



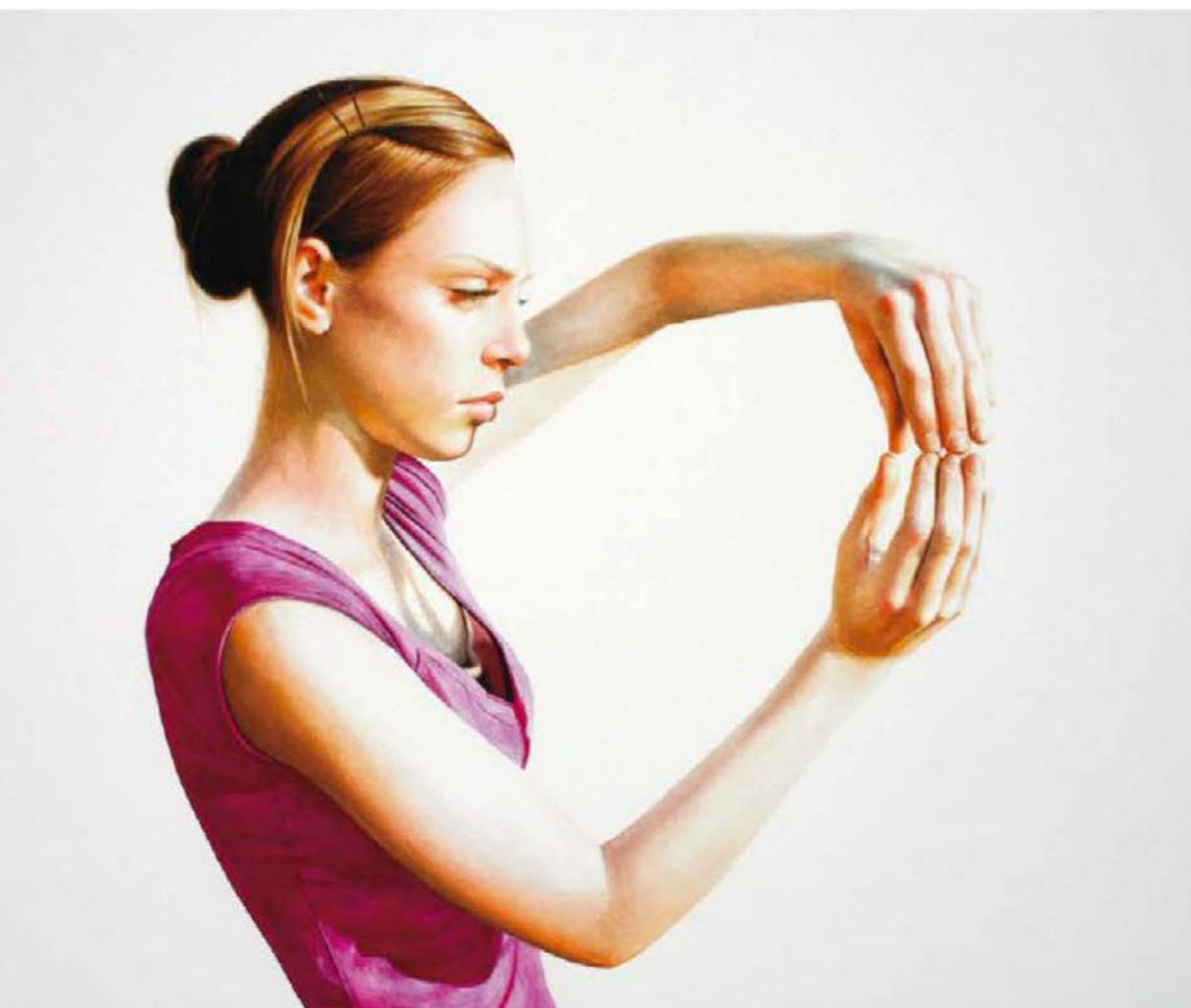
AMERICAN

art

COLLECTOR



Women painting women



1
Ali Cavanaugh,
Window of Opportunity,
modern fresco, 16 x 20"

2
Candice Bohannon,
Catching Dreams,
oil on panel, 32 x 15"

3
Odile Richer, *La pesanteur et la grâce,*
oil on canvas, 48 x 36"

4
Nora Venturelli, *Vice Versa No. 35,*
acrylic and oil on panel, 70 x 92"

Twenty-eight female artists will share interpretations of the female figure in Richard J. Demato Fine Arts Gallery's second exhibition devoted to women painting women. Whittled down from more than 250 entries from around the world, the art in this show highlights not only artistic merit but also the vision of each artist. Participants in the exhibit include Candice Bohannon, Melinda Borysevich, Ali Cavanaugh, Tracey Ellis-Haynes, Odile Richer, Nora Venturelli, Daryl Zang,

and more than a dozen others.

"[We] are thrilled to have another opportunity to provide a venue for all women to share their souls, their hearts, their story, in their own way. Art is many things to many people, but for artists it's their voice, and collectively they all want, deserve and need to speak to us. It takes your breath away to see a room full of artwork from women painting women," says Richard Demato, owner of the gallery.

Bohannon will display her painting

Catching Dreams that depicts a young girl asleep in her bed. "I wanted to paint the tranquil, weightless sleep of blushing youth. With an open future and an untroubled heart, there is peace in her expression of sleep," says Bohannon. "The night is only a pause in her adventures; her dreams explore an infinite world of lyrical whimsies, sport and folly. The thick sleep that has fallen over her is in direct contrast with the fresh energy a new day will awaken, as she will likely explode out



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of bed in the morning."

Window of Opportunity, a modern fresco by Cavanaugh, continues the artist's interest in the dichotomy of the seen and unseen in human existence. "There is often a moment of hesitation when one moves into the interior space of thought that I find so interesting. There is an unspoken language revealed in compositions of the human body. I try to illustrate this 'unspoken language' by using gestures, light and the female form," says Cavanaugh.

A pivotal aspect of Richer's art is the photography session where she often incorporates elements that the model can identify with. Her painting *La pesanteur et la grâce* tells the story of the model who is passionate about bio-ecology. "Emerging as it does from the image, the bear, which acts as an extension of the dress, represents a moment of self-affirmation," explains Richer. "Furthermore, the choice of colors accentuates the contrast between the severity of the bear and the gentleness of the model—all played out upon a vibrant vegetation backdrop."

Venturelli's *Vice Versa No. 35* "reflects the morphing of my drawings into paintings and vice versa, hence the title of the series," says the artist. "I am fascinated by the complexities of human dynamics. *Vice Versa* is a visual metaphor of how we move, communicate and interact, exposing and suppressing the numerous layers and intricacies of our human condition."

The exhibition will hang at Richard J. Demato Fine Arts Gallery from October 11 to November 11, with a reception opening night from 6:30 to 9 p.m. ●



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