

AMERICAN
art
COLLECTOR



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KAREN HOLLINGSWORTH & NEIL HOLLINGSWORTH

Evolution



series, Karen thought it would be fun to add animals into the composition. Now these pieces may feature elephants and giraffes walking on beaches seen through a window. One new work that will be on display at Tree's Place is *Caleb's Dream*, with four elephants framed in three windows.

"My *Perch* series has also begun to evolve. It began as a group of compositions using birds and paper bags. Now it has grown to incorporate loaves of bread, flowers, hummingbirds and most recently chipmunks," Karen explains. Her new painting *The Flower Seekers* depicts three hummingbirds stopping to smell flowers that are inside a paper bag.

"I hope [collectors] will see that I paint from my heart and not so much my head. When I am working on a composition and it comes together in a powerful way, it's thrilling. I hope when collectors see my new work they will have the same experience," she says.

"Over the years my work has been

Husband-and-wife Neil and Karen Hollingsworth will present 20 new paintings each at their upcoming exhibition at Tree's Place in Orleans, Massachusetts. In this show, their second together at the gallery, visitors will notice an evolution in both of their artwork. For Karen the evolution is one with her subjects and expansion of series, while compositions in Neil's paintings have evolved.

"My paintings are constantly evolving," says Karen. "It's a wonderful creative adventure. Usually it starts with a little idea that sets me off in one direction. Then, with a small modification, a new path is revealed, then another and another. It's very exciting. This process eventually led me to some of my best-known themes, which include *Interiors*, *WindowScapes* and my new series called *Perch*."

While working on her *WindowScape*



1
Karen Hollingsworth,
Caleb's Dream, oil on
canvas, 36 x 48"

2
Neil Hollingsworth,
Community Coffee, oil
on hardboard panel,
24 x 24"

3
Karen Hollingsworth,
The Flower Seekers, oil on
canvas, 30 x 30"



3

modified in one way or another and brought me to where I am today,” says Neil. “Currently I am painting within my existing themes, but working toward a more creative use of the crop and negative space. I’m trying to peel away any unnecessary elements and present only the heart of my subject matter. I’ve also been working to enhance the realistic quality of my work.”

A former graphic designer, Neil also

leans toward subjects with typography such as in his paintings *Crayola* and *Community Coffee*. “I’m always on the lookout for new material that will hopefully provide an opportunity to utilize type. Another area that I find inspiring is something with a little nostalgia attached to it,” says Neil. “Over the years I’ve painted vintage cars, mixers, percolators and more, so the vintage box of crayons got my creative

juices flowing on two levels.”

Neil hopes collectors will appreciate the composition of each piece as well as refinement of technique. “I’ve been working hard, this last year in particular, to enhance the photorealistic aspect of my paintings and my desire is that this is evident in my new work.”

The exhibit will be on view at Tree’s Place from July 26 to 31. ●