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Robert Fishko, *Director*

ELAINE DE KOONING
(1918-1989)

Veronica, 1960

oil on paper

15 x 20 inches

signed lower right "E de K"

titled and dated verso



Provenance

The Artist and Her Estate
and thence by descent to the current owner

Note

In 1957 after parting ways with her husband the artist Willem de Kooning, Elaine de Kooning left New York to accept a teaching position at the University of New Mexico. The scenery of the American Southwest became a prominent theme in her subsequent work, as did the Mexican city of Ciudad Juárez located immediately across the border from El Paso, Texas. It was during her travels there that de Kooning first witnessed violent and dramatic bullfights that spawned a signature series of drawings, watercolors, and paintings by the Artist. The turbulent and twisting shapes and colors of the spectacle inspired a bolder and more vibrant palette, as the figure of the bull emerged or disappeared within each of de Kooning's masterful compositions.

Around the title, the artist wrote "I inform the painting of my ideas; the painting informs me of my desires. Veronica refers to the pass in bullfighting as well as the saint and the color of the flower."