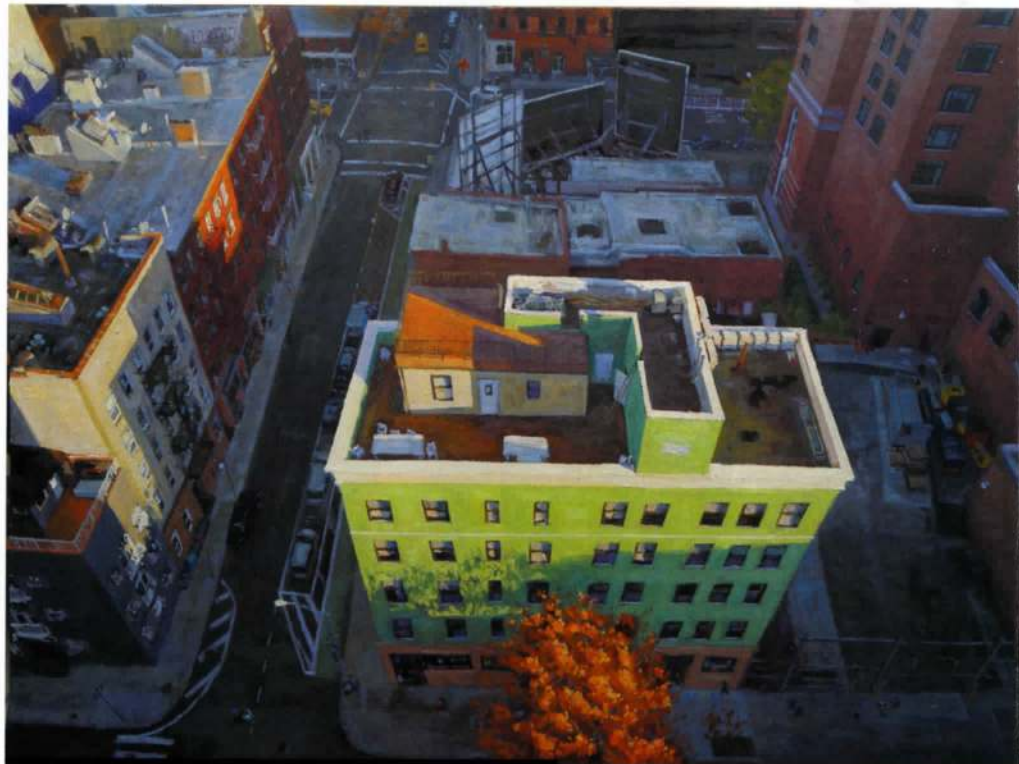


ANNUAL GOLD MEDAL EXHIBITION

California Art Club at The Autry Museum

More than a century ago, a group of plein air artists gathered along the banks of the Arroyo Seco for camaraderie and fellowship as they captured on canvas the scenic beauty of the canyon. With their awe-inspiring landscape paintings, these artists inspired California Impressionism – the first artistic movement to be defined as uniquely Californian – and founded the California Art Club in 1909.

Today, the prominent fine arts organization, which remains headquartered in Pasadena, continues a rich tradition of its early artists with the presentation of its much-anticipated Annual Gold Medal Exhibition. The 105th installment of the display will be on view at the Autry Museum of the American West from



SCOTT W. PRIOR, SOHO ROOFTOPS, OIL, 36 x 48 INCHES.

April 3 to April 24.

Many of the featured works in the upcoming exhibition of more than 200 contemporary-traditional fine art paintings and sculpture, however, represent a departure from the pristine California landscapes that defined early Gold Medal Exhibitions. A hallmark of more recent displays is the manner in which the exhibiting artists employ classical fine art techniques to create works that push the boundaries and explore topical imagery and messages. Gold Medal artworks that underscore this year's transition spotlight more figurative and inner-city themes as well as images of daily life from around the globe.

"We are pleased to return to The Autry with our 105th Annual Gold Medal Exhibition and showcase many new works in which our artists strive to innovate by combining aesthetic realism with the inspiration they find in the unusual and unexpected," says American artist

Peter Adams, who serves as the organization's president.

Among those participating in this year's exhibition are a number of artists who live and work in the San Gabriel Valley, including Peter Adams, Ruo Li, Simon Lok, Eric Merrell, Christopher Slatoff, W. Jason Situ, William Stout and Jove Wang.

During the exhibition, the California Art Club will present events and educational programs that enable art enthusiasts to learn more about traditional art forms. These activities include the Artists' Gala Reception on Saturday, April 2; a panel discussion and demonstration "Giving Life to Still Life" on the exhibition's opening day; and an April 9 tour led by Jean Stern, a noted authority on the California Plein Air movement, of the concurrent Autry exhibition California Impressionism: The Gardena High School Collection. On the closing day of the display, the Club will stage an early



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KATE SAMMONS, A PLACE IN THE SUN, OIL, 25 X 20 INCHES.

California-themed "Paint/Sculpt-Out," a fun-filled day for families to watch artists at work.

For more information about the 105th Annual Gold Medal Exhibition, the participating artists and its related programming, visit californiaartclub.org.

Admission to the exhibition is included with museum admission, which is \$10 for adults, \$6 for students and seniors, \$4 for children ages 3 to 12, and free for Autry members, veterans, and children age 2 and under. Admission is free on the second Tuesday of every month. The Autry is located at 4700 Western Heritage Way in Los Angeles with hours of operation 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekends. ♣

DAN GERHARTZ, ON THE EDGE, OIL, 30 X 40 INCHES.



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