A Journey Through Visual Transport

It is always interesting to me how an artist can paint a perfect scene to transport viewers to a specific season or place for a long luxurious visit. When the calendar says it is one season but the thermometer says differently, it is reassuring to visit that favorite time of year where the weather is perfect through a painting. Over the years, patrons have shared that what they most enjoy about collecting art is visiting a fading memory or a particular place just by “stepping inside” a painting to enjoy the glow of the sun or the spray of a wave along a deserted beach.

Paintings, sculpture and other forms of art are great transporters, taking us to places and seasons in an instant. We all have special memories, places and experiences we can easily revisit from time to time through these types of visual record.

Original art helps calm our thoughts and forces contemplative thought taking us on a journey back in time or into the future. You too can begin a journey to a special place. If you are the neighborhood, let our artists help you find a beautiful place filled with sensational sunsets, coastal scenes and other on-location paint outs.

If you are long overdue to visit your favorite place or season, visit Hunter-Wolff Gallery and we will transport you free of charge! And, the seasonal work is sensational.

July 4 CLOSED - We wish you a great holiday celebration
Big Hits on the Leader Board

So many artists made it to the top of the Leader Board this past month. We are extremely grateful to those who love art and enjoy it in their own home. A big thanks to our many fans including: Carolyn and Al Keil in KS for adding a Marc Jenesel glow pot to their collection; S. Latta for scooping up an aspen burl by Jerry Wedekind; Darlene F. for buying Clifford Bailey’s “Intersecting Hills”; Earlynn M. for taking some Donna Gordon blown glass back to Harrisonburg, VA; Marcia and Dan for picking up a Kerry Brooks plate for their home in Flint, TX; Zenas G. for buying Karen Pierce-Marc Jenesel’s unique raku/fiber vessel; the Gurley’s for buying Clifford Bailey’s landscape “Flowing”; Mr. Rowe for picking up several jewelry pieces; Mr. Taki in Dallas for buying Jewelry by Tana; Laura C. for selecting a Gary Vigen painting for her home in Fulshear, TX; Colleen for buying a Vinny Luciani ash turned vessel; Celeste Urbank for loving Marlene Kort’s “Some Like It Hot” for her Texas home; Don W. in Kirkland, WA for deciding on Clifford Bailey’s “Riverside”; Roger P. in CS for his custom order “Off Shore/Elliott Bay” by Justin Clements; D. Frazier for picking up a lovely pendant from Jewelry by Tana; Rhip W. for taking a Gary Vigen painting for his new home; Anita P. for finding some great gifts from Jewelry by Tana and Carole Fenberg; the Tuttles in Bangor, ME for selecting a little oil gem by Justin Clements; Lisa & Jeff S. in Colbert, WA for purchasing Clifford Bailey’s “Warm Green” oil and jewelry; Lucia W. for deciding on Diane Calkin’s sterling silver/pearl necklace; Tara A. in Roanoke, VA for buying a raku glow pot by Marc Jenesel; Celia McC. in Gilroy, CA for buying Marlene Kort’s “Can You Can-Can” pastel painting; Joe Smith for finding a great gift by Marc Jenesel; Amy Wright for her order of 35 honey pots! (hope you sell a lot of honey too in FL); Tina S. in CA for selecting a lovely Donna Gordon platter and several raku pieces; Judith Killman for calling us from Tennessee to buy a stunning pendant from Jewelry by Tana; Patty Adams for ordering a special custom piece by Karen Pierce and Marc Jenesel; and the dozens and dozens of fans for taking home Tony Heslop pottery, jewelry from Andrew Hamilton Crawford and so many other treasures. Thanks for making this a great month for Hunter-Wolff Gallery.

Now that the weather has finally settled down somewhat, you may begin to see artists painting along a trail or side of the road. They are painting en plein air.

This French expression means “in the open air” and is a manner of style of painting developed in the mid-19th century, characterized by the representation of the luminous effects of natural light. Artists have long painted outdoors taking advantage of natural light. Impressionist painters such as Claude Monet, Camille Pissarro and Pierre-Auguste Renoir advocated en plein air painting, a popular style today among contemporary painters.

Numerous artists, including Kathryn McMahon, Patience Heyl, Marlene Kort, and others at Hunter-Wolff Gallery enjoy this style of painting.
After two consecutive years of wild fires near Colorado Springs, everyone is more aware of how precious our tree resources are. The long journey for the tree begins when a tiny seed finds its way on a windy day and settles to take root. The lucky ones reach full maturity in spite of adverse weather and environmental conditions living a long life before given a second life in the hands of Vinny Luciani. It might take hundreds of years before that seed completes its full journey. But then, if it is really lucky, it gets a second chance as an art piece. Even if a wild fire takes its life prematurely and only leaves scorched branches and charred limbs, it has a second chance for life through Vinny Luciani’s amazing art.

How does a dead tree get its second life? Vinny Luciani, a highly skilled turner, gives new life to trees at the end of their cycle, due to fire or age. His creative mind and skillful hands are always busy creating extraordinary collectible objects d’arte. He starts on his lathe where a form takes shape before it is hollowed. He then skillfully hand carves unique elements and detail for added interest.

The first step in turning keeps the wood spinning from 500 RPM to a maximum high speed of about 4,000 RPM to cut and shape. Many intricate forms and designs take shape by expert turner Vinny Luciani using the correct tools.

He selects primarily figured hardwoods like alder, ash, box elder, mahogany, hard maple, mesquite, cherry, walnut, hardwood burls and fire-killed ponderosa pine from the Black Forest Fire of 2013. Vinny frequently selects stock that is spalted and rich with beautiful grains and patterns. Burls are also favored for their dramatic patterns and are sometimes combined with different woods that he ebonizes or dyes with color and lacquers for a silky polished look and drama.

Be sure to visit Vinny Luciani’s collection when you visit to feel the wood. Don’t be surprised if you experience a desire to bring a piece up to your nose to inhale the scent of the wood. Check out our sweet little Christmas tree ornaments by Vinny from salvaged fire-killed trees and dusted with crushed Cripple Creek turquoise.
Jennifer Vranes recently joined Hunter-Wolff Gallery sharing her magical paintings which take viewers on an intimate and spiritual journal where the world seems to be alive with light, beauty and peace. She is best known for her large and vibrant paintings of Aspen forests and European landscapes. Her easily recognized, trademarked technique using a palette knife to ‘sculpt’ in thick textures has become a favorite among collectors worldwide.

The art industry’s leading magazine, Art Business News, spotlighted Vranes in the article “Time Honored Appeal,” as one of the world’s top selling landscape artists. Art Business News later published a special edition on Today’s Top Artists and included an editorial marking Vranes as America’s “Artist to Watch” and one that Hunter-Wolff Gallery has been watching for the past six years. Thrilled with her successes, we decided it was time to bring her to Colorado and showcase her work in Colorado Springs.

Vranes unique paintings year after year gain attention on an international level as well. Her artwork was recently secured by the U.S. State Department to be placed in the “ART in Embassies” collection in Bamako, Mali. This exclusive program is a vital form of cultural diplomacy for United States Embassies, and State Department curators selected the paintings of Jennifer Vranes to represent the talent of the United States of America to dignitaries of all countries.

An avid traveler, Vranes finds inspiration from the beautiful places she has seen around the world including Colorado. Through her art, she transports the viewer to Tuscany where poppies grow wildly in breathtaking meadows or to France where fragrant lavender is farmed in lush rows, or to the Rocky Mountains where groves of Aspens quake near rolling streams and rivers. Vranes finds the most beautiful gems of nature and captures them on canvas for all to experience and enjoy.

We are excited to share Vranes magic with you and look forward to your response.
New Arrivals: How Long Will They Last?

Landscape Oil
Clifford T. Bailey

Pastoral Landscapes
Gina Grundemann

Wood Carved Birds
Larry Szabelski

Pastel Land & Seascapes
Marlene Kort

Dreamscapes
Patience Heyl

Need It Gift Wrapped?  
Shipped?  Just Ask!

Be sure to check for new work frequently. New Gallery Items are highlighted on our website homepage for two full weeks. And, Visit us on Facebook for current news.