

The appeal of abstraction

Rita Letendre – Clip 5

Well...when...at that moment I was at the École de Beaux Arts and I was very impressed by Gauguin, Van Gogh and stuff like that and then there was during the time that I was at Ecole de Beaux Arts there was an exhibition that was called le Salon des Refusés, and the teacher at that time said that it was pretty awful, it was junk. But you know this is enough to...when you're twenty you say, what? - I want to know what is that.... So I went to see it with two of the most adventurous young students and I say Gee, that's very nice as a matter of fact. I don't know why, but it looks like very new thinking. I was very interested about what the new feeling, the new invention...possibility that I could feel in it...I was not ready for it...it took me a couple of years before I was able to do a painting that is called *Jardin d'Etoile*.