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AMERICAN

art

PREVIEWS OF WORKS FOR SALE AT
UPCOMING SHOWS COAST TO COAST

SPECIAL SECTION: MARINE ART

JUNE 2008



JEREMY LIPKING

FORCE OF NATURE

Jeremy Lipking gives
American Art Collector
an inside look at a few
of his favorite things.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JEFF NEWTON

JEREMY LIPKING'S FAVORITE SPOT TO PAINT
IS HIDDEN DEEP IN MALIBU CANYON.



Steve Diamant, owner of the Arcadia Gallery in Soho, New York, has rented out Track 16 in Santa Monica in order to put on what will be Lipking's first showing of significant oils in California in the last six years. As *American Art Collector* recently discovered in our exclusive interview and studio visit with Lipking, the show will consist of up to 30 new paintings that will run the gamut from portraits to landscapes to outdoor figurative works.

"Originally, I was trying to do all outdoor figures, but it literally takes so much time to do as they are difficult to compose with so much going on outdoors," says Lipking. "It's harder to come up with designs and compositions that I like without being repetitive. I tend to do more sketches when I'm painting outdoors and will also do some small paintings, some color sketches and drawings."

Living in Southern California affords Lipking the luxuries of painting outside, like a close proximity to Malibu Canyon and a home in the Sierras, where many of the paintings are completed. As always with Lipking, be it a landscape or a portrait, the painting ends up being about the light.

"It's the light that you get that is just so different than indoor studio light," says Lipking. "There is so much more color in outdoor light and it's reflecting off everything around the figure—the trees, the skies. The outdoors brings so many of these different colors and you also just get a lot more subtlety outdoors."

One of Lipking's favorite places to paint is a somewhat secret location he has discovered deep in Malibu Canyon on the side of a creek. The tree-lined refuge offers a nice dappled light that comes on stronger in the afternoon as well as a certain sense of privacy that Lipking needs when painting these figures outdoors.

"Location is definitely important," says Lipking. "Some of the paintings for this show were done up in the Sierras this summer and the one with two figures is Malibu Creek. In Malibu, there is a big park there and this place is a little further down the canyon and much more private than the main part of the state park."

Lately, Lipking is finding himself turning to the French naturalist painters of the late 19th century like Jules Bastien-Lepage. Bastien-Lepage sought to paint



TULE, OIL ON CANVAS, 50 X 24"



IN HIS STUDIO ARE MOST OF THE NEW PIECES THAT WILL BE IN THIS CURRENT EXHIBITION.

RECLINING FIGURE, OIL ON CANVAS, 24 X 40"





LIPKING LINES HIS STUDIO WITH A NUMBER OF SKETCHES AND FINISHED PORTRAITS.

nature as it is without any preconceptions and insisted on painting from life and capturing all the natural details of a scene. He also battled against beautifying a scene for the sake of the painting.

"I've been looking at them for awhile," says Lipking. "Last year I went to an exhibition in Paris to see a bunch of his paintings at once, which was quite a treat. I've always liked his work but that visit really inspired me and was very impressive. There was a huge group of us who went to see the exhibition at the Musee d'Orsay, about 20 painters mainly from Southern California. We also did a day-trip to the town of Nancy where we saw another great collection of naturalist works, like those of Emile Friant."

Just like Bastien-Lepage saw his work as an attempt to heal the art world of the 19th century from what he saw as the evils of overly done academic paintings and



SIERRA WATERFALL, OIL ON CANVAS, 30 X 40"



MARIE, OIL ON CANVAS, 20 X 16"



PORTRAIT OF A GIRL, OIL ON CANVAS, 14 X 14"



LIPKING PAUSES BETWEEN PAINTINGS



TOP LEFT:
SPRING FIGURE,
OIL ON CANVAS, 70 x 40"

TOP RIGHT:
THE LAST LIGHT,
OIL ON CANVAS, 30 x 18"

RIGHT:
LIPKING PAINTING FROM LIFE
TO CREATE THE ABOVE WORK,
The Last Light.



THIS NEW PIECE WILL BE AVAILABLE AT TRACK 16 GALLERY AT THE END OF THIS MONTH.

works that were actually "mere expressions of cleverness and skill," there is something to be said about an artist in his early 30s rediscovering such a painter and putting these truths to practice in today's art world that is dominated by art for the sake of cleverness and shock.

"There is a big explosion in realist art," says Lipking. "Originally, I started doing plein air painting about eight or 10 years ago and it started getting very popular. I remember driving around the hills and you might see one or two people painting by the side of the road, and they were probably a friend of mine. Now, you drive through and you see lots of artists and plein air painters. The beaches and the Santa Monica Mountains are the same now, too."

Lipking, like those French painters, sees the basis of any good art as drawing, especially when it comes to the figure.

"It's the biggest issue with painting the figure, especially if you are painting the figure outdoors," says Lipking. "Because the light can change at any minute, you need to know the figure and how it will react to these different conditions. I also like having different textures that contrast each other. With the female figure you get lots of curves, lots of long flowing lines, while sometimes the landscape is a little more harsh and rough."

For a direct link to the
exhibiting gallery go to
www.americanartcollector.com

UPCOMING SHOW

Up to 25 works on show
June 28-July 12, 2008
Arcadia Gallery at Track 16
2525 Michigan Avenue
Santa Monica, CA 90404
(212) 965-1387

Price Range Indicator

Our at-a-glance Price Range Indicator
shows what you can expect to pay for
this artist's work.

	Small	Medium	Large
2008	\$2,000	\$30,000	\$55,000

Jeremy Lipking



"Among the Birch Trees" Oil on Canvas 70" x 40"

One-Man Exhibition of New Oil Paintings

June 28-July 12, 2008

*Track 16 Gallery at Bergamot Station
2525 Michigan Avenue, Santa Monica, CA*

For More Information call 212-956-1387

Arcadia Gallery

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New York, NY 10013



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