SPECTRUM NY NEWS & HIGHLIGHTS p.24

art BUSINESS NEWS

WINTER 2013 • THE ART INDUSTRY'S NEWS LEADER SINCE 1977

François Chartier's **Light-Bulb Moment**

2013 YEAR IN REVIEW

The trade show ends … **NOW WHAT?**

10 UPCOMING MUSEUM EXHIBITIONS WORTH THE WAIT

THE YEAR'S BEST

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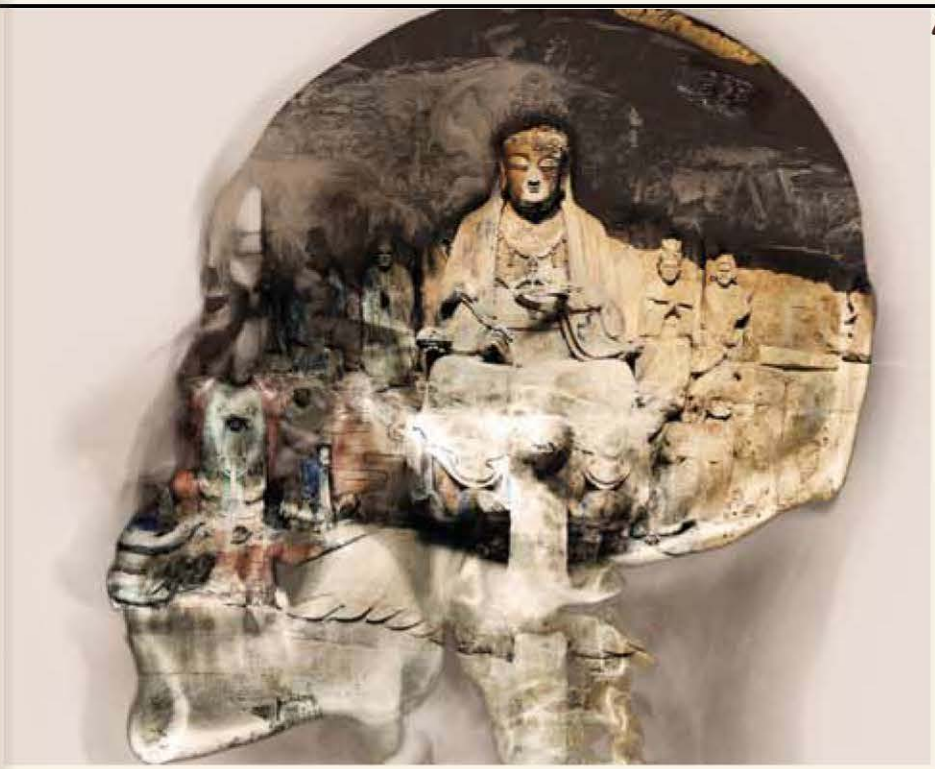
Fu Wenjun



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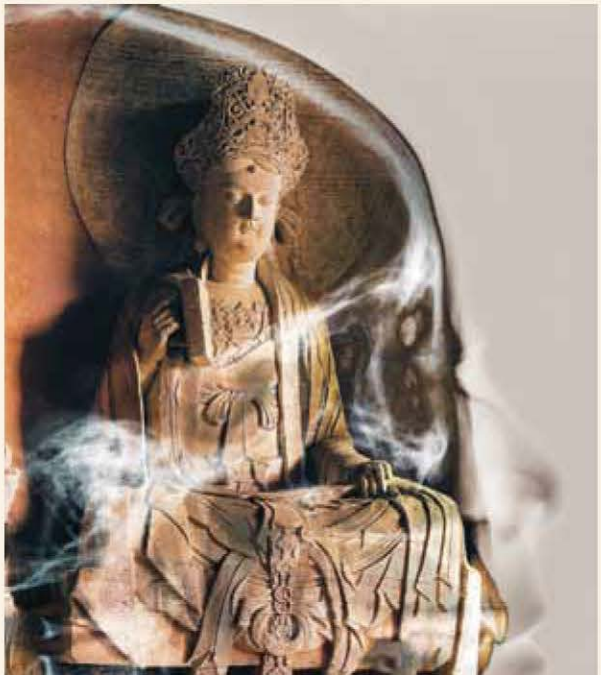
Booth number: 324

Thought Reading 2010-2011

Thought reading is one of the six supernormal powers in Buddhism, which include the divine vision, divine hearing, unimpeded bodily function, thought reading, complete extinction of afflictions and the superknowledge of the past lifetimes of oneself and others. Thought reading, with the medium of the heart, has its core of getting to know people's thoughts in a real way. Based on this idea, the artist Fu Wenjun creates his works, intending to explain in the form of art the existence and the manifestation of "thought reading" in the current society. The radiography technology of the clinical medicine is used to imitate the human body's skull image, in order to present the ideas in the human head. Buddhist sculptures take the place of the contents in the brain tissue, which makes the work present the composition of the fact and the fiction. Obviously, thoughts of human beings cannot be so identical; Buddhist sculputures appear in the brain, which represent the faith, are just forms used to disguise the true thoughts. Thought reading referes to the fact that all the things related to the heart can be seen by our heart; yet the premise is to open your heart completely. However, in a society putting money above everything else, people are always scheming against others and never think about to open their heart. On the other hand, the modern people are in disrupt mental state; everyone wears the mask made of identity, status, rights, and show rarely his real face, much less the true heart; with a long time of wearing, he even forgets original himself.



VLAD GRISS

Vlad Griss is one of the few contemporary artists, who works in the art of bronze plastics. His sculptures are quite unique, queerish and grasp the attention of the viewer by intricate shapes, overwhelming emotion and epatage.

The artist derives his inspiration from trying to understand the surrounding world by turning it inside out, flaking it and breaking into pieces to rip off the outer illusive shell and strive for harmony. The concept is based on the artist's perception of the universe and is reflected through energetic and dynamic visual images, which are to bring about a powerful flow of inspiration coming deep from the heart.

With high professionalism the artist utilizes a special technique of bronze plastics and polish. The artworks created this way in surrealistic manner are infused with passion and the eternal harmony, which seems to go on forever. Bronze as a noble metal itself appears to be a symbol of infinite power of such noble qualities as love, faith, wisdom, strength, which is expressed through the artistic images. For instance, the artwork "Four-Dimensional Crucifixion" develops the issue dedicated to the eternal conflict of unity of God and tearing Him into four world religions.

When describing Vlad Griss's sculptures, we find ourselves in the world of symbolism, where the Beauty comes from under the mask of Tragedy, which reflects the transformation of habitual patterns and destroying the familiar stereotypes of beauty perception. It excites and lures the viewer with its mystery and incomprehensible depth.

"I found myself completely drawn in the depth of "brutal esthetics" of your sculptures. I am well-known as "the king of cashmere", so I'm gonna call you "king of bronze" - said an old friend and fan of Vlad Griss's artworks, a famous French designer Lucien Pella-Finet.He is a frequent quest in his studio and in the personal collection of the couturier there is a number of Vlad Griss's pieces of art.

And now, on the eve of the first exhibition of Vlad Griss in the USA, Artexpo New York 2014, let the words of the great artist of fashion become the artis's lucky symbol.

Good luck
Lucien Pellat-Finet

The Ear of Van Gogh

Nobody knows exactly why Van Gogh cut his ear. It is only known that he wrapped this ear into the newspaper and presented it to his beloved woman. At that time it was considered as madness, and at present, it would be a performance. But, anyway, there is no more impressive act in the history of world art. I tis known that "The art requires sacrifice" and the cut ear symbolizes the life of Van Gogh as it is, sacrificed to art, true and intransigent . Nowadays, the cut ear of Van Gogh is a philosophic fetish with a lot of interpretations and its metaphoric essence is infinite.

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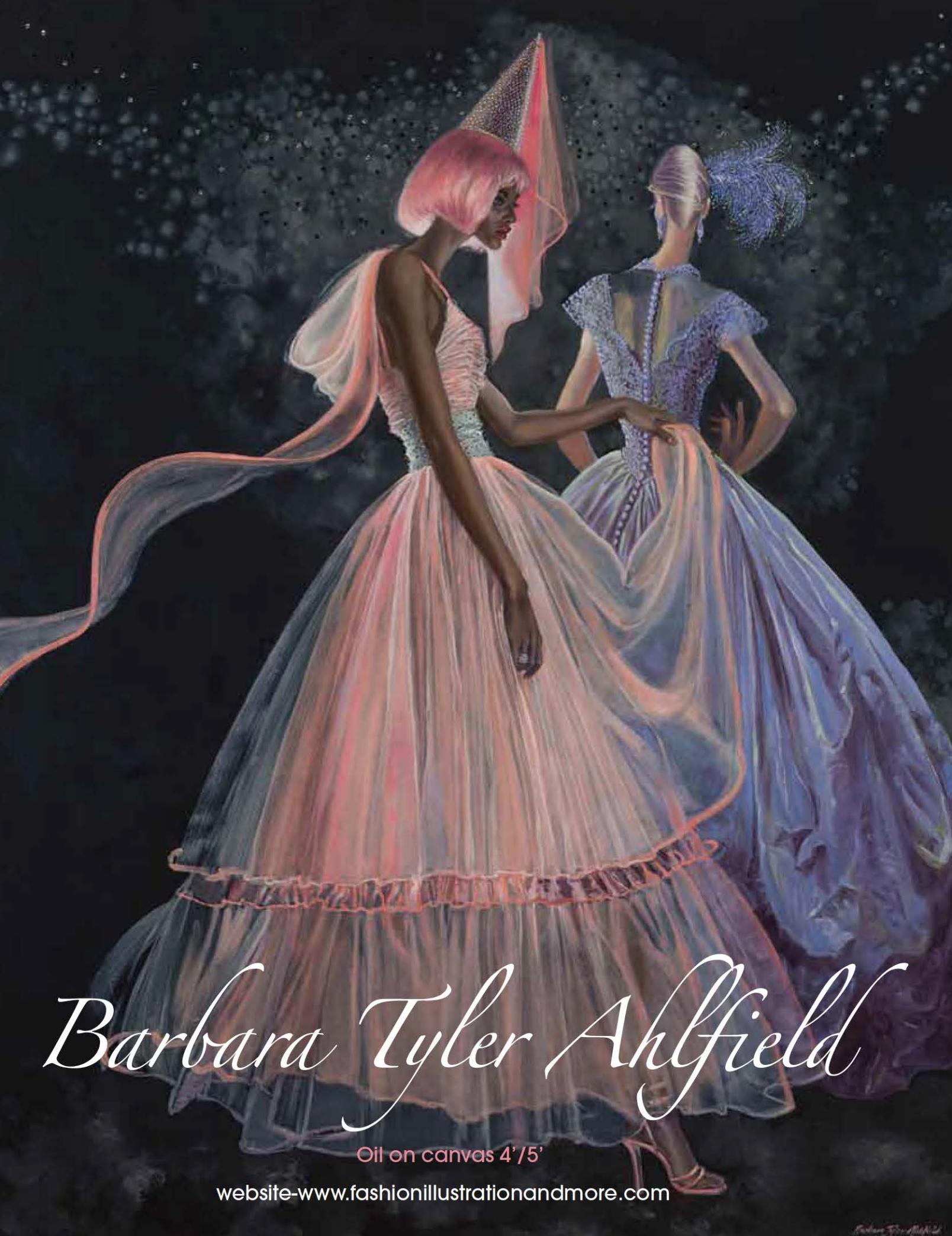
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PERSPECTIVES

ONWARD AND UPWARD

Wow, what a year. Over the past 12 months, *Art Business News* has undergone a powerful transformation, with all-new design and engaging editorial. I hope you're enjoying the magazine as much as we enjoy putting it together.

A similar renaissance seems to be taking place in the art world at large. The fact that works by Pablo Picasso, Jean-Michel Basquiat and Willem de Kooning sold for $4 million or more this year during Frieze Week speaks volumes. Simply put: Collectors—and not just the high rollers—are spending again. SPECTRUM New York and Miami and The Affordable Art Fair, for instance, are making modern art accessible to a wide range of collectors.

It's been a big year for art news headlines, too. For a recap, have a look at our Year in Review (p. 34), in which we sum up our favorite museum exhibitions and gallery shows from 2013. Looking ahead, check out the artists we'll have our eyes on and the exhibits we can't wait to see in the coming year. And get your calendars out because we'll tell you the top art fairs you won't want to miss in 2014.

Speaking of headlines, just this week, I was astonished to read about the discovery of those 1,500 works of art—$1 billion worth, including masterpieces by Picasso, Henri Matisse and Marc Chagall—that the Nazis confiscated and hid for 70 years. Unbelievable. Who knows what will happen next?

It's always exciting to unearth classics, but at *Art Business News*, we're even more interested in discovering today's hidden gems. This issue features some extraordinary contemporary artists, such as cover artist François Chartier and photographer Malena Assing. And the search is on for more extraordinary artists: see p. 58 to learn more about our quest to find the top 50 emerging artists for 2014.

I wouldn't feel right signing off without mentioning an exciting new project I'm working on: the National Artist Conference and Awards (NACA). It's a cross between an artist retreat, a marketing boot camp and an exhibition. If you need some R&R after such a busy year, I invite you to check out the site at nationalartistconference.com.

I hope you enjoy the issue!

Eric Smith

Winter 2013

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Subscriptions to *Art Business News* are available to U.S. subscribers for $20 for one year (4 issues). Call 855-881-5861 or visit us online at www.artbusinessnews.com.

Art Business News is published four times per year by Madavor Media. The name "*Art Business News*" is a registered trademark of Redwood Media Group.

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Adam and Eve 48″ x 48″

Night 48″ x 48″

Luck 60″h x 36″w

Vladimir Nazarov

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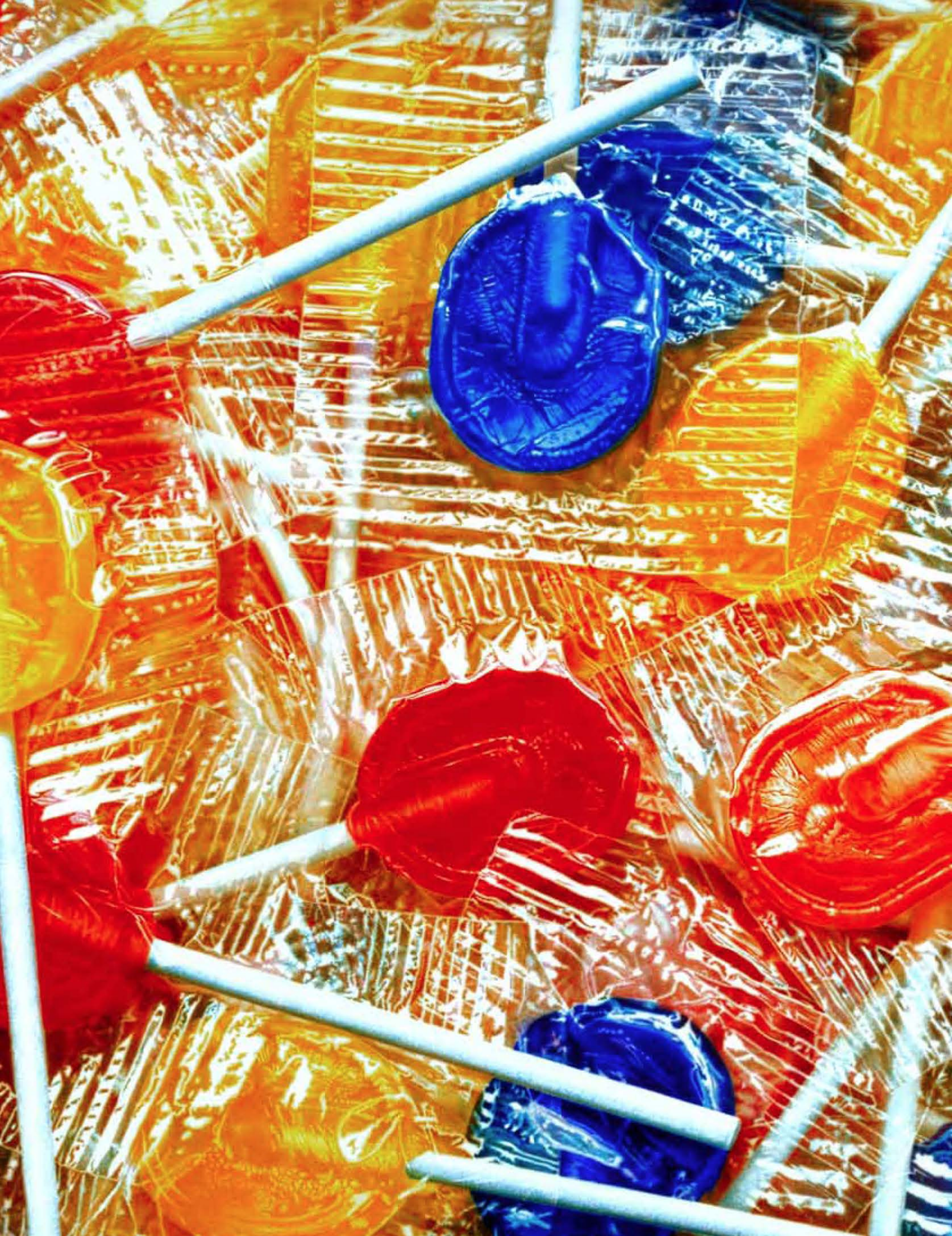
Mastiff
31.5″h x 25.25″w

Rockstar
20″h x 23″w



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BY JULIE JACOBS

On the Cover: "True the Artist's Eyes," 2009, by François Chartier.
For more on Chartier's work, turn to p. 54.

Left page: "Lollipops," 1998, also by François Chartier.

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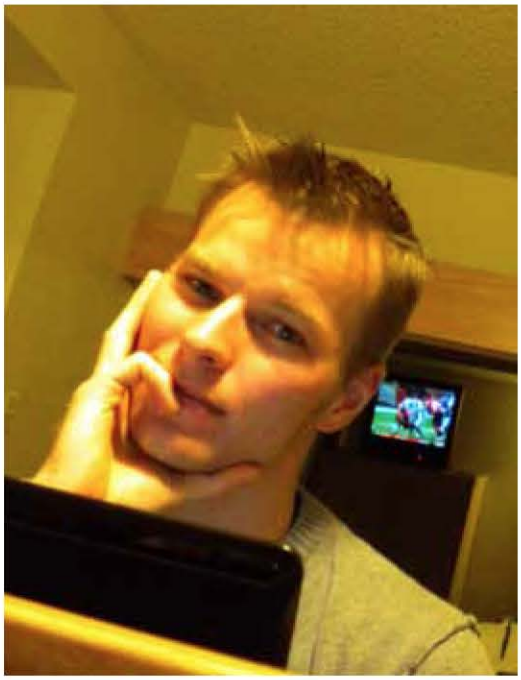
Joseph Armstrong, a recent graduate from Millersville University with multiple degrees in history, philosophy and film studies, is perpetually intrigued by the Constantine tapestries, which are housed at the Philadelphia Museum of Art.



Award-winning writer and editor **Julie Jacobs** admits that one of her favorite paintings, for many sentimental reasons, is Renoir's "Two Girls in the Meadow." Jacobs's work has appeared in numerous national, regional and local publications, including American Way, Lifestyles, MovieMaker, Inside Jersey and Suburban Essex. She also maintains corporate clients and runs Wynne Communications publishing firm.

Christine Schrum is Director of Content and Social Media for Redwood Media Group—purveyors of fine art fairs including Artexpo New York, [SOLO], SPECTRUM New York/Miami and DECOR Expo. She's also a freelance writer, blogger and community director. Her favorite artist is Emily Carr, a British Columbia-born artist and writer heavily inspired by the indigenous peoples of the Pacific Northwest Coast.

Editorial assistant at Madavor Media, **Megan Kaplon** has been contributing content and editorial expertise to an array of magazines since graduating from Emerson College with a degree in writing, literature and publishing. Her favorite artist is Salvador Dali, and his painting "Woman with a Head of Roses" hangs in her bedroom.

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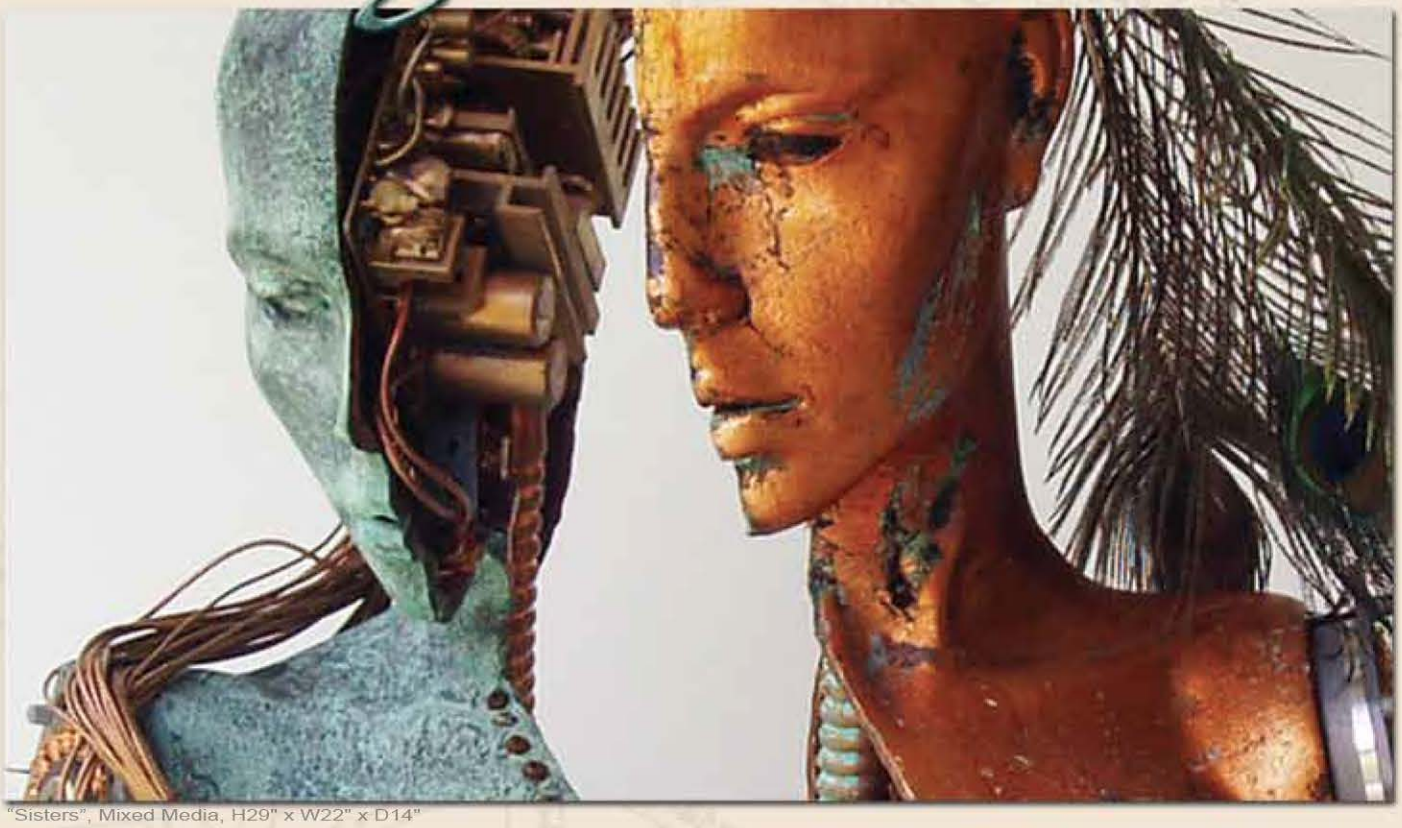

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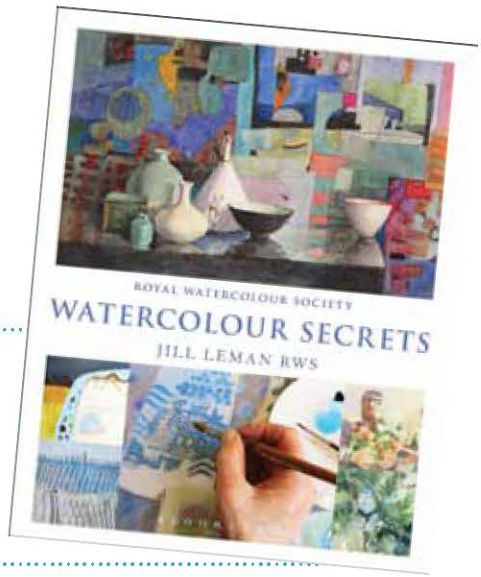
A GOOD READ

3 BOOKS FOR THE ART ENTHUSIAST.

With a team of contributing art historians, **"Art That Changed the World" ($40, DK Publishing)** follows the transformation of art from ancient cave paintings to the realist and abstract paintings that have dominated the modern age. The editors break down and analyze each movement and situate it within the overall timeline of history and artistic evolution. Not just a coffee-table ornament, this book is an excellent reference and source of entertainment for all art lovers.

Flowers have long fascinated photographers, but in **"joSon: Intimate Portraits of Nature" ($75, Graphis)** photographer joSon, a native of the Philippines who studied to become a Buddhist monk before finding his calling behind the lens, uses his experience photographing people, animals and expansive landscapes to bring new life to the often-contemplated world of flora. Set strikingly against solid white or black backgrounds, joSon's flowers will thrill the backyard botanist and photography geek alike.



From the Royal Watercolour Society and author Jill Leman, an accomplished artist in her own right, comes **"Watercolour Secrets" ($50, Bloomsbury)**, an in-depth look at the strategies and methods of some of the U.K.'s best watercolor artists. Technically precise and artistically inspiring, this book features Peter Blake, Ken Howard, Sonia Lawson and many other masters of the medium.

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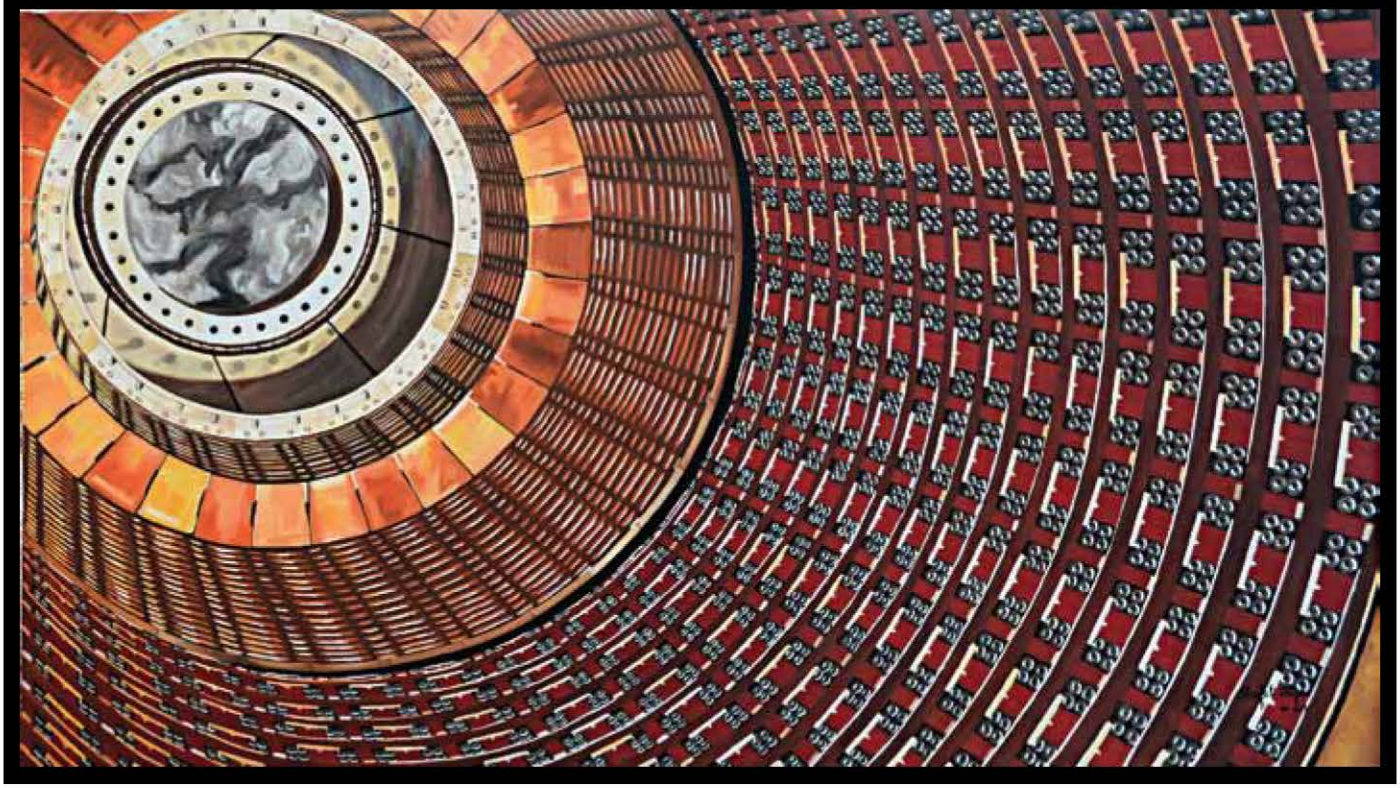
I, a universe of atoms
- An atom in the universe
(Richard Feynman)



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INSIDE THE FRAME

A PORTRAIT OF POLLOCK

AN 18-MONTH RESTORATION PROJECT REVEALS NEW INSIGHTS INTO THE ARTIST'S WORK.

James Coddington, chief conservator at MoMA, points out some finer details of the painting to Bank of America New York City President Jeff Barker.

Marrying art and science, the restoration team at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York returned three of Jackson Pollock's masterpieces to their former glory. Throughout more than half a century, Pollock's "Number 1A, 1948," "One: Number 31, 1950" and "Echo: Number 25, 1951" had discolored and dulled from exposure to heat, dirt, light and a 1958 fire in the museum gallery.

According to MoMA's chief conservator Jim Coddington, the main goal of the 18-month restoration project was to "remove the accretions of time." Yet their work also provided opportunities for new discovery and insight into Pollock's process.

"It's not so much the restoration as looking at it from a couple of inches for weeks on end, months on end," Coddington explains. "You begin to see things and notice subtle consistencies that reveal more about his technique."

Restoration of "One: Number 31, 1950" was a particular challenge for the team. Through archival photos, imaging technology, microscopic analysis and X-radiography, the MoMA staff discovered that polyvinyl acetate, applied during restoration in the 1960s, covered some passages of the image. Removing this layer gave Coddington an opportunity to examine Pollock's techniques more closely.

Pollock is renowned for his unique style of drip painting, but restoration helped to illuminate his other innovative techniques. To create "Number 1A, 1948," Pollock dipped his hands in oil paint, lightly coloring the canvas and laying the groundwork for the essential composition. Restoration of the three paintings showed that Pollock created his work through very deliberate applications.

"I thought that I knew Pollock pretty well, but there were a few passages where he applied some paint vertically," Coddington says. "He was working with small little drips of paint to essentially edit in what seemed to be subtle ways. But obviously to Pollock, they were very important."

Although the project, funded through a grant from the Bank of America Art Conservation Project, wrapped up in October, Coddington says that mysteries about Pollock's process still remain.

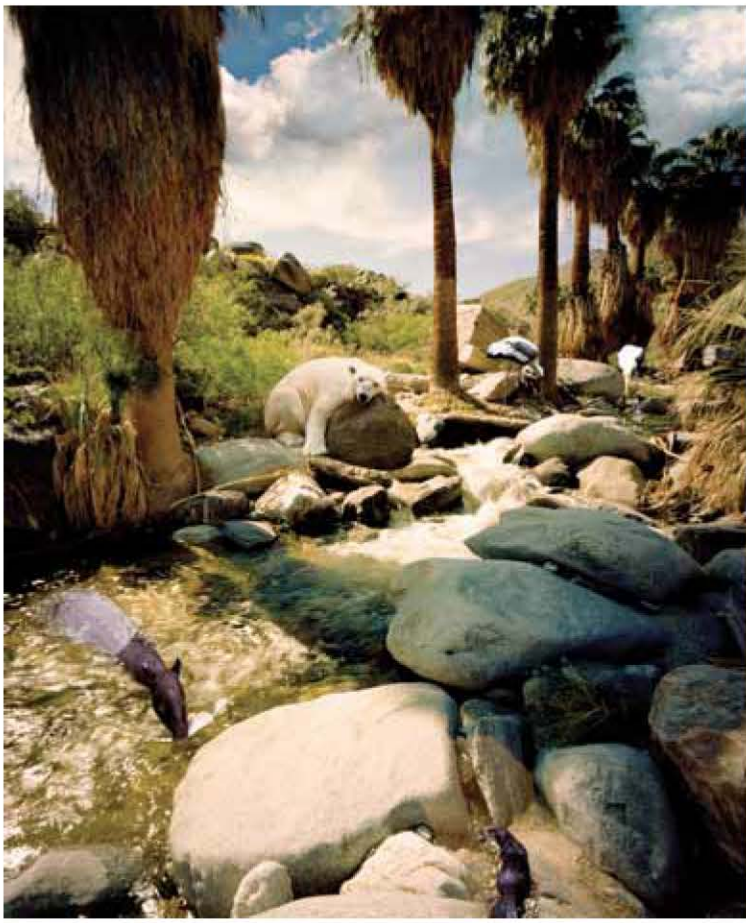
"How exactly were these paintings made?" the conservator wonders. "Might they actually be made a multiplicity of ways rather than one single way? It raises other questions that over time we'll try to figure out." ABN

For Artists and Gallery Owners

Redwood Media Announces its Newest Marketing Conference.

Redwood Media recently announced the launch of the first Annual National Artist Conference & Awards (NACA) event, which will take place May 14-16, 2014 at the West Baden Springs Hotel in French Lick, Indiana. This three-day event will offer seminars, workshops, panel discussions and everything else you need to market your artwork and business successfully. The conference will culminate in an exhibition, followed by an awards ceremony and gala.

For more information, visit nationalartist-conference.com.



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BY KATHRYN PECK

NEXT STEPS

THERE'S NO DOWNTIME AFTER A TRADE SHOW WRAPS.

The fall lineup of trade shows may be behind us, but the work isn't finished yet. To make the most of your trade-show experience, don't overlook the importance of a thorough postshow evaluation and follow-up. Here are some tips to help ensure that you don't let networking and sales opportunities slip through the cracks.

PROMPTLY FOLLOW UP WITH ALL LEADS AND CONTACTS FROM THE SHOW. Sure, you may have exhausted your supply of business cards, but that fact doesn't mean that everyone who has one will contact you. It is important to take the lead and follow up by contacting both current and prospective customers.

If you did your homework and went to the show prepared, you will have devised a system to prioritize leads and will have collected relevant information on each contact to assist in personalizing your follow-up communications. E-mails and telephone calls are easy enough; for current clients, however, consider something as simple as a handwritten thank-you or nice-to-see-you note.

SPREAD THE WORD. You may have kept nonattendees up to date during the show with posts to your Facebook page or Twitter feed, but it's important to continue to market yourself in this way after the show ends. Consider assembling a press release with highlights and accomplishments from the show. You can send press releases to media outlets and to contacts, and you can post both press releases and photos on social-media sites.

ADD NEW CONTACTS TO YOUR DIRECT MAIL OR E-MAIL MARKETING LIST. It's helpful to apprise contacts of upcoming events featuring your work, new designs and new works. However, make sure to give contacts the opportunity to opt out of receiving future mailings or e-mails.

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PERFORM A POST-SHOW ANALYSIS. Take some time to ask yourself some simple questions about the show experience and track your leads to calculate the return on your investment for the show. These steps will help you to determine whether the show was worth the investment and will help you to prepare for future shows. For example, you might want to ask yourself the following questions:

- What worked, and what didn't?
- Was the booth effective? Could I have improved anything—the location, the lighting or the design, for example?
- Did I meet the right people?
- What did I learn from other artists or exhibitors?
- What did I learn about the industry?
- Was this the right trade show for me? ABN

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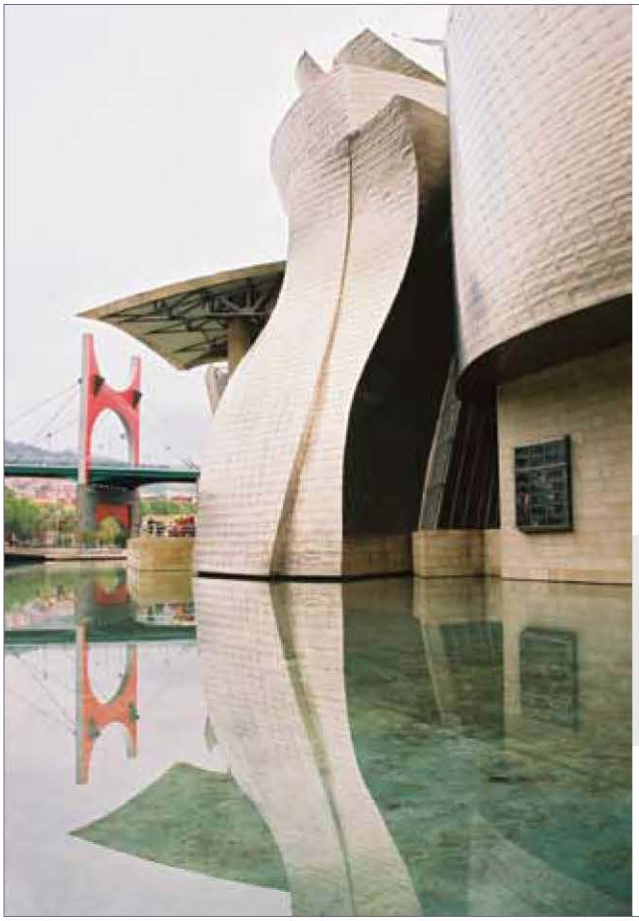

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15 MINUTES

BY MEGAN KAPLON

WHERE ART GOES ON ADVENTURE

ABN TALKS WITH GALLERY OWNERS D. ARTHUR AND LISA WILSON ABOUT THEIR JOURNEY INTO THE ART WORLD TOGETHER, THE MESSAGE THEY HOPE TO CONVEY AND EXACTLY WHO RHUPERT IS.

Lisa and D. Arthur Wilson, owners of the original Art Gone Wild Gallery in Key West, Fla., and the new sister gallery in Santa Fe, N.M., find themselves living a charmed life in the art world; however, their success did not always comes easily.

The husband-and-wife team is making some brave and risky moves, such as opening a new gallery during the tough economic recovery of 2010. Those risks paid off: The Wilsons are doing well enough to expand, and Lisa and Arthur's work continues to attract more collectors. The couple is even speaking with some Hollywood producers about creating a feature-length animated film based on Arthur's signature character, Rhupert the ostrich, although the pair cannot yet share any further details.

ABN spoke with the couple to find out what drew them to art and to each other and to discover the secrets of their success as artists and gallery owners.

Art Business News: **How did you first get involved in art?**
Arthur: My first art show was in 1976 in Dayton, Ohio, when I was 17. In the '70s and early '80s, mall art shows were [among] the major ways to make a living. When I tell people today that weren't around in that era, they go, "What? In malls?" But you must understand that malls were the new marketplace. Downtowns were dying across America at the time, people had not yet started renovating downtown historic districts, … the shopping mall was brand new and promoters were doing art shows there. They were typically traveling shows, and I ran into one, and these people were making a living at art and traveling the country. I said, "Hey, it doesn't get any better than that," so I bought myself a van, and I started doing art shows coast to coast for the next four or five years.

ABN: **What about you, Lisa?**
Lisa: My mother was an amazing vocal-music educator, and she gave me that beautiful balance of always having a creative space. I was always surrounded by art and performances and museums, and I was a vocal-music major and dance minor in college.

But when Arthur and I met, I really hadn't thought too much about being a professional two-dimensional artist. We got married, and I thought, "Well, I'll just work for him." But, as an artistic soul, he recognized that I was getting incredibly restless not having my own expression, so he encouraged me to start playing with different mediums. I started with—this is hilarious—large acrylic fruits and vegetables in my own style, and God only knows why they sold. I swear I don't know why anyone gave me money, but they did. I think it was because they were big and cheap.

ABN: **How did you meet?**
A: At an art show in Boulder, Colo. I had my son with me, and I was recently divorced, and I was like, "Well, I'm not going to hit on any girls, not with my son around." And [Lisa] was done with men. She was going through a divorce herself. So neither of us was looking. In fact, we were both intentionally *not* looking. But she walked by me, and I thought, "This gal is really pretty." I complimented her, and she discounted my compliment, like women typically do. The next day, I walked into her booth, and I said, "Hi, my name is Arthur," and I put out my hand, and that was it. We married a year to the date later, and it's been 13 magical years.

L: When I met him, it was true, we both were not looking. And I'll tell you what: He swept me completely off my feet. … It's been a rollicking, hilarious journey ever since, and we really adore each other.

ABN: **Arthur, how did you get into painting wildlife?**
A: Wildlife was actually an early love of mine. I grew up always on an adventure as a kid, exploring the woods.

ABN: **Tell me a little bit about the character, Rhupert, who appears in a lot of your work.**
A: Rhupert the ostrich was born out of my wildlife work. At first, Rhupert started off a little bit slow, but he is now 90 percent of what I sell and 75 percent of what the Key West gallery sells. He's very, very popular. My most expensive pieces I've ever sold have been Rhupert, and he's also the most fun thing I've ever done.

Rhupert can be easily dismissed as just whimsical art or cute art, but there's actually a great deal of depth to him. He's balanced with a sense of humor. I've found that, almost no matter how serious something may seem, if I balance it with a sense of humor, it makes things digestible.

Rhupert [represents] being

"RHUPERT IS KIND OF A FORREST GUMP MEETS OBI-WAN KENOBI."
–D. ARTHUR WILSON

"What's in a Name?"
D. Arthur Wilson

yourself. That's the boiled-down version: Be yourself. My favorite quote from Rhupert—Rhupert gets attributed with all these quotes—is about the three hardest things to do in life. First of all, to find out who you are. That's not easy, and that's the beginning of the journey. The next hardest thing above that is to actually be who you are, and that takes a certain amount of commitment and courage. And the hardest thing in life is to share who you are, and that is downright terrifying for most of us. Rhupert is kind of a Forrest Gump meets Obi-Wan Kenobi; he's a wise Jedi master, but he doesn't have a clue at the same time.

Lisa and D. Arthur Wilson volunteer and raise funds for various wildlife organizations.

ABN: **Lisa, what kind of work are you creating these days?**

L: My current style is one that I literally developed just by playing, which is the guidance that my husband gave me. When I go to canvas, that's what I do. I say a little prayer over it, and then I just give myself permission to play and not take myself so seriously and just see what we have here. I started out on board with acrylic mixed media, and … now I'm working on acrylic as my canvas, so I'm getting this crazy dimension to the work that is really a combination of two separate paintings.

ABN: **If you had to give a thesis for your gallery, what would it be?**

A: I like to say it's "where art goes on adventure." And I believe that life's an adventure. My wife's and my work are so radically different, but, still, going on that abstract-expressionist trail is quite an adventure. And that's an adventure of the heart; she truly paints what she feels, and I marvel at how she can translate those emotions by the colors of paint she uses and the movement that's created. For me, personally, "adventure" is one of the greatest words there is when it comes to describing life. It incorporates it all: the challenges, the difficulties, the highs, the lows. Art is an expression of that and can take people on that adventure if they allow themselves to open themselves up to it.

"IT'S NOT ART THAT CREATES A SHOCK; IT'S ART THAT CREATES AN EYEBROW RAISE."

– LISA WILSON

"Star of the Night," D. Arthur Wilson

L: The thesis statement of our gallery would be: "It's a safe place to find yourself and connect with yourself." We think it's quite beautiful, but the art on the wall is so unique. It's not art that creates a shock; it's art that creates an eyebrow raise. Especially with the Rhupert work: … "Why the heck is there an ostrich in everything?" That makes people laugh at first, but then, once they get to know what Rhupert's message is, they begin to connect with the poignancy of D. Arthur's message. It's just a safe place to discover yourself—a safe place to learn something you might not have known. ABN

• *For more, visit Art Gone Wild Gallery at agwg.net.*

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REDWOOD MEDIA GROUP CELEBRATES THE DEBUT OF ITS FALL SHOW:

SPECTRUM NEW YORK

Redwood Media Group, parent company of Artexpo, SPECTRUM Art Fairs, DECOR Expo and *Art Business News*, recently celebrated the launch and debut of its first annual SPECTRUM New York fine art show. SPECTRUM, a show that caters to high-end collectors, buyers and art enthusiasts, featured a juried collection of contemporary works of art from established, mid-career artists and galleries from around the world. The event took place at Jacob K. Javits Convention Center in New York from October 3-6, 2013. The show included semi-private, daily art tours and two VIP opening parties with passed hors d'oeuvres and complimentary cocktails provided by Belaya Rus vodka. SPECTRUM also featured a special exhibition, "live" photo shoot and book signing from Jordan Matter, photographer and New York Times bestselling author of "Dancers Among Us."

THE FIRST-YEAR SHOW INCLUDED SEVERAL KEY SALES AND HIGHLIGHTS FOR ARTISTS AND EXHIBITORS INCLUDING:

- Marc Fattahi, an artist with Paintings in Motion, was picked up by a Fine Art Gallery in Long Island, for 30-40 pieces per year. He also sold three additional paintings for more than $10k each.

- Stygian Publishing sold "Dancing with Pomegranates," a $95k piece on the first day of the show. They sold dozens of pieces throughout the show to a collection of clients, both retail and trade.

- Chicago-based oil painter Darren Thompson sold out at the show.

- Deljou Art Gallery, based in Atlanta, sold approximately 30 pieces on trade day. Two of the gallery's artists who sold particularly well were Peter Kuttner and Craig Alan, which included a sale of Alan's "Populus-Conseptual ABS" piece.

- In his first show with Blazing Editions, Robert Hartshorn, an oil-on-canvas painter based in Cleveland, sold several originals ($15k), limited editions (approximately $3k) and proofs (prices range) throughout the show to galleries and retail buyers.

- Six-year-old child prodigy and abstract artist Shorya Mahanot sold an unframed 24 x 36 painting, "Currents," for $3,500.

- Contemporary landscape artist Mary Johnston sold 24 paintings throughout the show: two 30 x 30, one 24 x 24 and 21 of her smaller square pieces.

- In her first U.S. show, French artist, Frederique K, sold a framed 60 x 60 of "Gossip" for $7,300. Limited editions of the Gossip piece are available and the artist will return to the U.S. for Artexpo in April.

- Photographer Anna Paola Pizzocaro sold three pieces, including a 37 x 47 of "On the Other Side of the Mirror." Pizzocaro is originally from Milan but now lives in New York.

- Bestselling author and photographer Jordan Matter also sold two of his photographs at his first ever art fair.

SPECTRUM New York was created specifically to offer gallery owners, designers, architects and collectors innovative works by innovative, established artists. Featured artwork from approximately 70 established artists and galleries included original paintings, photography, sculpture, mixed media, glass and limited-edition prints. ABN

For more information about SPECTRUM Art Fairs, check out spectrum-newyork.com and spectrum-miami.com.

▶What's Next?

SPECTRUM Miami
Dec. 4-6, 2013,
spectrum-miami.com

Artexpo NY
(returns to Pier 94!),
April 4-6, 2014,
artexponewyork.com

Artists, collectors, gallery owners and buyers gathered for the launch of Redwood Media's very first SPECTRUM New York fine art show earlier this fall. The show highlighted the very best and newest works by top contemporary artists like Ira Reines, Jon Koones, Sheefali Asija, Samir Sammoun and many more.

ART TALK

10 TOP ART BLOGS TO FOLLOW

We all use the term "starving artist"; it's a moniker that's often a prerequisite for an artist's success.

But no one strives to literally become a starving artist.

Artists derive success from their passion to create art in which they have invested a certain amount of emotion.

BY JOSEPH ARMSTRONG

Here are some of our favorite blogs, with success as the goal and passion as the driving force, that cater to helping starving artists eat —or at least kill some time.

Barney Davey, the voice of **Art Print Issues**, has more than 30 years' experience in the industry and helps visual artists market themselves in more effective ways. His blog offers advice on how, what and where to sell your art, as well as video clips and links to helpful books and inspirational pieces to boost morale. *artprintissues.com*

Carolyn Edlund spent 20 years running a full-time production studio, representing artists and selling their art and is now executive director for Art Business Institute (artbusinessinstitute.org). Her blog, **Artsy Shark**, provides many useful tips on better art business practices, artist vignettes and interviews with gallery owners. *artsyshark.com*

Art Biz Coach is another useful site, offering direct consultation from the site's curator, Alyson Stanfield. The site offers videos with advice on how to be successful showing your art. Find out what to expect from galleries, how to avoid alienating perspective buyers, resources that can help, and how to get emotional fulfillment from your art. Her site also provides links to workshops nationwide, books and other helpful websites. *artbizcoach.com*

How many artists, when asked how they became artists, have answered, "Well, I wasn't any good at sports, so… ?" For starving artists trying to explore every avenue of exposure, the weekly podcast at **Bad at Sports** features contemporary artists and people in the art community discussing the art world and a range of related topics. A blog also discusses the art world from ideological and practical perspectives. *badatsports.com*

Daily Art Fixx comments on art history and promotes unknown artists. It has links to facts, historical pieces and artists and quotes and links for art subgenres, including painting, photography, sculpture and video art. For artists hoping to use this blog as a self-promotion tool, site creator Wendy Campbell offers numerous options for submission: in a group gallery, where your piece will be displayed with works from others; in a short feature with one to four pieces; or in a full feature with six or more pieces and a short artist bio. A neat feature of Campbell's site is the art-related prize-giveaway contest for anyone who chooses to enter. *dailyartfixx.com*

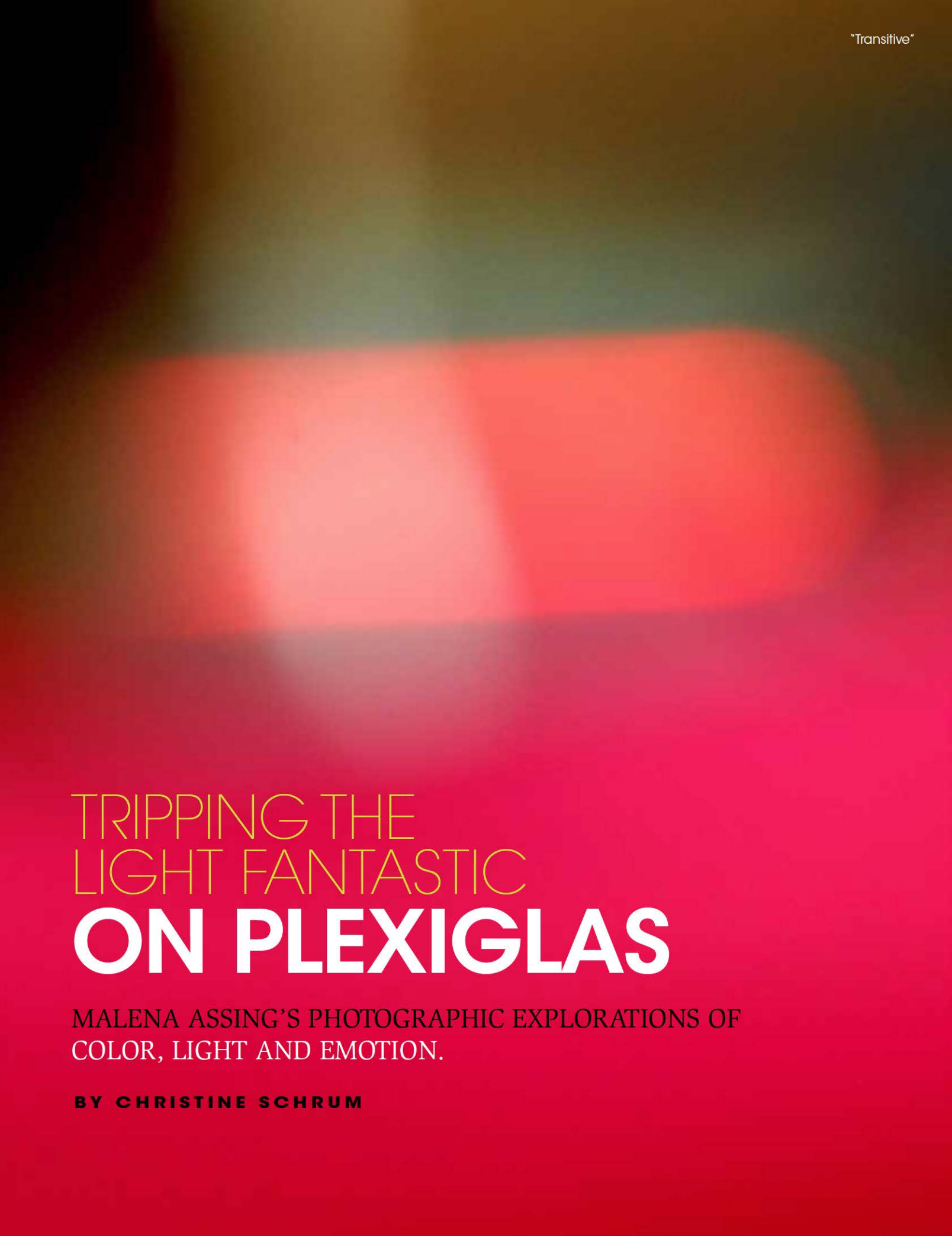
Connecting art lovers with exhibitions in South Carolina started **DailyServing**, but it grew to become an international network of artists. More than 30 writers contribute editorial here. Each month, its "Fan Mail" section provides a portrait of an artist, whom the editor selects, making this a great way for unknown artists to gain recognition. *dailyserving.com*

We just can't keep our eyes off another obscure, yet interesting site: **Doodlers Anonymous**. It focuses primarily on publishing fan- and artist-submitted works of—well—doodles. A database of featured artists is available, as are myriad interesting tools for the potential doodle star. If you're feeling particularly inspired—or bored—try the site's Showcase feature, which challenges visitors to submit doodles that conform to a set of parameters. For example, one challenge may be to draw a book cover from a class you wish you could have taken in high school. Download doodle wallpapers or order a Doodlers Anonymous coloring book of submissions, which the site publishes each year. *doodlersanonymous.com.*

Art dealer Edward Winkleman's blog, **edward_winkleman**, details the do's and don'ts for artists striving for success. Many posts focus on the trade of art from dealer and gallery owner perspectives. For artists looking for exhibition or increased sales and exposure, this site gives the all-important perspective from the other side of the tracks: the promoter. Many film directors will tell you about the experience they gained by dabbling in acting and gaining perspective in front of the camera. Winkleman's blog is a useful tool in applying that logic to the art business. *edwardwinkleman.com*

Although it accepts submission and suggestions from anyone, **Happy Famous Artists** focuses on promoting art from all realms that have already attained some level of success. Creators—Intelligensius Anarchus, The Great Attractor and Rick B—provide the site with an edgy feel. It features a huge amount of content, ranging from art, music, architecture and television to perspectives on pornography, travel, top-10 lists and a perfectly captioned "WTF?" section. Although not necessarily the "anarchist of art," happyfamousartists.com certainly fits into that niche. *happyfamousartists.com*

Dan Johnson, creator of **Right Brain Rockstar**, has given his site a credo: "Make creativity your day job." Johnson offers advice based on his experiences of the transition from art as a hobby to art as a profession. The site focuses on but is not limited to the topic of building a successful art website. His archive proves as inspirational as it is instructional, and he offers links to many useful books and products. *rightbrainrockstar.com* ABN



"Transitive"

TRIPPING THE LIGHT FANTASTIC ON PLEXIGLAS

MALENA ASSING'S PHOTOGRAPHIC EXPLORATIONS OF COLOR, LIGHT AND EMOTION.

BY CHRISTINE SCHRUM

"Evolution"

"Dreamness"

In Venezuela, the sun shines year-round, brightening everything it touches—from lush, green foliage to the deep blue sea. No surprise, then, that Venezuela-born photographer Malena Assing has had a lifelong love affair with light and color.

"I like the impact of bright colors," says the artist. "Vibrant colors represent life and being alive. With my work, I want to bring light and happiness to everybody… something that awakens their senses."

One look at Assing's abstract photography on paper or on Plexiglas, and you'll definitely feel the impact. Her works pulsate with dynamism. In "Running Lights III," for instance, Assing captures a series of unexpected, multihued reflections over indistinct objects. The result is electric.

Assing's "Incessant Movements" series of photographs in quick succession explores the movement of light and how it creates color fields with background shadows.

"I want to show viewers that there is nothing static—that everything changes continuously," says Assing. "Life itself is sequences of photographs of our experiences that we collect in our minds."

Growing up in Venezuela, Assing always dabbled in photography but did not pursue it in school because "studying art was not well seen." Instead, she obtained a bachelor's degree in business and a master's degree in advertising and marketing. In 1999, she moved to Miami, and everything changed.

"I had the chance to start anew," she says. She enrolled in art and photography classes, and her career took a 180-degree turn when she began taking portraits of children.

"I found that I had an innate ability to photograph children and come up with images that were somehow natural and appealing," she says. "I seem to have a special connection with kids and can reflect their personalities in my work."

She became a professional photographer in 2002 and has gone on to photograph hundreds of children and families in the Miami area and around the world. She has also done freelance work for Key Biscayne Magazine, Complot Magazine, Selecta magazine and others.

But when it comes to her more unleashed creative passions, Assing prefers to explore subtle nuances of light, color, shadows, abstraction and emotion. Critics sometimes compare her work to the emotive, intuitive paintings of the Lyrical Abstraction and Tachisme movements—a comparison she embraces.

"I work with emotions, and these emotions come from somewhere deep down. My work is intuitive, and color is the language that I use to express emotions."

In that vein, Assing says, Mark Rothko, Carlos Cruz-Diez, Julio le Parc and Wassily Kandinsky are her strongest influences, although she gains great inspiration from her three children, as well.

Currently, Assing is working on a new series of photographs with the working title of "Mystic." They feature vibrant colors, though less intense colors than those in her previous works. During Art Week Miami this December, she'll be showcasing new pieces at Curator's Art Voice Projects, a gallery in the Wynwood Art District. She has made a name for herself in Midtown Miami; last year, her work was well-received at SPECTRUM Miami.

Assing plans to head to Spain next year to participate in Foto Alicante. She's still deciding which pieces she'll bring, but one thing is certain: Her little corner of the show will be luminous with color. ABN

• *For more, check out malenaassing.com.*

FABIAN PEREZ

THE ROMANTIC ART OF FABIAN PEREZ

Robert Bane Fine Art is proud to introduce for the first time the extraordinary sculptures of Fabian Perez.

These sculptures are created by the traditional lost-wax method.
Each sculpture is finished by hand with a unique and spectacular patina.

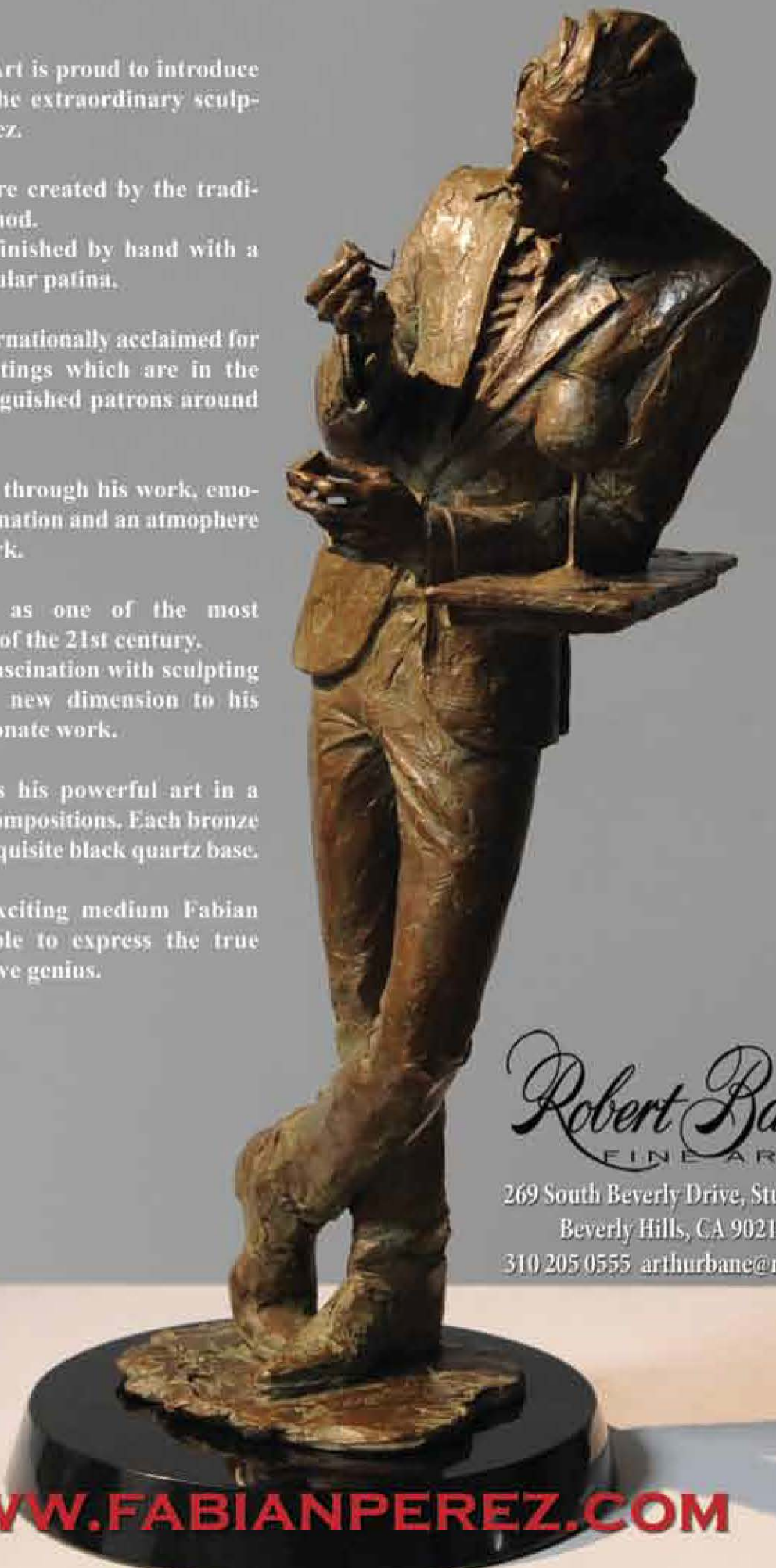
Fabian Perez is internationally acclaimed for his figurative paintings which are in the collections of distinguished patrons around the world.

The artist captures through his work, emotional impact, imagination and an atmophere which is his hallmark.

He has emerged as one of the most influential painters of the 21st century.
No doubt that his fascination with sculpting brings an entirely new dimension to his romantic and passionate work.

The artist captures his powerful art in a series of dramatic compositions. Each bronze is mounted on an exquisite black quartz base.

Working in this exciting medium Fabian Perez has been able to express the true essence of his creative genius.



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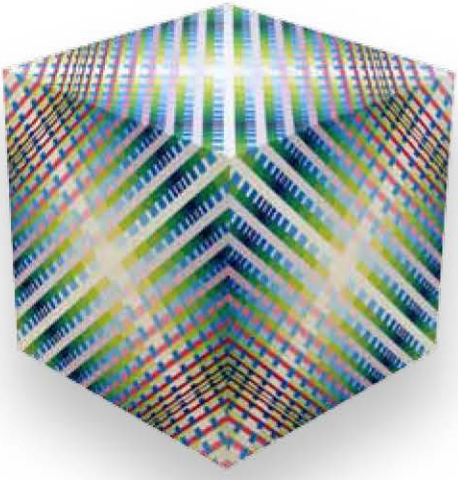
"Mexican mural painting has made the masses the hero of monumental art—the man of the fields, of the factories, of the cities and towns."
"La pintura mural mexicana hizo héroe del arte monumental a la masa: al hombre del campo, de las fábricas, de las ciudades, al pueblo".

—DIEGO RIVERA

All images courtesy of the museums, galleries and artists.



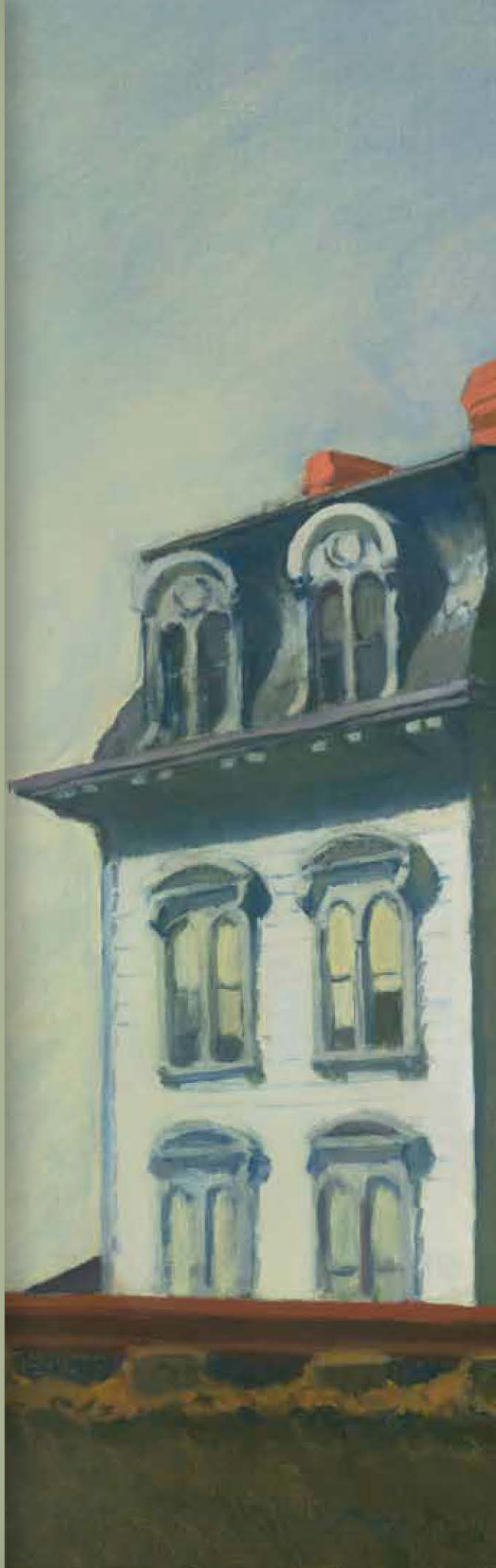
ABN's YEAR IN REVIEW

Check out our favorite museum and gallery exhibits from 2013, upcoming shows we can't wait to see and artists we'll be watching in the new year.

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

ABN'S TOP 10 MUSEUM EXHIBITIONS OF 2013.

2013 was a fantastic year for museum goers—particularly those with an eye for art. From the timeless works by Edward Hopper to the realistic portraits of Boris Chaliapin, U.S. museums curated some of the most powerful and innovative exhibits we've seen yet. Here are 10 of our favorite museum exhibitions from the past year.



American Modern: Hopper to O'Keeffe

Museum of Modern Art, New York, moma.org
Featuring a vast range of mediums and themes, this exhibit, **which runs until Jan. 26, 2014**, reflects America's evolving social climate in the first half of the 20th century. The exhibit pairs famous works by celebrated masters, such as Edward Hopper, Georgia O'Keeffe, Andrew Wyeth and Charles Sheeler, with works by lesser-known artists to create a poignant reflection of the time period.

"House by the Railroad," Edward Hopper

"Corps de dame—Château d'Étoupe (Body of a Lady—Stuffed Castle)," Jean Dubuffet

"Portrait of Rembrandt with a Gorget," Rembrandt van Rijn

"Trois Pics," Alexander Calder

"Frieda & Diego: Passion, Politics, and Painting," gallery view

"Pink Moon / Dancing Boy," Chris Bogia

Angels, Demons, and Savages: Pollock, Ossorio, Dubuffet
The Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C. phillipscollection.org
Examining the friendship and visual similarities of these abstract expressionists, this exhibit explored the experimental and groundbreaking content of postwar art. Highlights included Jackson Pollock's "Number 1, 1950 (Lavender Mist)," a piece that has long embodied the artist's aim to immerse the audience in the fullness of his work, and Alfonso Ossorio's "Perpetual Sacrifice," perhaps his most well-known piece, which hints at religious themes and Christian iconography while blending abstract images with fiercely colorful, exaggerated strokes.

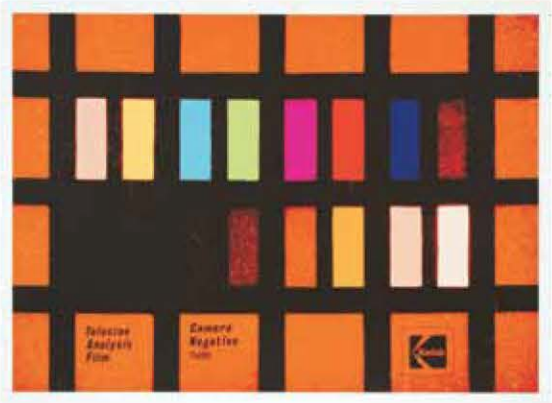
Calder and Abstraction: From Avant-Garde to Iconic
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, lacma.org
A pioneer of abstract sculpture, Alexander Calder is renowned for his kinetic mobiles and innovative structures. With more than 50 works on display, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art celebrated the surrealist's contributions to 20th century art. **This exhibit runs until July 27, 2014**.

Frida & Diego: Passion, Politics, and Painting
High Museum of Art Atlanta, high.org
The eccentric Mexican painters Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera shared a passion for each other and for their art. This exhibit honored the couple's revolutionary and cultural work with a selection of Kahlo's provocative self-portraits and Rivera's cubist scenes.

Girl with a Pearl Earring: Dutch Paintings from the Mauritshuis
de Young Museum, San Francisco, girl.famsf.org
This museum exhibit highlighted renowned painters of the Dutch Golden Age, including Johannes Vermeer, Carel Fabritius and Rembrandt van Rijn. It was the first stop on a national tour of paintings on loan from the Royal Picture Gallery Mauritshuis and included paintings that have not been in the United States for nearly 30 years.

The Original Art
The Museum of American Illustration, Society of Illustrators, New York, societyillustrators.org
This annual exhibit, originally founded in 1979, celebrates the fine art of children's illustration. The most recent showing included 125 books selected by a jury of illustra-

"The Old Guitarist," Pablo Picasso



"PR1,"
Lucy Raven

tors, authors, art directors and editors. David Macaulay and the late Barbara Cooney received Lifetime Achievement Awards, Jon Klassen and Simona Mulazzani won Silver Medals, and Jennifer Yerkes received the Gold Medal. Yuko Shimizu won the Founder's Award.

Outside the Lines

Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, camh.org

Examining the progression of contemporary abstraction through the years, **the six-part exhibition series, which remains open until March 23, 2014**, pairs traditional modes of abstract art with unconventional works that push the boundaries of the craft. The vibrant and diverse work provides a dynamic overview of the movement.

Picasso and Chicago

The Art Institute of Chicago, artic.edu

In celebration of its 100-year relationship with Pablo Picasso, The Art Institute of Chicago showcased more than 250 paintings, drawings and sculptures by the artist. Pulled from collections throughout Chicago, the exhibition also honored the city's history of artistic excellence. Pieces included Picasso's classically inspired "Mother and Child" and the abstract "Cubist Head of a Woman." The exhibit also included "The Red Armchair," the first of a series the artist painted of his mistress, Marie-Thèrése Walter.

Mr. TIME:
Portraits by Boris Chaliapin

National Portrait Gallery, Washington, D.C. npg.si.edu

Boris Chaliapin illustrated more than 400 covers for Time magazine from 1942 to 1970. There are 26 portraits by the artist **on view through Jan. 5, 2014** at the National Portrait Gallery. Often created under extremely tight deadlines, Chaliapan's portraits capture the realism and likeness of each of his subjects, from Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis to Julia Child and Marilyn Monroe. He was aptly nicknamed "Mr. Time."

Test Pattern

Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, whitney.org

The Whitney has acquired a number of paintings, photographs and sculptures by young and emerging artists throughout the last four years. Artists in this exhibition included Michele Abeles, Tauba Auerbach, Mathew Cerletty, Leslie Hewitt, Meredyth Sparks and Kaari Upson, all of whom have become masters of visual manipulation and complex content.

Catch 'Em IF YOU CAN

2013 ART EXHIBITIONS WE'RE STILL TALKING ABOUT.

Here are 10 exhibits that we hated to see come to an end this year. But, if you're lucky, you can still catch a glimpse before the doors close.

"Breaking Down Walls," Blek le Rat
Image courtesy of Jonathan LeVine Gallery.

30 Americans
The Frist Center for the Visual Arts, Nashville, Tenn., fristcenter.org
This exhibition, going on **through January 12, 2014**, features more than 70 works by some of the top African American artists from the last 30 years. It includes works by artists such as the late Jean-Michel Basquiat, who began as a graffiti artist in the '70s, and Kerry James Marshall, known for his large-scale paintings and sculptures, and exhibits them alongside pieces by emerging younger artists, such as portrait painter Kehinde Wiley and visual artist and photographer Hank Willis Thomas. Together, this one-of-a-kind exhibit explores the influence of history, race and pop culture on individual identity.

The Scene of Disappearance
ACME, Los Angeles, acmelosangeles.com
Natalie Frank's paintings are compelling works of art that are often said to blur the lines between the perverse and the everyday. They engage the viewer and explore the human condition through issues of identity, sexuality, religion and history. Her work may not appeal to everyone, but whose art does? This is a solo exhibit unlike any other.

Come Together:
Surviving Sandy, Year 1
Industry City, Sunset Park, Brooklyn, cometogethersandy.com
This fall, a two-month exhibition marking the one-year anniversary of Hurricane Sandy featured the work of New York artists affected by Sandy and work inspired by the devastating storm. Artists included Mira Aldridge, Gregory Botts, and EJ Hauser.

Anonymous:
Contemporary Tibetan Art
Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art, contemporarytibetanart.org
China has occupied and ruled Tibet since 1951. Travel outside the country is prohibited, so Tibet remains largely closed off from the rest of the world. Curator Rachel Perera Weingeist invited Tibetan artists worldwide to anonymously offer their work. This collection by 27 artists highlights the tension between ancient artistic traditions and contemporary art and paints a picture of modern Tibetan culture.

UPCOMING EXHIBITION DATES:
The Fleming Museum of Art,
University of Vermont, Jan. 28-June 22, 2014
Queens Museum, *New York, July 2014-Jan. 2015*

10 Years of Wooster Collective: 2003-2013
Jonathan LeVine Gallery, New York, woostercollective.com
This summer at a pop-up location in downtown Manhattan, a collection of works by top street artists including Anthony Lister, Miss Van, Faith 47, Logan Hicks, Blek le Rat and Shepard Fairey was on display. The collection celebrated urban art, its diversity and its energy over the last decade.

Painter Painter
Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, walkerart.org
This exhibition used works by 15 artists, including Matt Connors, Zak Prekop, Rosy Keyser and Alex Olson, to create a collection of dialogues about each artist's practice, both inside and outside the studio. The exhibit showed how each process defines the artist's vision and artistic identity.

Ken Price: Slow and Steady Wins the Race, Works on Paper, 1962-2010
Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, N.Y., drawingcenter.org
Now through Jan. 19, you can still see the first survey of drawings, 65 in all, by the late Ken Price, who was perhaps best known for his abstract sculptural work. The collection tracks the artist's 50-year pursuit of drawing. His substantial ceramic sculptures are often bursting with color, and the artist was known to cover his pieces with as many as 70 coats of different-colored acrylic paint. His drawings, on the other hand, are simple yet sophisticated.

UPCOMING EXHIBITION DATES:
Harwood Museum of Art,
Taos, N.M., Feb. 22-May 4, 2014

Invitation to a Beheading
Marianne Boesky Gallery, New York, marianneboeskygallery.com
Inspired by Vladimir Nabokov's 1935 novel of the same name, this must-see group exhibition featured works by artists Fiona Banner, Eloise Fornieles, Sarah Lucas, Joyce Pensato and curator Rachel Howard. Through their work, the artists each explore the novel's existential dilemma: the struggle between the individual and society.

"Angry Birds (Poached Eggs, Level 21)," Lee Walton

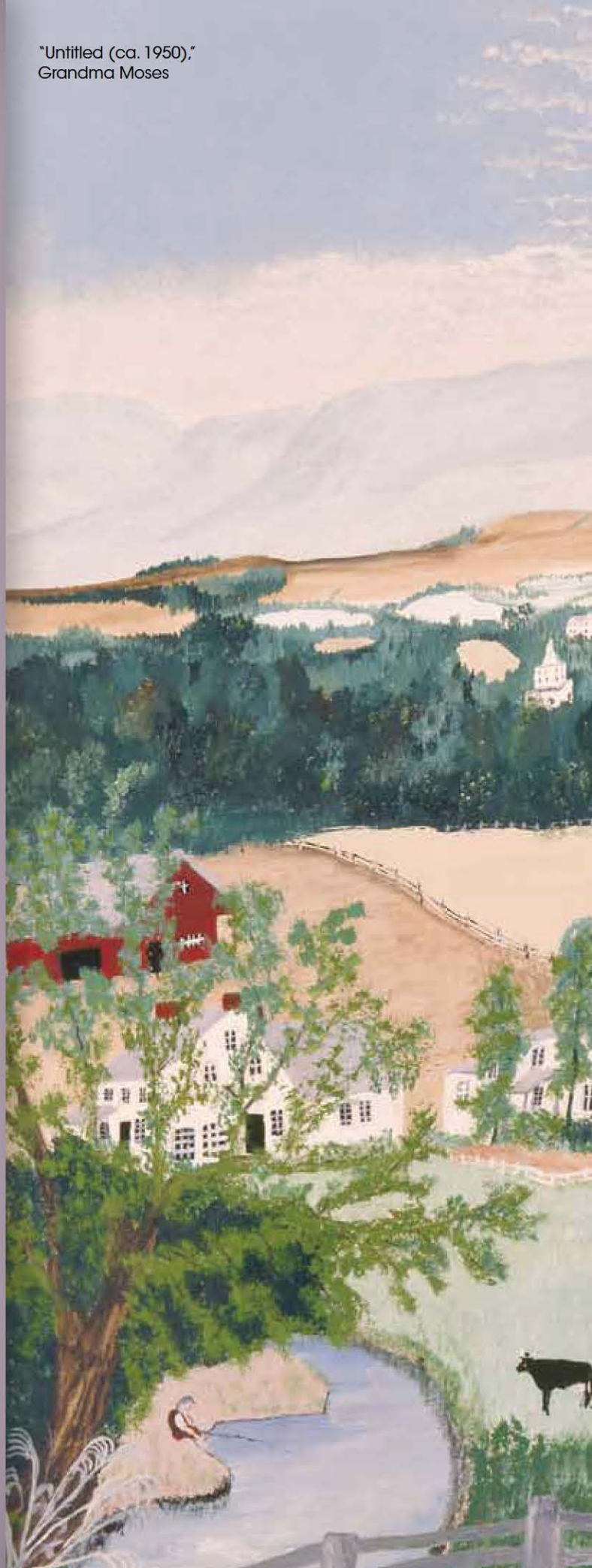
Poached Eggs:
The Angry Bird Series
Kraushaar Galleries Inc., New York, kraushaargalleries.com
This year, it seemed as though everyone with a smartphone was hooked on "Angry Birds," the video game that had players launching birds into the air via a slingshot aimed at stationed pigs. Inspired by the Angry Birds obsession, artist Lee Walton created a series of charcoal drawings, Poached Eggs, which was on display at Kraushaar Galleries.

Forrest Bess:
Seeing Things Invisible
Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, hammer.ucla.edu
Thanks to a 2012 exhibition at the Whitney Biennial, works by the late Forrest Bess, who died in 1977, are becoming popular among art enthusiasts—and for good reason. Bess, who has been described as a "lonely, eccentric and misunderstood genius," often painted personal pieces, rich with symbolic meaning and emotional content. In this museum retrospective, **which runs through Jan. 5, 2014**, 50 of the artist's paintings are on display. Despite his personal struggle with identity, Bess was a visionary artist in his own right and remains a unique figure in American art history.

Looking Ahead

ABN'S TOP 10 MUSEUM EXHIBITIONS OF 2014

The new year will feature an exciting selection of new museum exhibitions in the United States. We've scoured the upcoming show listings to bring you 10 museum exhibitions we can't wait to see next year.

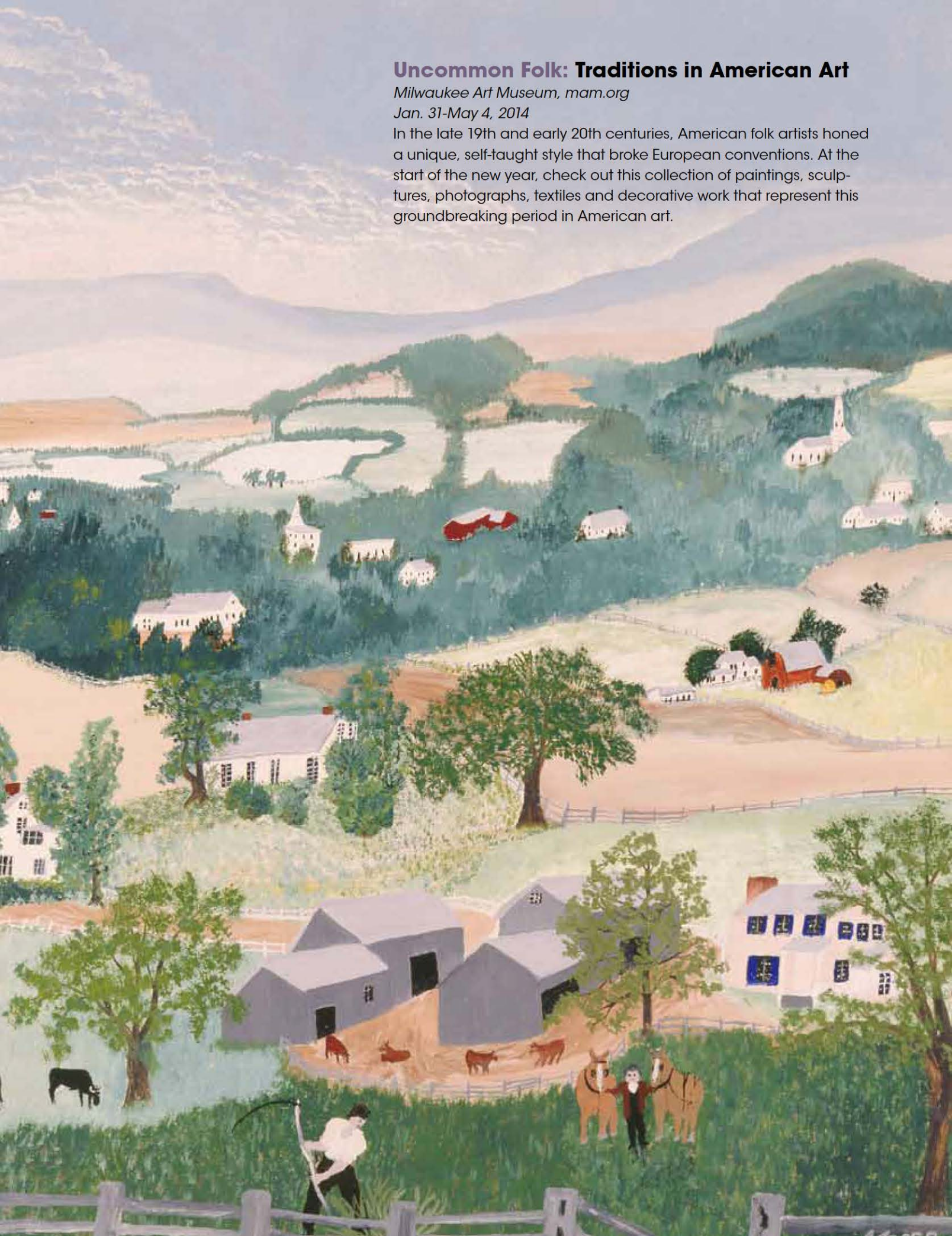


"Untitled (ca. 1950)," Grandma Moses

Uncommon Folk: Traditions in American Art

Milwaukee Art Museum, mam.org
Jan. 31-May 4, 2014

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, American folk artists honed a unique, self-taught style that broke European conventions. At the start of the new year, check out this collection of paintings, sculptures, photographs, textiles and decorative work that represent this groundbreaking period in American art.



"Untitled (Quetta, Pakistan)," Sigmar Polke

"Speeding train (Treno in corsa)," Ivo Pannaggi

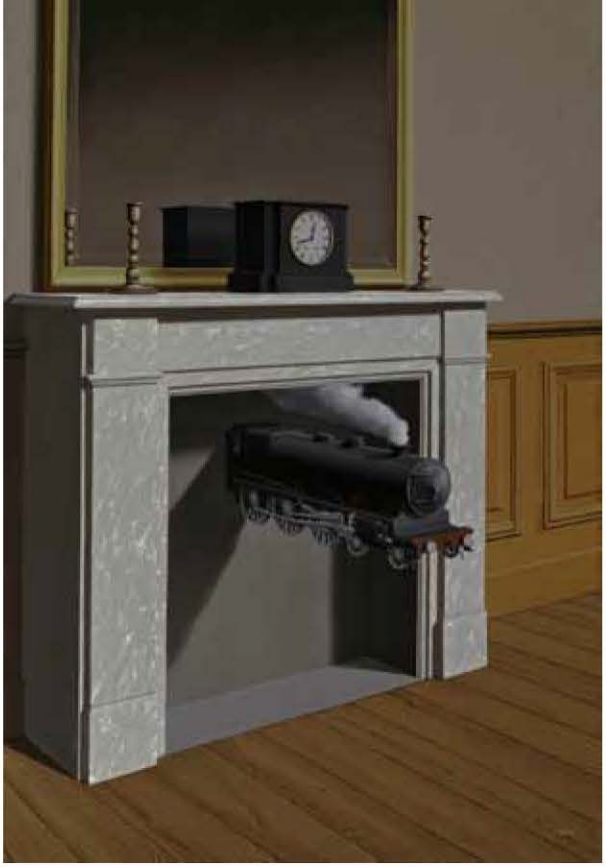
Italian Futurism, 1909-1944: Reconstructing the Universe
Guggenheim, New York, guggenheim.org
Feb. 21-Sept. 1, 2014
Featuring more than 300 works from the early 20th century, this exhibit will examine the avant-garde artistic movement through fine art, sculpture and other art forms. Don't miss Giacomo Balla's stunning oil painting, "Abstract Speed + Sound."

Treasures from Korea: Arts and Culture of the Joseon Dynasty, 1392-1910
Philadelphia Museum of Art, philamuseum.org
Mar. 2-May 26, 2014
The first full-scale survey of the Joseon Dynasty in the U.S., the upcoming exhibit spans half a millennium of classic Korean art and offers a rare look at masterpieces from the National Museum of Korea.

Wangechi Mutu: A Fantastic Journey
Brooklyn Museum, New York, brooklynmuseum.org
Now through Mar. 9, 2014
Don't miss more than 50 pieces in display by Brooklyn-based artist, Wangechi Mutu. Mutu was born in Nairobi and is hailed as one of today's foremost contemporary African artists. This amazing collection includes Mutu's large-scale collages, videos, never-before-seen sketchbook drawings, and sculptural installations. Mutu's work, which often focuses on the female body, merges the organic and the surreal with the human form. Through her work, she explores culture, gender, race and globalization.

Impressionist France: Visions of Nation from Le Gray to Monet
Saint Louis Art Museum, slam.org
March 16-July 6, 2014
Saint Louis Art Museum will pair mid-19th century French masters, such as Renoir and Manet, with their photographer contemporaries, including Édouard Baldus and Charles Marville. The combinations will explore the relationship between French landscape and national identity.

Alibis: Sigmar Polke 1963-2010
Museum of Modern Art, New York, moma.org
April 19-Aug. 3, 2014
With nearly 300 works, the exhibit will be one of the largest the museum has



"Time Transfixed," René Magritte

"Le Noble Savage," Wangechi Mutu

organized and the first comprehensive retrospective of Sigmar Polke and his mastery of multiple mediums and styles. Be sure to check out his paintings made entirely of soot on glass, never before seen in the U.S.

Andrew Wyeth:
Looking Out, Looking In
National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. nga.gov
May 4-Nov. 30, 2014
Renowned realist painter Andrew Wyeth explored the structural and conceptual imagery of windows in more than 250 of his works. The exhibit, crowned by his acclaimed "Wind from the Sea," will explore Wyeth's mastery of this theme in watercolors, drawings and tempera paintings.

Chagall: Love, War, and Exile
The Jewish Museum, New York, thejewishmuseum.org
Now through Feb. 2, 2014
For the first time in the U.S., this amazing exhibit explores modernist artist Marc Chagall's career from the 1930s rise of fascism through 1948, when he lived in Paris and in New York in exile. Chagall has been called "the quintessential Jewish artist of the 20th century." With 31 paintings and 22 works on paper, as well as selected letters, poems, photos and ephemera on display, this exhibit of Chagall's work is unlike any other.

Magritte: The Mystery of the Ordinary, 1926-1938
Art Institute of Chicago, artic.edu
June 22-Oct. 12, 2014
The Chicago exhibition will take viewers on a journey through the dreamlike world of surrealist artist René Magritte. The exhibit will explore Magritte's most experimental period in which he created arresting images through unexpected object associations.

Birds of a Feather: Avian Imagery in Contemporary Art
Smithsonian, Washington, D.C. americanart.si.edu
Oct. 31, 2014-Jan. 22, 2015
Contemporary artists use birds as more than symbols of elegance and artistry. Bird imagery also evokes modern culture and human behavior. This unique exhibit will examine how birds in art become a larger representation of identity, imagination and nature. Featured artists will include David Beck, Lorna Bieber, Petah Coyne and Walton Ford.

On Our Radar

ABN'S MUST-WATCH LIST OF TOP ARTISTS.

We're constantly looking for new talent in the art world. We closely follow artists who bring their fresh perspectives and groundbreaking work to the art scene. Check out these top artists on our must-see list for 2014.

JENNIFER CARVALHO

jennifercarvalho.com

2013 was a busy year for Carvalho: The Ontarian artist received a master's degree in fine arts at the University of Guelph and became a finalist for the RBC Canadian Painting Competition. We're clearly not the only ones who love her moody suburban landscapes.

ANDY CURLOWE

curlowe.com

The Cleveland-based artist is making a name for himself throughout the United States and Europe and recently received a Creative Workforce Fellowship from the Community Partnership for Arts and Culture. We love the marriage of nature and industry and of structure and openness in Curlowe's work.

MICHAEL COVELLO

michaelcovello.com

Covello's graphic paintings turned heads throughout Florida in 2013. A recent graduate of the University of South Florida Master of Fine Arts program, the mixed-media artist exhibited at several juried shows this year and was featured in a recent edition of "New American Paintings."

"Bedlam on the Boat"

"Mindless Entanglement"

DAVID FENTON

davidfenton.net

Fenton uses his vivid imagination and unquenchable curiosity to explore the "gray matter" of the natural world through digital photography and illustration on aluminum. The shimmering, organic qualities of his art are mesmerizing.

FREDERIQUE K

frederiquek.fr

Frederique K's sensuous, expressive and vibrant figure paintings riveted the art world in 2013. The Parisian artist made her U.S. debut this October at SPECTRUM New York, where she sold her painting "Gossip" for more than $7,000.

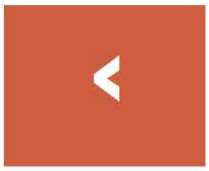
"Coré/Kore"

ALEX HANNA

alex-hanna.co.uk

We love the soft dreamworld of Hanna's still-life oil paintings. The London artist was featured in 2013 at several U.K. shows, including the Royal Academy of Arts Summer Exhibition and the Lynn Painter-Stainers Prize exhibition.

"Space Symphony"



GARSOT

garsot.com

On canvas or paper, through sculpture or mixed media, Garsot's work involves optimistic surrealism. The bright, playful paintings have uplifted viewers throughout the world and were recently featured at SPECTRUM Miami and New York.

MARY JOHNSTON

maryjohnstonpaintings.com

The modernist artist blends oil paints to create a soft sense of serenity. Inspired by expansive views of Lake Superior, Johnston's diffused atmospheres and landscapes were well-received at Artexpo New York and shows throughout the Midwest.

"Of fear and sorrows that infest the soul"

HEDIEH JAVANSHIR ILCHI

hediehart.com

The Iranian-American artist fuses vibrant watercolor strokes with paradoxical illustrations and a minute attention to detail. Ilchi's busy year included exhibitions at Scope Art Fair in Basel, Switzerland, and New York, as well as nominations for several Washington, D.C.-area awards.

"Bubble"

See p. 64 for more.

MAIA LYNCH

maialynch.com

Lynch's fragmented acrylics are rich with color and wistful nostalgia. She's one to watch: The artist received her master's degree in fine arts from the School of The Museum of Fine Arts in Boston this year and was nominated for several awards in 2012.

"Headstrong#7"

MONETA

monetaart.com

The artist's latest collection, "Combo," explores space and shape through sculpture paired with intricate, detailed line drawings. The "orderly chaos" of Moneta's work was a big hit at SPECTRUM New York this October.

PETER KEPHART

petesfingers.com

"Firepainter" Kephart gleans inspiration from the rugged surroundings of his West Virginia home, combining the elements of fire, water, earth and wind to create abstract, organic landscapes. Collectors can find his work at galleries throughout the United States.

WAYNE MOK

waynemok.com

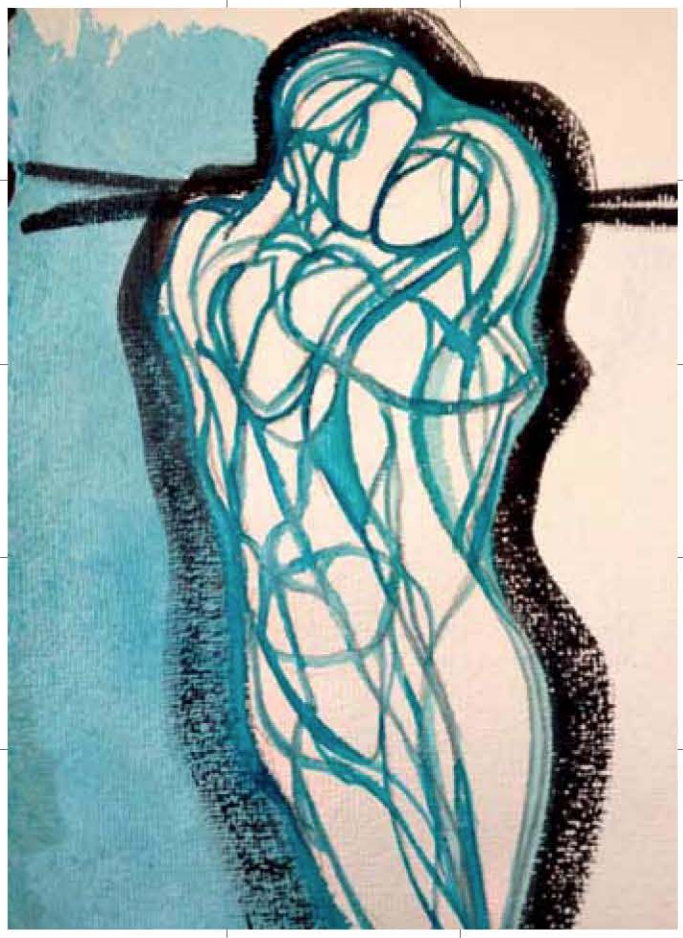
Mok's abstract acrylic paintings caught the eye of London's Saatchi Gallery, which recently featured his work in the emerging artists exhibit "Burning Bright." His expert use of color and space and the sense of longing that permeates his work are fascinating.

"A Noticeable Difference in my Environment"

DEBORAH PASWATERS

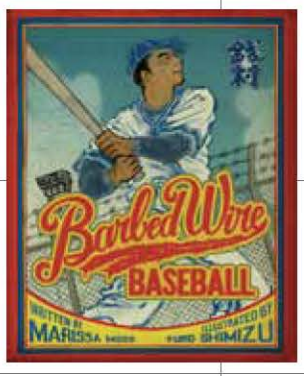
paswaters.com

We're fascinated by Paswaters' abstract figure paintings, which are often accompanied by "living model sculptures" at shows and exhibitions. Combining color, light, poetry and performance, her work has received acclaim from both private collectors and art exhibitors.



"Blue Kiss"

"Barbed Wire Baseball" book cover



YUKO SHIMIZU

yukoart.com

Winner of the 2013 Original Art Founder's Award, the illustrator has an impressive client list, including Gap, Pepsi, Visa, Microsoft and Target, as well as several magazines and book publishers. We adore her richly detailed, poignant and imaginative work.

ERIN RAEDEKE

erinraedeke.com

Raedeke, a finalist for the 2013 Bethesda Painting Award, creates still-life oils that express youth and whimsy with an impeccable eye for detail. Critics loved her latest series, and she was honored this year with the Maryland State Arts Council Individual Artist Award.

"An Oasis of Danger"

ANNA PAOLA PIZZOCARO

annapaolapizzocaro.com

Through digital photography and manipulation, Pizzocaro creates surreal worlds that transcend expectations of "normal" with the extraordinary. She has exhibited her surreal photography throughout the United States and Europe, recently showing at the Carrousel Du Louvre in Paris.

"Cowgirl Caddy"

LISA K. STOKES

lisakstokes.com

Digital artist Stokes is truly a "cowgirl in the city." Her passion for Western heritage melds the traditional with the contemporary as she layers scanned photos on hand-painted acrylic backgrounds. Look for her art at several juried U.S. exhibits in 2014.

VIVIEN ZHANG

vivienzhang.com

We can't take our eyes off Zhang's graphic oil paintings, which transcend the canvas with an expert articulation of depth. Zhang, who was awarded the Artist Residency at Cité Internationale des Arts, will receive her master's degree in fine arts from the Royal College of Art in 2014.

"Stencil Negative"

WON JU SEO

wonjuseo.com

We're astounded by Seo's mixed-media work that combines textiles, collage, needlework and paint into dynamic canvas art. She recently received an individual artist fellowship from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and was a residency artist at Coohaus Art in August.

"The Words in My Colors"

UPCOMING SHOWS

2014 ART FAIRS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS.

The new year will bring a host of new art fairs and tradeshows to showcase your work, check out new talent or just mingle with other art enthusiasts. Here are just a few of next year's shows that you won't want to miss.

India Art Fair
Jan. 30-Feb. 2, 2014
New Delhi, India
Although relatively new to the scene, India Art Fair has already established itself as the premier art fair in South Asia, creating a global platform for Indian art. *indiaartfair.in*

ARCO (art contemporary) fair
Feb. 19-23, 2014
Madrid, Spain
The international contemporary art fair showcases art from around the world, with emphasis on research, integration and networking. *ifema.es/arcomadrid_06*

The Armory Show
March 6-9, 2014
New York, N.Y.
The Armory Show represents a range of contemporary and modern artists, from legends like Pablo Picasso to young emerging talents such as Xu Zhen, who will serve as the 2014 commissioned artist. *thearmoryshow.com*

The European Fine Art Fair (TEFAF)
March 14-23, 2014
Maastricht, Netherlands
A strict selection process ensures that only the finest, most substantial art is on display at TEFAF. Glamorous and extravagant, the fair attracts collectors from around the world. *tefaf.com*

Artexpo N.Y.
April 4-6, 2014
New York, N.Y.
The oldest fine-art trade show in the United States, Artexpo is an affordable, quality alternative to other shows and provides international exposure to emerging and established artists. *artexponewyork.com*

Art Basel
June 19-22, 2014
Basel, Switzerland
Since its inception 40 years ago, Art Basel has become a powerhouse of contemporary art festivals. The 2013 festival showcased more than 4,000 artists from around the world and attracted more than 70,000 visitors. *artbasel.com*

Ann Arbor Street Art Fair
July 16-19, 2014
Ann Arbor, Mich.
For more than half a century, the juried Ann Arbor Street Art Fair has been an annual crowd favorite, attracting thousands of attendees from around the United States. *artfair.org*

SPECTRUM New York
Sept. 4-7, 2014
New York, N.Y.
The perfect starting place for new art collectors, SPECTRUM's juried art fair features mid-career, established artists who have experience working with galleries. *spectrum-newyork.com*

Frieze Art Fair
Oct.16-19, 2014
London, England
Frieze features only contemporary, living artists and encourages interaction among collectors, creators and visitors. *friezelondon.com*

SCOPE Miami
December TBA
Miami, Fla.
SCOPE showcases international contemporary artists, with an emphasis on emerging talents. *scope-art.com*

SETTING THE

FRANÇOIS CHARTIER TAKES A THEATRICAL APPROACH TO PHOTOREALISM.

BY JULIE JACOBS

"Iceberg VI"

STAGE

FOR 25 YEARS, François Chartier toiled as an art director and illustrator in magazine publishing and advertising, working for such well-established Canadian agencies as Vickers & Benson (now Arnold Worldwide Canada) and creating the visual concept for Cirque du Soleil's "Quidam" and "O" in Las Vegas. He even ran his own studio for a brief period with a designer friend and was a forerunner in offering Photoshop services. But when he turned 50, he decided to change course and took up painting full time. Today, Chartier is among the most renowned and revered artists of photorealism.

"Toto I Don't Think We Are In Kansas Anymore"

"By the time I was 40, I found that advertising had changed and was more of a game. It had given me a lot, but it wasn't [doing so] anymore, so I looked into painting. It was the only logical direction, as my experience, personal taste, longings and training had prepared me for this path," says Chartier from his Montreal studio.

Chartier wound up detouring and doing Photoshop for many years, soon becoming financially secure enough to just paint. "The idea of having the freedom to do my own thing my own way, workwise, greatly appealed to me. For a long time, it was work, work, work, almost 24/7."

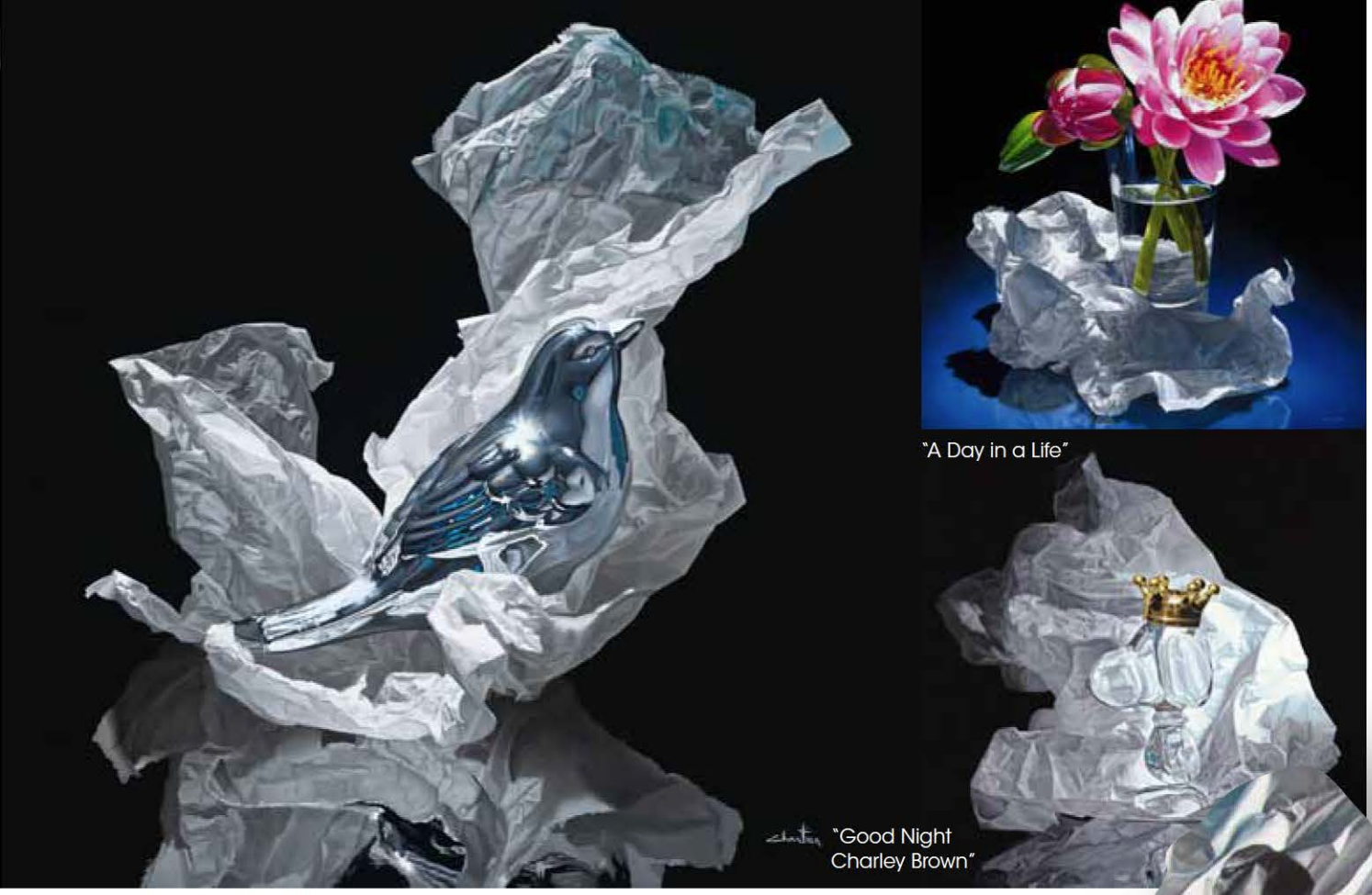
"ALL I WANT IS TO PAINT SOMETHING THAT PEOPLE WILL FIND BEAUTIFUL. I WOULD HAVE NO PLEASURE IN IT IF NOBODY RESPONDED TO IT."

—FRANÇOIS CHARTIER

Typically painting Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Chartier doesn't put in nearly as many hours as he once did, but his dedication to craft remains steadfast. He spends three to four months on each painting, with a unique attention that creates, "through layering of mediums and the play of the brush, the illusion of depth and [the] sense of presence beyond what is found in photographs." Such photorealistic quality is evident in all his series, which include Wet Paint, Waterworld, Simply Flowers, Pop Culture Icons and Paper Beauties. His vision is particularly original in the last of these series, Paper Beauties. For this collection, he drapes crumpled tissue paper around a still-life object for an interesting juxtaposition.

"I look at my work as 'new realism' rather than photorealism. I'm not trying to be so precise. Very often, the photorealistic artist gets too stuck in the details, (so) that the painting looks too clean, too perfect. I'm trying to get as much mood as I can into my paintings," explains Chartier, who is always acutely aware of his audience. "All I want is to paint something that people will find beautiful. I would have no pleasure in it if nobody responded to it."

He need not worry. His work has shown in galleries and collections throughout Canada, the United States, Europe and Mexico, affording him the opportunity to meet with fans, which he finds exciting and says motivates him to paint more. He currently is represented in Montreal, at the Plus One Gallery in London, and at the Royal Gallery in Providence, R.I.



"A Day in a Life"

"Good Night Charley Brown"

"Early Bird Got The Worm"

"Iceberg VII"

Preparation and Process

Chartier describes his approach to photorealism as theatrical. He first must find the right object or objects with which to build a set. He then extensively photographs these objects to ultimately achieve the right composition and lighting. For each painting, he takes hundreds, even thousands, of photos and later uses his Photoshop skills to correct and, in some cases, combine the images. He works from both the selected images and the still life itself.

"Photorealism is very organized and planned, rather than intuitive. I spend a lot of time preparing my photos, more so than for the actual [oil] painting. With the tissue paper, it can be especially challenging, which is why I take so many pictures," says Chartier, who enlarges the final image for tracing. "But I also like to keep the object around. It can be tricky. … I wonder why a line is not straight in the photo, and I can look at the object and see why."

He works on big canvases to render his subjects larger than life size. A recent one measures 5 by 5 feet. His goal is "to capture viewers and make them look at something they know but at a different angle with the smaller details revealed in their beauty and simplicity." Before painting, he coats the canvas with a gesso base to mute any signs of texture and brush stroke. Weeks later, he adds the finishing touches and varnish.

Light-Bulb Moment

Raised in Montreal, Chartier was always interested in the visual arts. He developed his acumen not in art school but on the job, during which he also learned about typesetting, photography and color separation. His first encounter with an airbrush was during a stint at a sign company.

A date with friends inspired his eventual focus on photorealism. He had been visiting New York City and strolling in the East Village after a night of disco dancing. Walking past a gallery on Prince Street, Chartier noticed a painting in the window: "Gumball Machine" by Charles Bell.

"I told myself, 'One day I'm going to do something like that,'" he says. "That painting changed my life."

And life is good these days. Chartier has both realized his dream *and* taken more time for living, enjoying his home, his travels and such pastimes as archery and scuba diving. Still, he admits with a laugh, "Every Monday, I'm very anxious to get back to my studio and my paintings." ABN

• *For more about Francois Chartier, visit francoisc.com.*

ART BUSINESS NEWS
is pulling together its highly anticipated annual list of Top 50 Emerging Artists!
If you want to be considered, e-mail your information and accomplishments to:

letters@artbusinessnews.com.
Deadline for submissions is Feb. 1, 2014.

PICTUREFRAME PRODUCTS IS FOR SALE.

This well-established Boston manufacturer is seeking a buyer for its products and the manufacturing operation. Products include: Shrink Wrappers for art, Mountex Archival Shrink Film, The Producer Miter Saw, the Multi-Vise, Minute Frame Glue, Archival Shrink Bags, and V-Nailer. The products are marketed to the picture frame and art supply fields through a few major distributors. Included are the product designs, inventory, manufacturing equipment, and distributor contacts.

Price $120,000. **Contact** Bob Jolkovski at 800-221-0530 or robinjolkovski@cs.com. See website, pictureframeproducts.com

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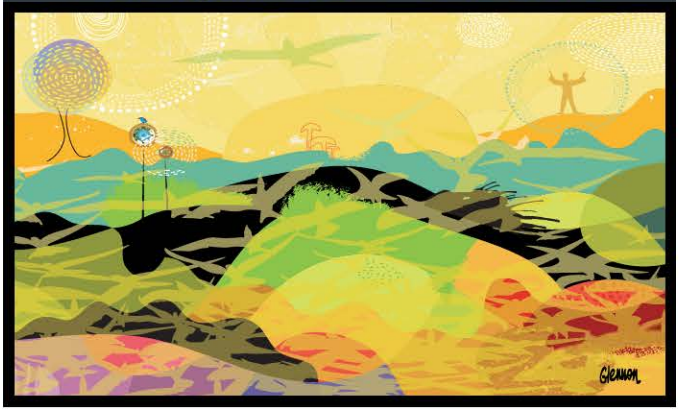
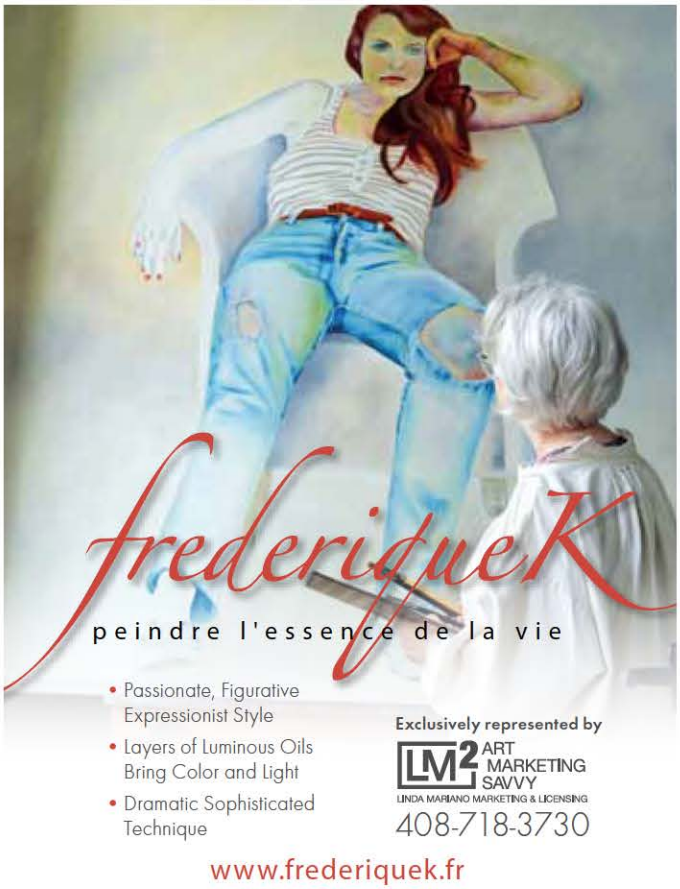
Subject: "Wow" Message: "Peter, only one word can describe those glasses: masterpiece. I love them."
Customer Email received Sept. 2013

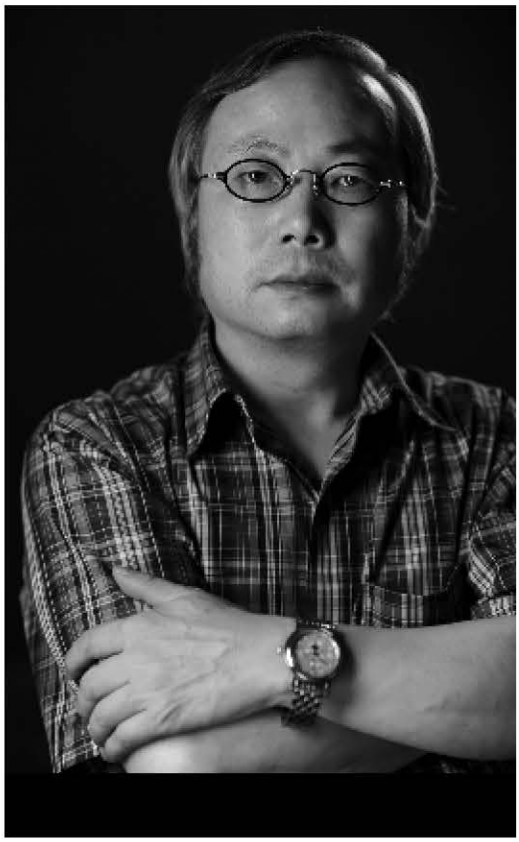
"...unique frames that manage to say something about you but also frames that say something about themselves."
getthefive.com Feb. 2013

See an art video and get more info at www.woodenspecs.com
(317)942-1400 info@woodenspecs.com

Michelle Glennon
michelleglennon.com 404.248.0012







Fu Wenjun

Born in Chongqing in 1955, he graduated from Sichuan Fine Arts Institute. Currently he is a freelance artist, is a member of the China Photographer Association, and of the America Professional Photographer of America (PPA). A top-class artist, a first-order photographer in China, he has been repeatedly a member of the evaluation committee in several art competitions. He held art exhibitions in Paris in the Grand Palais des Champs-Elysées, in New York in the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center, in Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum, in Yokohama Art Museum, in Hong Kong City Hall, in Dubai Community Theatre and Arts Center, in Bangkok Art and Culture Center, in China Military Museum, in Today Art Museum in Beijing, in Beijing in the Old Summer Palace, in Guangdong Museum of Art, in Yunnan Provincial Museum, in Chongqing Art Gallery, in Shanghai Library, in Chongqing Library, in China Sanxia Museum (in Chongqing), and other important art organizations. In 2009 he received an international award at AJAC Yokohama International Overseas Artists Exhibition. In 2011 and 2012 he received twice the International Excellent Article Prize; in 2012 was recognized as "one of the best contemporary artists with academic value and market potential", and received an international prize as "world outstanding Chinese artist". In 2013 he held a collateral exhibition at the 55th Venice Art Biennale, entitled Voice of the Unseen Chinese Independent Art 1979/Today.

H. Allen Benowitz

My private passion for photography is motivated by my love of life. My purpose is to capture and share my visual adventures and travels with you.

My initial attraction to photography started as a child. I enjoyed taking candid shots of my friends at the children's home where I was raised. As an adult, reflecting on my childhood, I realized that I needed to capture these images as something to hold on to; these friends were my real family and the pattern has continued into adulthood.

My early passion resurfaced one morning upon seeing my six-year old son and our black and white springer spaniel bathed in a sunbeam through an amber stained-glass window. I captured the moment in a photograph which received honorable mention in the International Kodak Contest. That "Kodak moment" reawakened those early desires.

When a local professor of art urged me to enter my work at the University of Miami Lowe Art Museum's Beaux Arts Festival, I was astounded and flattered to win a judges' award for a photo taken of a wood duck at the Bok Tower reflection pool in Lake Wales, Florida. Over the years, my work has been featured in numerous publications, including Miami Monthly Magazine, Coastal Elegance & Wealth Magazine, ARTnews, and the Laurel of Asheville.

H-AllenArt.com

Ed Rodríguez

As a very successful business executive and entrepreneur, Ed Rodríguez has traveled and photographed the world many times over, having visited over 65 countries and every continent.

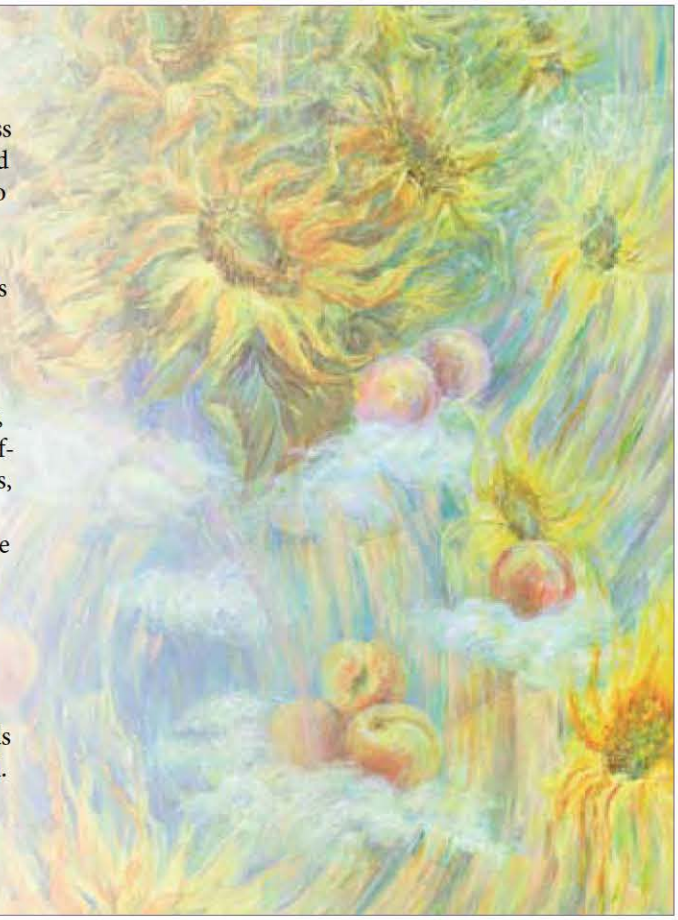
A highly acclaimed but mostly self-taught photographer of street scenes, Ed Rodríguez now focuses his artistic talents on the streets of his native Miami, where he feels too much attention is placed on it's beautiful buildings and beaches, but not enough on the fantastic people inside and around them. Ed is the Owner and Gallery Director of RDZ Fine Art in beautiful Coral Gables, Florida which specializes in emerging and established figurative painters, photographers and sculptors. The Gallery's Moto is "Art for the 21st Century Collector".

Vladimir Nazarov

I believe that there is a hidden healing power in art. The process of painting, itself, is an experience that for me is so uplifting and therapeutic; it transports me to another world where worries do not exist.

When you are in the presence of serene and uplifting art it speaks to you in a way that reaches you on a spiritual level. This has a tremendous physiological and psychological effect on one's body. Many people who have viewed my art have commented that when looking at my paintings they can feel their stress melt away. As much pleasure as I have in creating my art, nothing can compare to the joy I feel when I hear the positive effect it has shown to have on others. If I am able to lift the spirits, enlighten and bring happiness to a person's life, even for one moment, then I myself am truly happy, for that is the best way for me to share the joy that I feel when I create art.

I consider painting to be the best language to use when communicating with the heart and soul. Many people keep journals to express and release what is on their minds and in their hearts...my art is my journal.



VladimirNazarov.com

Craig Alan, *EKON (Detail)*
Deljou Art Group

Alexis Silk, *Skin Deep*

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MEET THE ARTISTS ADVERTORIAL

Being at heart a story teller, in my new series titled Pattern Seekers I have attempted to tell surely the greatest story of all: the story of each and every one of our ancestors who lived long enough to procreate and pass along what has been our defining characteristic: our ability to seek and find patterns in the world around us - seeing the shape of tiger in a bush, knowing that thunder and lightning will be followed by rain.

And today we have built ourselves the Large Hadron Collider - where we are investigating the very small to understand the very large and it will be this seeking of patterns that will eventually enable us to populate other worlds thus guaranteeing our survival.

I have used the images of particle detectors and accelerators and reduced the various forms to simple geometric shapes on large canvases to create patterns and shapes that are reminiscent of the soaring cathedrals of the past - now the sense of awe and wonder is no longer evoked by our layering of a religious mythological narrative over the world but by what we are now discovering about the very nature of our reality - a reality which is more beautiful and magical than the products of our wildest imagination - a picture of a world of dancing strings vibrating within higher dimensions.

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PARTING SHOT

Inspired by her father's dry sense of humor and her family's Japanese-American summer camp, Maia Lynch's most recent series, "W_I_T_H_M_Y_F_I_N_G_E_R_S," encapsulates the fragmented, disassembled visions of memory. The up-and-coming artist recently received the Für Bildende Künste fellowship in Hamburg, Germany; was awarded a Dana Pond Award Honorable Mention in painting; and was nominated for the Dedalus Award in Painting.
SEE MORE OF HER WORK AT MAIALYNCH.COM.

"Campground," Maia Lynch, 18 x 24, gouache on paper

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