

Rural New England

To artist Marieluise Hutchinson, the American rural landscape, especially of New England, cradles all the classic elements of an era and character worth preserving. Rather than let these values and milieu slip slowly away, Hutchinson draws on memory and evokes the imagination through vivid, realistic images captured in her signature style—"traditional, realistic rural New England," as she describes. Expanses of snow embrace a red barn, soft candlelight pours from windows, children in snowsuits and mittens sculpt a snowman, a sharp silver-dollar moon is strung in the winter sky at night: these details, rendered with precision and loving skill, reignite our longing for the past.







Moonrise, oil on panel, 16 x 20"

2The Way Home,
oil on panel, 12 x 24"

3
Dreams to Keep,
oil on panel, 12 x 20"

Such images appear over and over in Hutchinson's artwork, recast with an almost prismatic, archetypal effect. Her spare, simple oils capture the timeless countryside of childhood memory to which so many people cling, with heartfelt innocence and yearning.

Born and raised in Massachusetts in a sprawling colonial house with five fireplaces and a large cedarshingled barn with a hayloft, Hutchinson returns creatively to that now-internalized time and place. An earlier time emerges anew in her paintings, kept alive by her keen sense of ordinary things that make marvel out of everyday life. With their evocative, almost narrative quality, her works immortalize a nearly eclipsed era of quietude and calm in a vanishing America.

"The paintings are not sentimental," Hutchinson says. "It's nostalgia for a simpler time. I have almost a homesickness for the irrecoverable past."