and watercolors for the exhibition, which opens Jan. 8 at his 10th Avenue gallery.

"It's impossible to separate Ilse D'Hollander's work from her personality," Eric Rinckhout wrote in an essay. "She withdrew into her work as into a house, to seek the rest, order and control she could not find in her head at times."

While Ms. D'Hollander's work period was brief — from 1989 until her death — the last few years were particularly productive. "She really was blasting through," Mr. Kelly said.

"It is a distinct and pure voice — one that was tragically lost very early," he added. "Who knows where it would have gone?"