

About the Collector

Jordan D. Schnitzer has made his mark in the global contemporary art world through his prodigious collecting, as well as by serving museums across the United States by making his collection freely available and accessible to all. Schnitzer grew up surrounded by art in Oregon, where his mother operated a contemporary Northwest art gallery, The Fountain Gallery of Art, for 25 years. Schnitzer purchased his first work of art when he was 14 years old. It was through his mother and her gallery that his initial acquisition turned into a life-long pursuit.

Schnitzer began buying contemporary prints in earnest in 1988. Prints seized his interest for their technical versatility and collaborative process. Today, the collections of Jordan D. Schnitzer and His Family Foundation numbers more than 20,000 works in all mediums by contemporary artists from around the world. Schnitzer and his family foundation has a deep commitment to collecting the work of Ellsworth Kelly, having published a two-volume catalogue raisonné: *The Prints of Ellsworth Kelly* and an anthology of personal tributes to Ellsworth Kelly entitled *Letters to Ellsworth*. "His work has a particular effect on me that is transformational," Jordan Schnitzer says of Kelly's work. "When I'm in a room with just one of his pieces, I feel an inner calm, almost a meditative state."