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“Untitled (White Multiple Inner Band),” 2003, Mary Corse (b. 1945). Glass microspheres and acrylic on canvas, 96 × 240 in. (243.8 × 609.6 cm). COURTESY KAYNE GRIFFIN CORCORAN, LOS ANGELES; LEHMANN MAUPIN, NEW YORK; AND LISSON GALLERY, LONDON. PHOTOGRAPH © MARY CORSE

“A Survey in Light” is Mary Corse’s first solo museum survey, which arrives at the Whitney Museum of American Art on June 8, 2018. The curious works pay tribute to the artist’s studies in physics but also her enormous talent as an artist. Works from throughout Corse’s career feature in the exhibition that runs until November 25, 2018.

Mary Corse (b. 1945, Berkeley, CA), a trained Abstract painter, emerged as one of the few women associated with the West Coast Light and Space movement in the mid-1960s. “She shared with her contemporaries a deep fascination with perception and with the possibility that light itself could serve as both a subject and material of art. Yet while others largely migrated away from painting into sculptural and environmental projects, Corse approached the question of light through painting,” says the museum.

According to the museum, this solo exhibition highlights the critical moments of experimentation as Corse engaged with tropes of Modernist painting, from the monochrome to the grid. All the while, the artist charted her own course through readings in quantum physics and complex probes into a range of “painting” materials, ranging from fluorescent light and Plexiglas to metallic flakes, glass microspheres, and clay.

“The survey will bring together for the first time Corse’s key bodies of work — including her early shaped canvases, freestanding sculptures, and light encasements that she engineered in the mid-1960s, in her early twenties, as well as her breakthrough White Light paintings, begun in 1968, and the Black Earth series that she initiated after moving in 1970 from downtown Los Angeles to Topanga Canyon, where she lives and works today,” says the museum.