COLORED PENCIL

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PET PHOTOS

Christmas List Must-Haves

Nautical Tutorial

Featuring: Simon Dinnerstein

December 2014 \$5.99 USA coloredpencilmag.com



"Rear Window" (detail) 14 x 9" pencil, powdered graphite

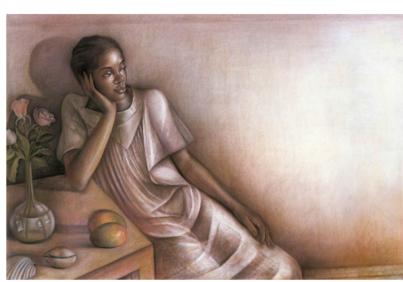
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Simon Dinnerstein is an American figurative artist best known for his masterwork The Fulbright Triptych. In addition to 27 one-man exhibitions, Simon Dinnerstein is the recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship to Germany and a Rome Prize for study in Italy at the American Academy in Rome. Born in Brownsville, Brooklyn, Dinnerstein has exhibited widely and his work has been the subject of three books including, most recently, The Suspension of Time, a publication devoted to The Fulbright Triptych. This book is the only publication which devotes itself to a single painting by a living American artist.

Since studying at the Brooklyn Museum Art School, I have had a strong affinity for the drawing medium. Many of the drawings are large, some as much as 6 or 7 feet, and highly realized. My hunch is that few artists working today would take their drawings to this extreme. I would say that these pieces represent my drawing equivalent of a painting.

I have worked in a variety of drawing media and a grouping of these can be seen on my website: www.simondinnerstein.com/ art.html

In terms of drawings incorporating the colored pencil medium, I would point out a series of four works of Cheryl Yorke, a beautiful woman who had been a student of mine at New York City Technical College. These works are large in scale, ranging from 3 1/2 to 5 feet. I was very impressed and inspired by the dignity and beauty that Cheryl possessed. She had a rare combination of exterior and interior glow.



"Late Afternoon" 29 3/8 x 43 7/8" conté crayon, colored pencil, pastel



"The Quiet Woman" 30 1/8 x 43 1/2" conté crayon, colored pencil, pastel

I was fortunate to have been able to show these 4 works together at Staempfli Gallery in New York. In Sleep, at fifty-nine inches the largest of these works, is in the collection of the Smithsonian American Art Museum. This image merges a dream framework and a sense of memory and place. The complexity of this drawing was an outgrowth of the many hours Cheryl posed for me and shared stories of growing up in St. Vincent. I always felt this was a piece that had a magical progression to it, almost as if some invisible presence was holding my hand or directing me as I drew.

In Sleep relates to another visionary piece, Night (76 inches in width), a work inspired by a play that my wife's class performed. This student performance, which pulsed with electrical energy, was inspired by Maurice Sendak's Where the Wild Things Are. In my drawing, this Halloween-like procession was animated by an attempt to convey the array of anxieties and fears that haunt our childhood.



"In Sleep" 33 1/2 x 59 1/8" conté crayon, colored pencil, pastel - Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC

Counterpoint is a portrait of Wajih Salem who runs a shop nearby that sells Middle-Eastern products. He is a very mysterious and dramatic looking individual. My wife had seen the pencil cactus in a local florist shop and thought it would be a wonderful birthday gift for me, especially given the nature of my work and the name of the plant. As soon as I saw it I thought it would create a wonderful juxtaposition with the beautiful angularity of the model. There seems to be some conversation going on in the drawing between Wajih and the cactus.

I have, over many years, been very keyed up by the still life form. Works such as Winter Apples, Mid-Summer, and Mums in Winterlight attempt to find some internal pulse within these objects, some inner life and glow, which will then radiate within the image.

I would like to think that these drawings are my attempt to infuse the realist tradition with a modern sense of abstraction, sensuality, form, and vision.



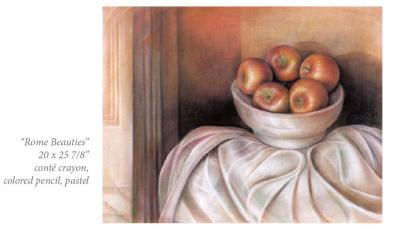


"January Light" 43 7/8 x 29 1/8" conté crayon, colored pencil, pastel

Simon Dinnerstein www.simondinnerstein.com



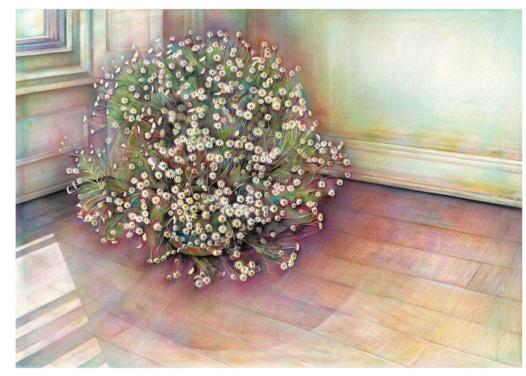
"Night" 36 1/2 x 76 3/8" conté crayon, colored pencil, pastel, wax crayon, oil pastel - Arnot Art Museum, Elmira, New York



"French Pears" 19 7/8 x 33 3/4" conté crayon, colored pencil, pastel



"Counterpoint" 52 3/8 x 41 1/8" conté crayon, colored pencil, pastel



"Mid-Summer" 36 1/2 x 51 3/4" conté crayon, colored pencil, pastel



"Mums in Winter Light" 19 1/2 x 26" conté crayon, colored pencil, pastel