

JOHN HIMMEL DECORATIVE ARTS



DAPHNIS

After S-29-69

Signed Daphnis and numbered 1/6 on label affixed to the reverse
Aubusson wool tapestry by Pinton Frères workshop circa 1970.

Nassos Daphnis (1914-2010) was a Greek-born American painter and sculptor recognized for his mastery of geometric abstraction and his evolution into what became known as hard-edge painting. In the late 1950s, Daphnis developed his color-plane theory to liberate color from the restriction of form. In doing so, he used multiple planes of solid color to create the illusion of depth, space, and movement amid smooth, uninterrupted surface textures. The interplay of Daphnis' carefully chosen palette and dynamic shapes results in a vibrating, tension-ridden energy that allows color to be the primary element of the work, unconstrained by line or form.

His work is included in the Guggenheim Museum, New York; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Museum of Modern Art, New York; Baltimore Museum, Baltimore, MD; Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY; and Macedonian Museum of Contemporary Art, Thessaloniki, Greece.

"The important thing for me was to place the color in its proper plane, which I feel is the only way that a color can exist."

Height: 61.75"/156.8 cm
Width: 62.25"/158 cm