

# FINE ART CONNOISSEUR



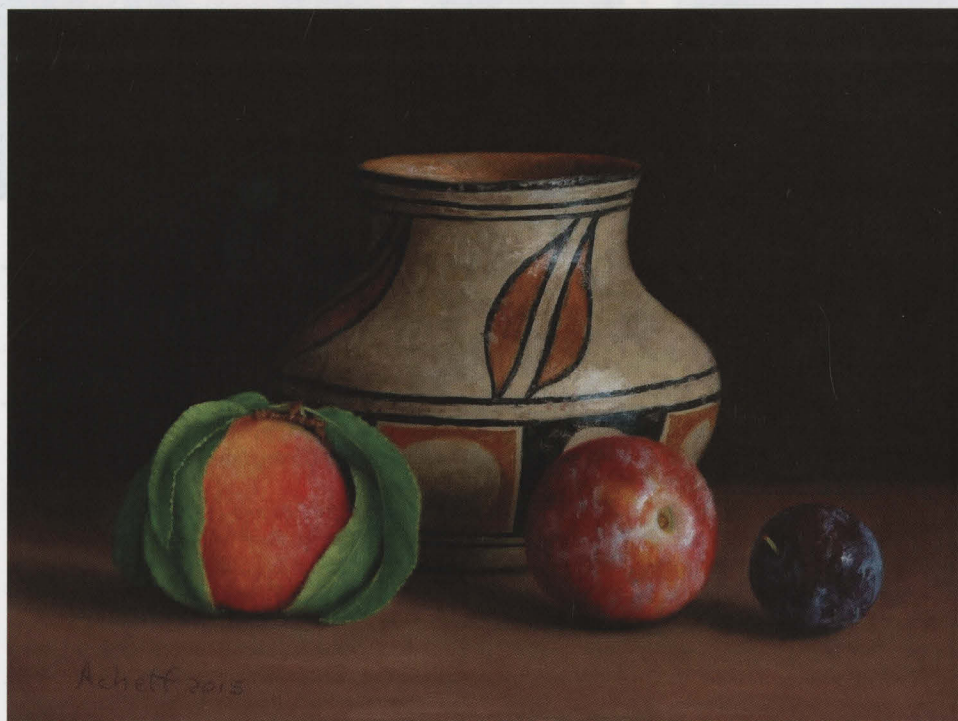
AUGUST 2016



# DECEITS THAT DELIGHT

Everything sounds better in French. Translated into English as “deceive the eye”, “trompe l’oeil” is understood universally to be realistic imagery creating the optical illusion that the objects depicted exist in three dimensions. Although this French term appeared four centuries ago, the technique itself has existed since Greece’s classical period. Often integrated within architecture to evoke larger spaces or views into nature, trompe l’oeil really took off in the Italian Renaissance with masters like Andrea Mantegna, then gathered greater steam as the Dutch Old Masters produced thousands of realistic still life paintings.

Those pictures crossed the Atlantic as household decorations and were taken to



breathtaking new levels by such American masters as William Harnett (1848–1892) and John F. Peto (1854–1907). In fact, on view now through September 4 at New Jersey’s John F. Peto Studio Museum is its biennial juried exhibition of contemporary still life and trompe l’oeil. The tradition took on added force when American artists such as Richard Haas (b. 1936) began adorning the sides of urban buildings with massive glimpses of distant vistas.

Here we have gathered two dozen recent examples of artists deceiving our eyes. Few are as

meticulously detailed as the roundel painted by Marina Dieul on this magazine’s cover; some are painted from photographs rather than life, one is sculpted, and another covers a giant brick wall. As with all vital traditions, trompe l’oeil is broad enough to be adapted by each artist to suit his or her particular objectives. We salute all of them and look forward to seeing what they create next.

**Max Gillies is a contributing writer to *Fine Art Connoisseur*.**

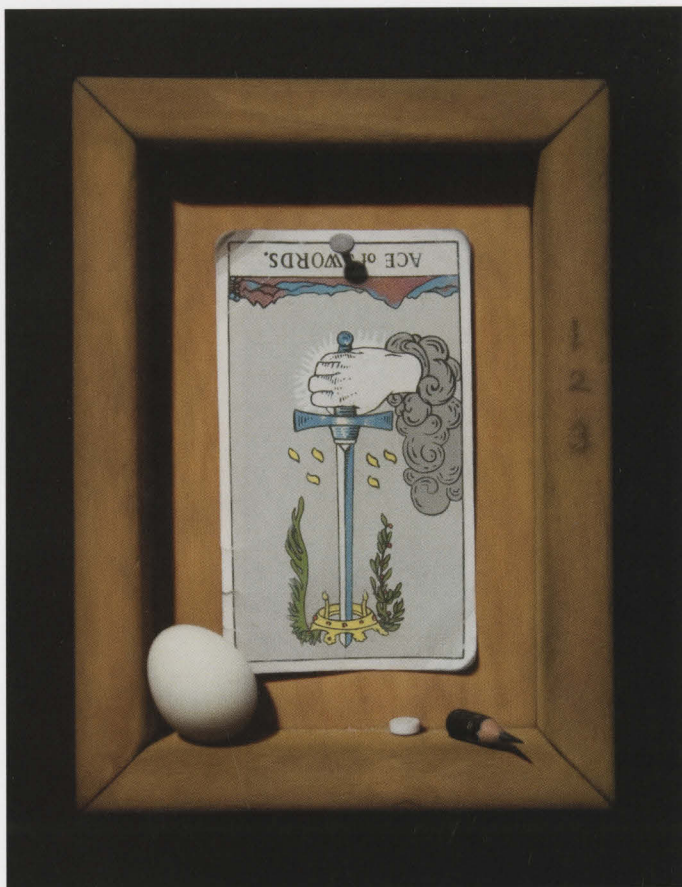


TONY CURANAJ (b. 1973), *Oblivion*, 2014, oil on canvas, 90 x 65 in., Private collection



(OPPOSITE PAGE TOP) WILLIAM ACHEFF (b. 1947), *Santo Domingo*, 2015, oil on board, 6 x 8 in., Saks Galleries, Denver ■  
 (OPPOSITE PAGE bottom) NOAH BUCHANAN (b. 1976), *Embrace I*, 2010, oil on panel, 14 x 11 in., Collection of the Bay Area Classical Artist Atelier

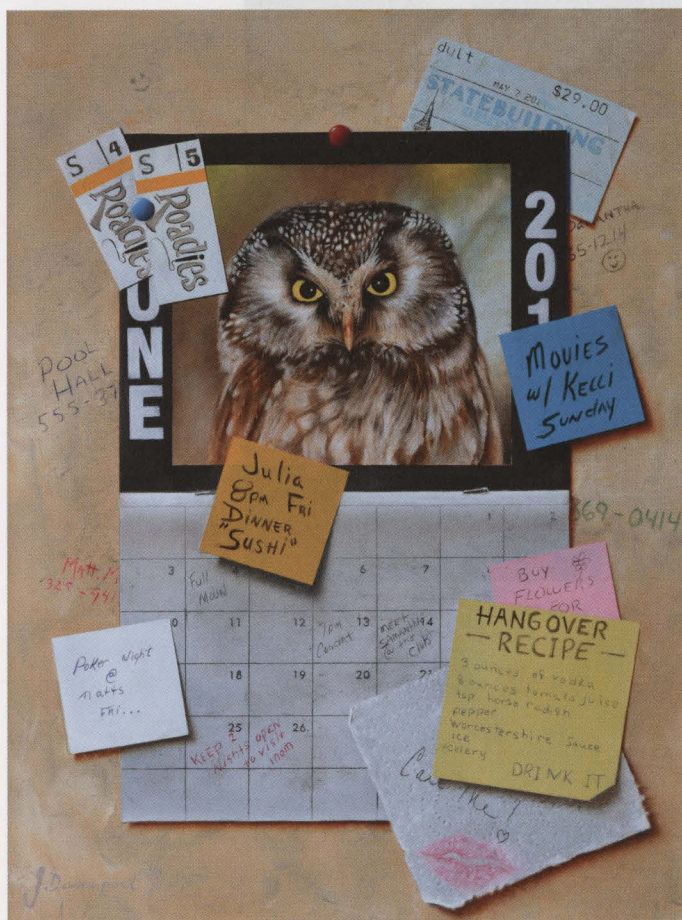




DEVIN CECIL-WISHING (b. 1981), *Trompe l'oeil*, 2014, oil on panel, 10 x 8 in., Eleventh Street Arts, Long Island City, NY

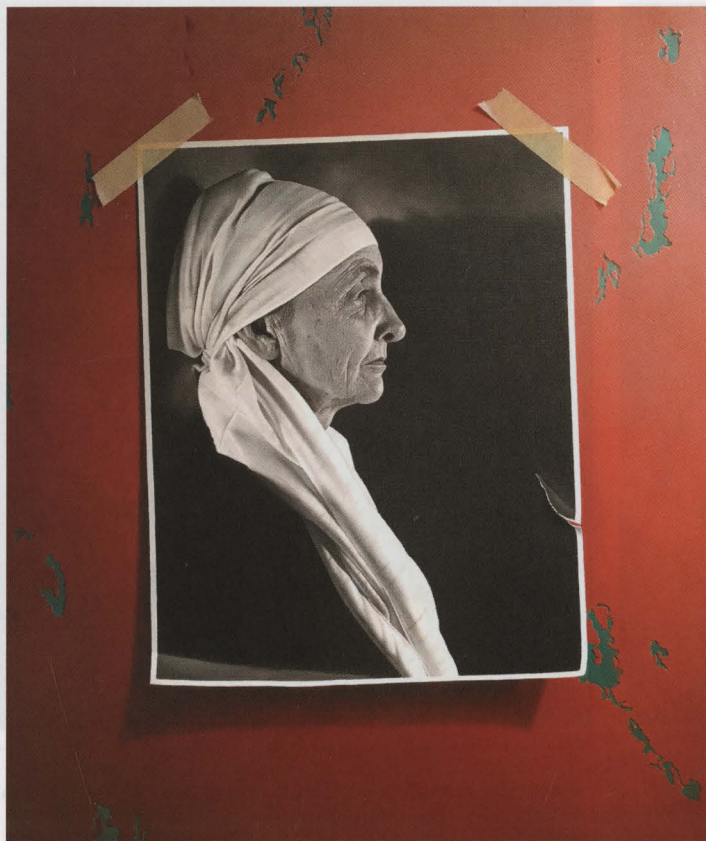


MARINA DIEUL (b. 1971), *Souris 26*, 2016, oil and ink on panel, 6 in. (diameter), Available from the artist, who also created the painting on this magazine's cover.



JAY DAVENPORT (b. 1972), *Night Owl*, 2014, oil on panel, 16 x 12 in., Collins Galleries, Orleans, MA





OTTO DUECKER (b. 1948), *Georgia O'Keeffe*, 2011, oil on board, 19 x 15 1/2 in., Raven Gallery, Aspen

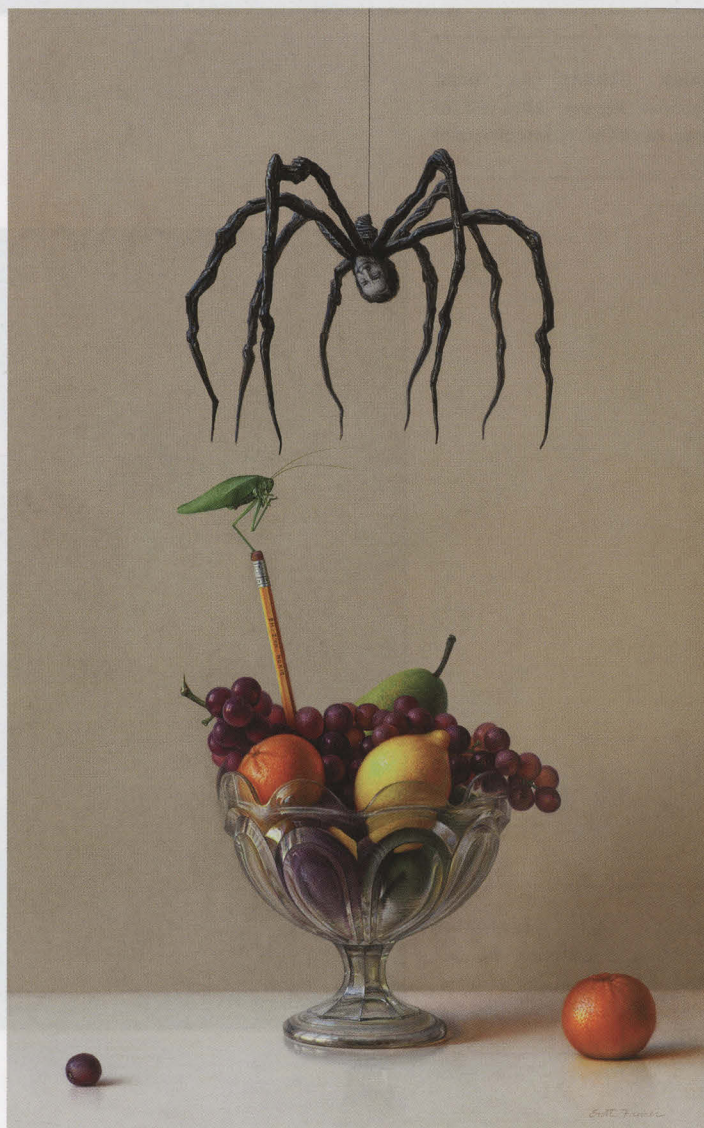


J.D. HILLBERRY (b. 1958), *Fooled*, 2013, charcoal, graphite, and carbon pencil on paper, 14 x 11 in., Collection of the artist

SCOTT FRASER (b. 1957), *Katy Didn't*, 2013, oil on board, 29 1/2 x 18 1/2 in., Raven Gallery, Aspen



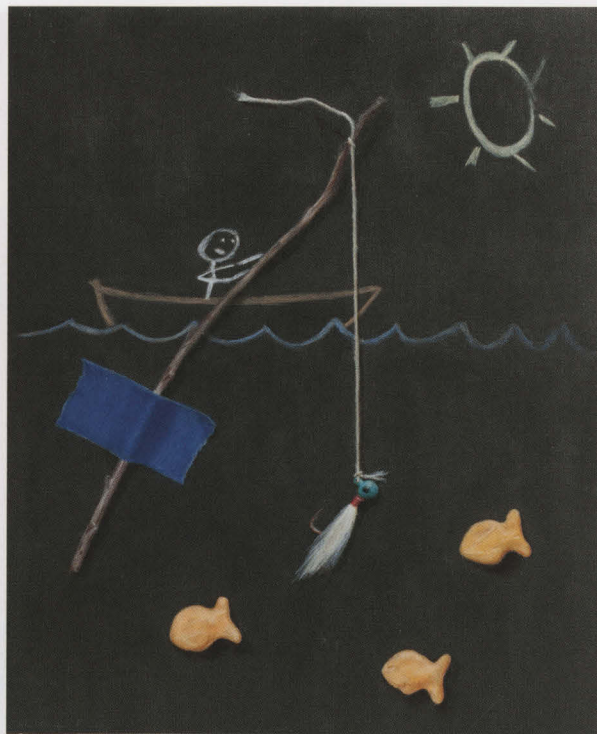
ADAM FORFANG (b. 1978), *Matrix*, 2016, oil on panel, 9 x 12 in., John Pence Gallery, San Francisco







**CARIN GERARD** (b. 1958),  
*Gardenia Repose*, 2016, oil on  
linen, 72 x 84 in., Private collection



**WARREN W. KESSLER** (b. 1976), *Gone Fishing*, 2015, oil on Masonite panel,  
10 x 8 in., Collection of Tom and Georgia Dawson

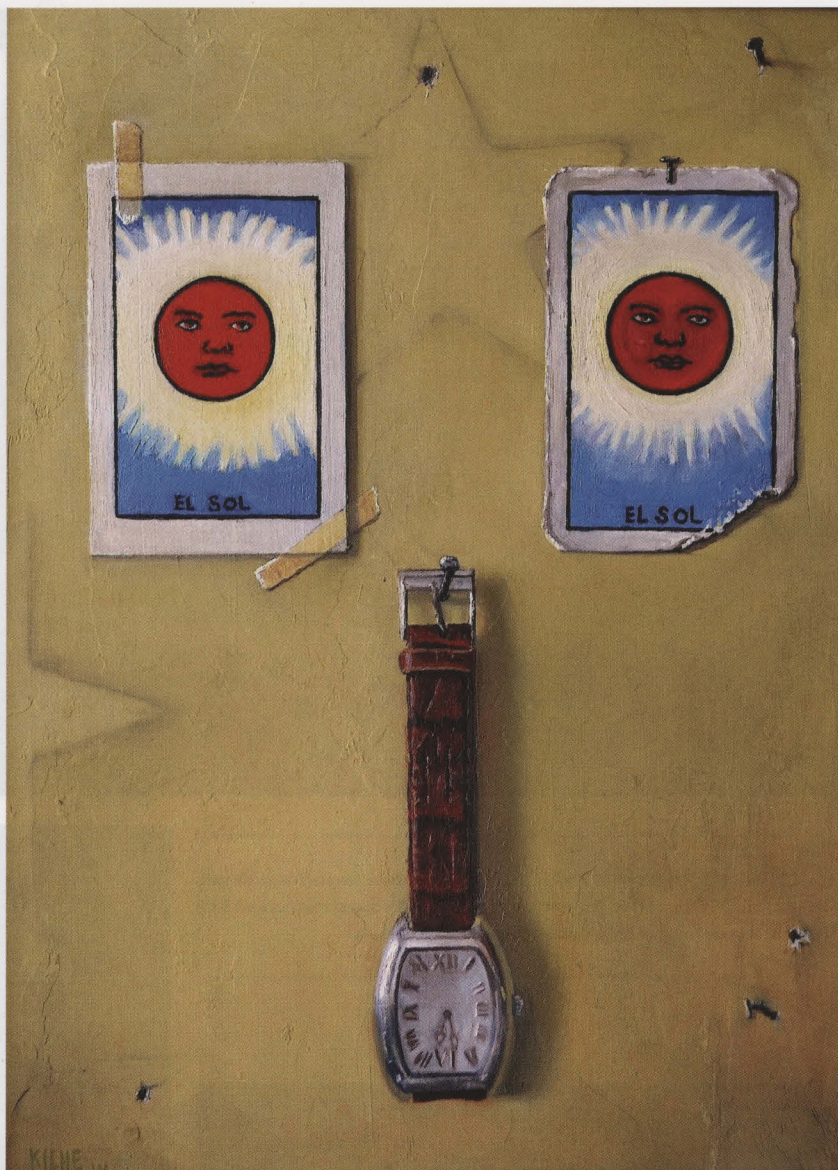


**JEFFREY D. HARGREAVES**  
(b. 1949), *Solvent and Die Set*,  
2013, oil on linen, 24 x 36 in.,  
Private collection





**JONATHAN KOCH** (b. 1971), *One Orange Peeled*, 2009, oil on linen, 7 x 6 in., Private collection



**SCOTT KICHE** (b. 1974), *Time between Two Suns*, 2013, oil on board, 14 x 11 in., Collection of the artist



**ALAN MAGEE** (b. 1947), *Battlefield*, 2016, acrylic and oil on panel, 36 1/4 x 45 in., Forum Gallery, New York City





SEBASTIAN MARTORANA (b. 1981), *Yours, Mine & Ours* (overall and detail), 2010, Italian Carrara marble and steel hardware, middle towel measures 33 x 8 x 18 in, Photo courtesy of Smithsonian American Art Museum



LAURA KOLLER (b. 1954), *Transitions*, 2015, oil on board, 17 x 22 in., Manitou Galleries, Santa Fe



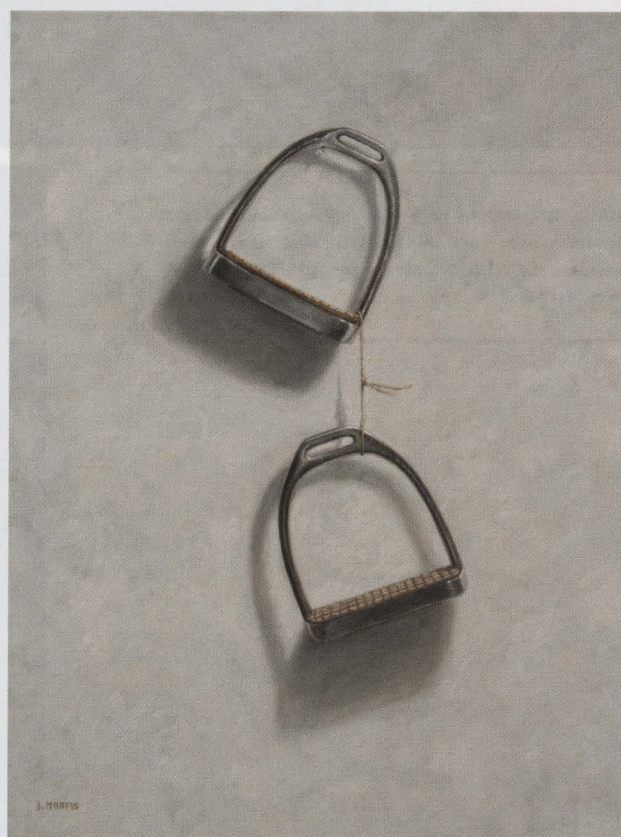




**MICHAEL DEVORE** (b. 1982),  
*The Attributes of Music*,  
2015, oil on canvas, 20 x 30  
in., Canyon Fine Art, Santa Fe



**TIM TYLER** (b. 1958), *Puppetmaster*, 2015, oil on panel, 33 x 36 in., MTFA Contemporary Art, Santa Fe



**JOHN MORFIS** (b. 1976), *Carol's Stirrups*, 2015, oil on canvas, 24 x 18 in., Grenning Gallery, Sag Harbor, NY





ROA (b. 1976), *Mole*, building-sized mural painted last September as part of *Unexpected*, the first mural festival presented by 64.6 Downtown and JUSTKIDS in Fort Smith, Arkansas

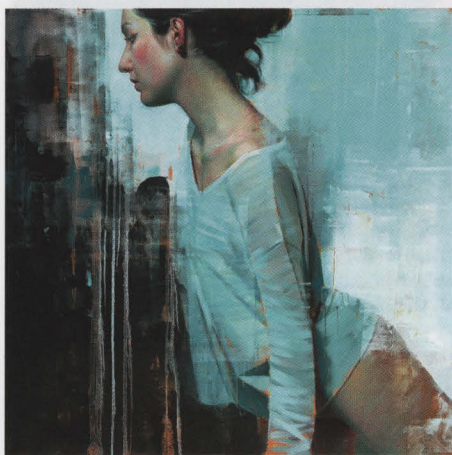


ADAM VINSON (b. 1978), *Hoopla*, 2016, oil on panel, 28 x 24 in., On view at Sloane Merrill Gallery (Boston) through July 8





## ARTISTS & GALLERIES



Alpay Efe (b. 1987), *Amalgamate A.A.*, 2016, oil on board, 31 1/2 x 31 1/2 in.

### Denver through July 23

Abend Gallery is hosting its third annual *Edge of Realism* exhibition, which showcases the new directions being pursued by 25 talented artists from around the world. These range from the deconstructed, abstracted realism of Benjamin Garcia and John Wentz to the tightly rendered yet surreal works of Kari-Lise Alexander and Britt Snyder.

**INFORMATION:** 2260 East Colfax Avenue, Denver, CO 80206, 303.355.0950, [abendgallery.com](http://abendgallery.com)

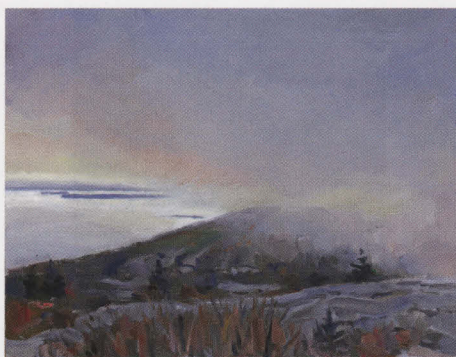


Michael Ward (b. 1953), *76 #3*, 2016, acrylic on canvas, 12 x 9 in.

### Laguna Beach, California July 5–August 31

For more than 80 years, the Laguna Beach Festival of Arts has encompassed a juried exhibition that now features paintings, photographs, prints, sculpture, jewelry, furniture, ceramics, and glass made by 140 artists from Orange County. Also on offer are artist-led demonstrations, workshops, and tours, as well as live music and on-site dining.

**INFORMATION:** 650 Laguna Canyon Road, Laguna Beach, CA 92651, 949.494.1145, [foapom.com](http://foapom.com)

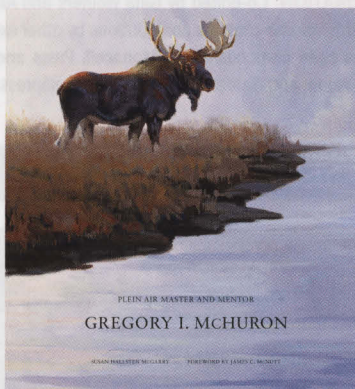


Paul Rickert (b. 1947), *Fog Lifting, Cadillac*, 2015, oil on canvas, 11 x 14 in.

### Northeast Harbor, Maine July 28–August 10

The Star Gallery is presenting the exhibition *Observing Acadia*, which features recent work by the Philadelphia artist Paul Rickert. The show focuses on the magnificent scenery of Maine's Acadia National Park, including Cadillac Mountain (1,530 feet) on Mount Desert Island, the highest point along America's Atlantic seaboard.

**INFORMATION:** 6 Neighborhood Road, Northeast Harbor, ME 04662, 207.276.3060, [stargallerymaine.com](http://stargallerymaine.com)

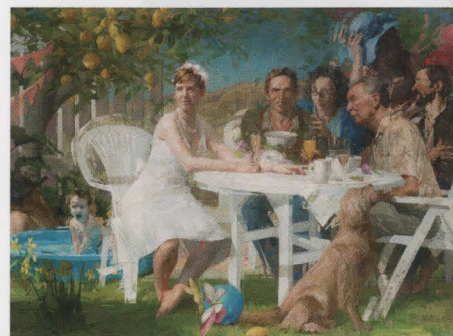


Susan Hallsten McGarry's new book about artist Gregory I. McHuron (1945–2012)

### Moose, Wyoming July 13–17

The fifth annual *Plein Air for the Park* will be hosted by the nonprofit organization Rocky Mountain Plein Air Painters (celebrating its 15th anniversary), the Grand Teton Association, and Grand Teton National Park. Beginning July 4, participating artists will paint outdoors throughout the park and Jackson Hole area, then exhibit and sell their new works at the Craig Thomas Discovery & Visitor Center. A highlight of the exhibition opening party on July 13 will be the launch of Susan Hallsten McGarry's book about one of RMPAP's most beloved members, Gregory I. McHuron (1945–2012). McGarry will also serve as the event's awards judge.

**INFORMATION:** 1 Teton Park Road, Moose, WY 83012, [pleinairforthepark.org](http://pleinairforthepark.org)



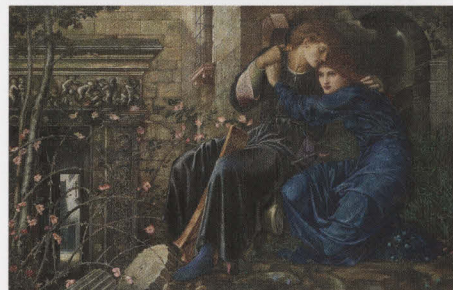
Zoey Frank (b. 1987), *Brunch*, 2016, oil on canvas, 52 x 70 in.

### Thomaston, Maine August 19–September 24

Haynes Galleries will highlight two talented artists at the same time. Zoey Frank has begun to explore human interaction and change in her paintings, including specific events in her own life. She is also fascinated by the theme of change; for example, a model's pose can be adjusted over the course of several sittings. Also on view are Roger Dale Brown's latest landscapes and seascapes recording Maine's renowned natural beauty.

**INFORMATION:** 91 Main Street, Thomaston, ME 04861, 207.354.0605, [haynesgalleries.com](http://haynesgalleries.com)

## AUCTIONS & FAIRS



Edward Burne-Jones (1833–1898), *Love among the Ruins*, 1870–73, watercolor, bodycolor, and gum arabic on paper, 38 x 60 in., sold by Christie's on 11 July 2013 for £14,845,875 (\$22,432,117)

### London through July 15

In 1766, James Christie opened his auction house in the St. James's neighborhood of London, where the firm's headquarters remain today. It has always championed British art, and now — in celebration of its 250th anniversary — Christie's has borrowed back an array of British masterpieces sold in its rooms over the centuries. On view in this loan exhibition are such icons as Edwin Landseer's *Monarch of the Glen*, Dante Gabriel Rossetti's *Proserpine*, and L.S. Lowry's *Fun Fair at Daisy Nook*.

**INFORMATION:** 8 King Street, London SW1Y 6QT, 44.207.839.9060, [christies.com](http://christies.com)