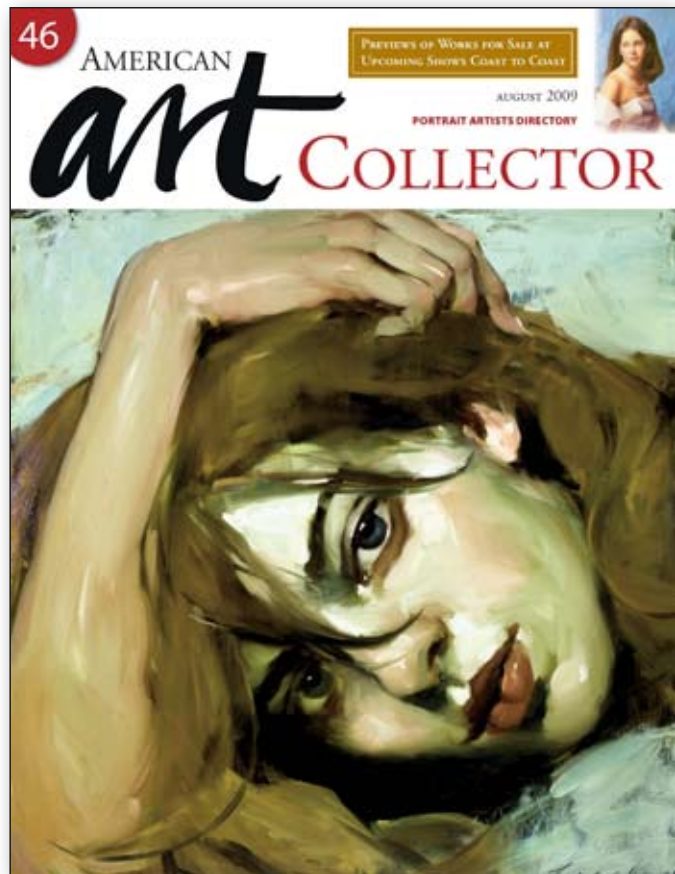


As seen in the
August 2009 issue of

 AMERICAN
art COLLECTOR



UPCOMING GROUP SHOW

Up to 40 works on show

August 8-13, 2009

Tree's Place

Route 6A at 28

Orleans, MA 02653

(508) 255-1330

WILLIAM R. DAVIS
&
JOSEPH MCGURL

New Luminists

Both William R. Davis and Joseph McGurl have been intrigued by the theories and paintings of the Hudson River School artists and, in particular, the paintings of their subset, the Luminists. For their upcoming show at Tree's Place, Davis and McGurl will celebrate their commonalities by developing a theme centered on their individual conceptions of luminism.

For William R. Davis, inspiration comes from his childhood days of growing up by the water on Cape Cod. He took sailing lessons at the age of 9 and was sailing Beetlecats by himself by age 10.

"Maritime themes by far are the most common subjects for me to paint," says Davis. "But I also enjoy painting on location in the White Mountains of New Hampshire as well. My parents used to take me, my brothers and sister to the mountains in the summer as a vacation from the Cape. It was so different than living by the water. I was fascinated by the mountains and the great sense of distance. It was and still is my favorite place to visit."

In his paintings, Davis tries to convey a feeling of what it's like to spend a moment in the mountains or sitting on the deck of a sailboat.

"I strive to make my work in a realist fashion but not photographic. I use my paints in a way to project a sense of distance but also a moment in time using a powerful source of light," says Davis. "Most days painting outdoors the light is soft and even over the landscape. But I prefer to capture a time when a shaft or beam of light hits the surface and you



JOSEPH MCGURL, ISLAND, OIL ON CANVAS, 18 X 24"



JOSEPH M'GURK



WILLIAM R. DAVIS, OLD BARN, READING, VERMONT, OIL ON PANEL, 12 X 16"

think, 'wow, was that cool or what?'"

Compared to most artists, Davis says he is considered much closer to many of the 19th century painters in style, color and design than his other contemporaries.

"My work often looks like it's been painted 100 years ago," says Davis. "This is not a gimmick of mine. My paintings genuinely just come out that way. Some of it may be my limit to colors of the period. Maybe it's some of my self-taught habits or my view of the world is more nostalgic than most. I'm not really sure why, but I like the artistic niche I have found."

Davis hopes collectors will see growth and an evolution in his most recent works.

"I noticed that I'm more satisfied with my works done now than I used to be in the past," says Davis. "I think I'm finally getting closer to what I had in mind for my style and abilities. I guess this comes with age



WILLIAM R. DAVIS, SCHOONER YACHT OFF STONE HORSE LIGHT SHIP, OIL ON CANVAS, 18 X 30"



JOSEPH MCGURL, DAS RHEINGOLD, OIL ON PANEL, 18 X 36"



WILLIAM R. DAVIS, OUT FOR A SUNSET SAIL, OIL ON PANEL, 10 X 8"


and painting for 30-plus years now. I resolve problems in my paintings more confidently and in less time than the past. I hope this show will highlight some of these changes.”

Joseph McGurl says that the natural world, “both on a sublime level and as it reacts to the laws of physics,” is constant inspiration for him. His love of the landscape, specifically the coastal realm, began in his youth as he explored the islands and bays along the Massachusetts coast.

“I have been drawn to landscape painting because I feel a deep and personal connection with the landscape,” says McGurl. “It is an interactive connection reinforced by years of sailing, surfing, hiking, and skiing in the environment that I am portraying. I feel I know my subject intimately.”

McGurl says he tries to infuse his work with a heightened sense of reality.

“I am striving to paint a living tree that will die in the autumn and bloom again in the spring; water which has motion, weight, depth, and transparency; a sky that has no color except that which the sun and atmosphere bring to it,” says McGurl. “Though my artwork is constantly evolving and each painting has a slightly different focus, one of my fundamental goals for the viewer has remained constant: my aspiration for the viewer to feel included in the ‘space’ created in the painting.” ●

For a direct link to the
exhibiting gallery go to 
www.americanartcollector.com