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Artists to Watch



BALLINGER BY RANDY BACON

Randy Bacon

For painter Randy Bacon, there is no place like Texas—West Texas, that is. “The colors and the light are different from anywhere else,” Bacon says. “The dirt gets orange, the skies turn electric blue, and the cotton fields vibrate in shades of green.”

Based in Fort Worth, Bacon regularly takes to the road in search of source material, stopping in small towns like Palo Pinto, Pecos, Stockton, and Marfa where the western way of life lives on. “The journey is more important than the destination,” he says. Bacon’s goal is to look for scenes that tell a story, narratives that evoke mysteries as if something is ▶



MARKET STREET BY DOUGLAS MORGAN

Douglas Morgan

Douglas Morgan is fond of saying that whether he is painting an interior scene, landscape, or still life, shadow, form, perspective, and dramatic use of color go a long way toward immortalizing his image of choice. Morgan’s subject matter includes scenes from his many travels abroad as well as those close to his San Francisco home. A Morgan painting is likely to feature a hotdog stand, trolleys on Market Street in San Francisco, or a sunset in the California wine country. If his scene unfolds outdoors, he prefers capturing it on location. “Painting outside allows you to capture the immediacy of your surroundings,” Morgan says. “You can turn around and get a 360-degree view and see all that visual information.”

Morgan considers the canvas his personal place to record observations about the world around him. And in each painting he tries to convey to the viewer why he chose a particular scene to depict. “Whether it’s the light or the way boats sit in a harbor, I want them to see the beauty and excitement I saw,” he explains. “I want them to see what made me stop and say, ‘I want to paint that.’” ▶



SISTERS BY KARMEL TIMMONS

Karmel Timmons

In 1999, Karmel Timmons moved to a ranching community near Elbert, CO, southeast of Denver, and purchased four quarter horses. For Timmons, it was a life-changing experience. Since early childhood she had always loved to draw, and soon she began rendering her new equines in pencil.

Not long after that, a neighbor commissioned her to draw the horses on her ranch. Within months, Timmons was stacking up numerous requests for western-flavored drawings. She was so successful, in fact, that a year later, in 2000, she was able to quit her office job to pursue a full-time career in fine art. “I’m mainly trying to capture the beauty of the

horse and the rider,” Timmons says. “I like to express the relationship between them.”

Today, horses continue to inspire her. The artist has become known for her talent in portraying details, textures, and moods. “I want my horses to look real, so that people can feel as if they can almost touch them,” Timmons says.

In 2004 and 2005, she received the People’s Choice award at the Coors Western Art Exhibit and Sale in Denver. ▶

Glen Edwards

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Randy Bacon *continued*

about to occur just over the horizon. He is likely to stop the car and either sketch or snap photos of the scene. Once back in his studio, he attempts to capture the same sense of place that first drew him to the image. Observers have commented that some of Bacon's West Texas landscapes remind them of the opening of a movie. Such comments suit him just fine, the native Texan says, because one of his missions is to make all of his work appear "cinematic."

For inspiration, Bacon looks to a range of painters, from Edward Hopper, "a master of reduction," to Dan Blagg, a painter known for his gritty urban scenes. Bacon is represented by David Dike Fine Art, Dallas, TX, and Carter Bowden Art and Antiques, Fort Worth, TX. —Bonnie Gangelhoff

Douglas Morgan *continued*

A regular award-winner at the annual Carmel Art Festival, Morgan also is a signature member of the Oil Painters of America. He is represented by Masterpiece Gallery, Carmel, CA; The Garden Gallery, Half Moon Bay, CA; Waterhouse Gallery, Santa Barbara, CA; William Lester Gallery, Point Reyes Station, CA; and Mountains Edge Fine Art, Santa Fe, NM.

—Bonnie Gangelhoff

Karmel Timmons *continued*

This month, she is a participating artist in the Stampede Western Invitational Art Exhibit & Sale held annually in Greeley, CO, and in July her work is on view in an auction at Altermann Galleries in Santa Fe, NM, where she also is represented.

—Bonnie Gangelhoff