



Berta Walker
GALLERY

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Three Exhibitions

June 21 -- July 14, 2013

Opening Friday, June 21st, 7 - 9 pm

Nowhere in the collective aesthetic, born from Provincetown's ethereal light, natural beauty, and creative pulse, is the passing from one generation of artists to the next more apparent than in the upcoming exhibition at Berta Walker Gallery, opening Friday, June 21st. Contemporary painter Sky Power and Neo-Realist sculptor Romolo Del Deo will show alongside works that span a century, including Provincetown Masters Chaffee, Hawthorne, Knaths, Lazzell, Moffett, Resika and Weinrich.

SKY POWER

Landscape Spirit

ROMOLO DEL DEO

Maquettes for Monumental Sculpture Commissions

Featuring the recently-commissioned maquette for the
PROVINCETOWN FISHERMEN'S MEMORIAL MONUMENT

Provincetown Masters: On the Road

Oliver Chaffee, Charles W. Hawthorne, Karl Knaths,
Blanche Lazzell

Ross Moffett, Paul Resika, Agnes Weinrich

SKY POWER Landscape Spirit

Sky Power's sophisticated paintings are a blend of big skies, her internal dreamscapes, the Fauvist influence of color, and a personal iconography that shows her extraordinary drawing skills. Whether her inspiration is Provincetown, her native Southwest, her European travels, or her Native American heritage, Power's paintings introduce us to a unique vision that is Power's alone, "Like a language one has seen but can't quite recall," wrote Sue Harrison in the Provincetown Banner. Combined with an uncanny ability to compose scenes that transform surface reality into a type of spiritual alter ego, Power's vision returns abstraction to perhaps its earliest roots - that of a bridge between the material and spiritual worlds.



Seduced By Light, 2013, oil on canvas, 30x40"



The Poet's Train, 2012, O/C, 36 x 48"

Rand Susan Rand Brown notes in her article on Sky Power in Provincetown Arts: "Looking at Power's work over the last half-decade, we are aware that here is someone at the top of her game. Confident yet always questioning, she has consistently simplified her means of working the canvas until what leaves her studio is immediately identifiable as her own: we respond to the purity of the visual language, the absence of gimmickry and easy resolution."

Sky Power's openly poetic mid-career paintings are rigorously executed and lyrically stunning. Some include figurative gestures and forms, and they all reflect a symphony of shape, light, color. In "Ebb Tide", a life-sized female form with arm, hand and face beautifully rendered, emerges from a misty color field. Another, The Poet's Train, shows a tiny train on the horizon, steaming through a red wonderland towards a golden sky. This exploration

of structural markings and an expanded color palette are both passionate and masterful. Power's abstract paintings are always both bold yet delicate, conveying the duality of humankind. In her article for ARTSmedia in 2004, Eileen Kennedy

wrote: "Power's paintings make us look long and again...Sometimes a colorful shape rests momentarily on a color field suggesting a horizon line, but the suggestiveness goes beyond strict reference to the natural world. Hers is a world older and deeper than this spinning planet; her work brings us to the edge of a realm before form and human language."

By removing pigment from monochromatic surfaces, sometimes by sanding through layers of color, or even tearing off textured areas of paint and then reintroducing the pigment as collage, Power creates an emotional aesthetic that embraces the paradox of our existence. Writing recently of her work in the Cape Cod Times, Andre Van Der Wende exuberantly notes "...It's nice to enjoy (Sky Power's paintings) for what they are: a beautiful, succinct, and fluid discourse on color and abstract painting...They all have a marked simplicity and strong direct presence."



Ebb Tide, 2012, oil on canvas, 60 x 72"

An artist who has learned best through the ancient style of master to apprentice, Power has been influenced greatly by her mentoring relationships. Ed Gothberg, her figure teacher at Casper College in Wyoming, and Dale Owen, Dean of Cornish School of Allied Arts in Seattle, Washington, were both influential and inspirational in her growth as a painter. Multi-talented, Power's role as Managing Director of Berta Walker Gallery has also been a monumental learning experience. "Artists often frequent

Museums, studying the work of the Masters. I am surrounded by extraordinary art and have learned as much from studying the masters in the gallery as in any formal classroom." Sky Power has lived in and painted in Provincetown for over 30 years. She has painted full-time since attending art school in the early 70's in Seattle, Washington.



A Seed's Life, 2013, oil/canvas, 30 x 40".

Power's art toured nationally in the groundbreaking "Tides of Provincetown" exhibition created by the New Britain Museum of American Arts in 2011, accompanied by an extensive catalog. She is also included in Contemporary Cape Cod Artists: Images of Land and Sea by Deborah Forman, and 100 Artists of New England by E. Ashley Rooney. In 2009, Power was invited by David Kaplan, Founding "Curator" of the Tennessee Williams Festival, to paint a 7 x 25 foot mural for "Ghosts for a Summer

Hotel" by Tennessee Williams as part of the Tennessee Williams Festival in Provincetown; as well, Power was commissioned in 2010 as part of the Festival's "Orpheus Descending" focus, to create an installation curtain "Serpent's Entrance and Bluebird's Exit" inspired by Val in Orpheus Descending, for the "Orpheus in Galleries" events, part of that year's Festival celebrations.

ROMOLO DEL DEO

Maquettes for Monumental Sculpture Commissions Featuring the recently-commissioned maquette for the PROVINCETOWN FISHERMEN'S MEMORIAL MONUMENT



The Maquette for the Provincetown Fishermen's Memorial Sculpture will initially be exhibited wrapped in red velvet, to be unveiled at Berta Walker Gallery the following week at the special reception presented by the Memorial Sculpture Committee in celebration of the Provincetown Portuguese Festival and Blessing of the Fleet Celebrations **Friday, June 28, 7:00PM*

This exhibition celebrates Romolo Del Deo's achievement in winning the award to create the Provincetown Fishermen's Memorial Sculpture. A native of Provincetown with over thirty years living and making art in New York where he has created important sculpture commissions nation-wide, this award is of special significance for Romolo. While he has won numerous awards and grants, he says: "Of all the honors I have received in my career, none touches my heart so deeply as this one, to be given the opportunity to create a lasting tribute to the town I love and the brave individuals who made it the remarkable fishing community and artist's haven that it is. The final sculpture will be a monumental fifteen feet. The

Provincetown Fishermen's Memorial is dedicated to celebrating the fishing tradition of Provincetown, MA, past, present and future. Del Deo and the Provincetown Fishermen's Memorial Committee will "unveil" the maquette to the public on Friday, June 28, 7:00pm.



Romolo assisting with installation of twenty-foot bronze of Melpomene

Also in Romolo Del Deo's exhibition will be several additional commissioned maquettes including those for the



Masterwork
s Museum
of Fine Arts
in Bermuda;



Maquette for Melpomene

the Provincetown Library, commissioned in honor of Library's archives dedicated to Josephine Del Deo; a twenty foot sculpture entitled Melpomene, for the sculpture park in Newport News, Virginia, and the extraordinary "Creation

selecting, and finally awarding the Romolo has spent over a year creating Committee for offering the creative but also to re-think the entire site for the becomes so involved in the design for the integrity of a sculpture that the artist be involved from the concept to the final installation.

The Fishermen's Memorial Sculpture Committee spent two years jurying, commission for this major memorial. the final maquette and thanks the freedom to not just envision a monument, sculpture. It is unusual that an artist the installation, but Romolo feels it's vital to



The processes of creating a bronze sculpture: Clay model, to plaster for casting, to final bronze cast and finally, installation!

This monument to the fishing community is certainly long overdue. Not only has Provincetown been front and center in the fishing industry since the whaling days, but it is also the oldest, longest-running art colony in America. The art and the fishing industry go hand in hand, with the fishermen known to have been instrumental in helping to feed the artists during and after

the war. "We deserve a great homage to our fishing industry created by a great artist, and happily, now we will have one! This monument will be sited in such a grand manner that it will become a 'destination point' for visitors interested in our fishing history, as is Provincetown already for our history as America's most important art colony," exclaims Walker. An accompanying plaque will identify the many donors who have already pledged and the many who will in the next months.

"I'm thrilled that our artist, Romolo Del Deo, whose Father, the noted painter Salvatore Del Deo, is also well-known for his mural-sized paintings made in homage to the Patricia Marie (currently exhibited at the Norwegian Embassy), has been selected to create this major memorial to Provincetown's Fishermen" says Walker. "Romolo's work has always been about transformation. His fragmented and distressed classical figures, beautiful and elegiac in their brokenness, are images that examine the bridge between the past and present, between what lasts and what falls away, what is transformed in the process of art making, what begins anew."

An internationally renowned sculptor, Romolo Del Deo invigorates traditional materials into a modern form of alchemy. He has an uncanny ability to merge ancient techniques with new ideas. In fact, returning to live full-time in Provincetown after 30 years in Italy and New York, Romolo has discovered a way to use dune sand in bronze casting. Del Deo says with great enthusiasm, "this has transformed my process and has led to professional breakthroughs and critical acclaim."

Romolo Del Deo, is a native of Provincetown, son of artist Salvatore Del Deo, and environmentalist, writer, & art historian, Josephine Del Deo. He took his first sculpture course the summer he was 15 at Castle Hill Center for the Arts in Truro, studying under Joyce Johnson. "As soon as I picked up the clay, I felt like it was what I was meant to do," he says. When he was 18, he traveled to Pietrasanta, Italy, to study marble carving and bronze casting as apprentice to Rino Ginannini, Professor of Sculpture at the Academy of Fine Arts, Carrara, Italy, and to study at the Academy of Fine Arts in Florence, Italy. He then received a scholarship to pursue his art at Harvard where he studied under sculptor Dimitri Hadzi, later becoming Hadzi's apprentice, and then served on the faculty and as an Artist-in-Residence at the College from 1982 to 1984. Romolo is not only a gifted sculptor, but also a gifted teacher and lecturer, leading courses on creative sculpting, ancient processes, and contemporary art theory, worldwide. Most recently, he presented his paper "The Tactile Memory of Bronze" in London, UK, published for a joint symposium on bronze presented by the Cortauld Institute of London and the Rodin Museum of Paris. His sculpture toured nationally in the groundbreaking "The Tides of Provincetown" exhibition created by the New Britain Museum of American Arts in 2011, and was purchased by Trustees of that Museum.



Final Bronze doors, 15' high and 4,000 lbs

Provincetown Masters: On the Road

Oliver Chaffee, Charles W. Hawthorne, Karl Knaths, Blanche Lazzell, Ross Moffett, Paul Resika, Agnes Weinrich

OLIVER CHAFFEE (1881-1944) - In the spirit of the writer and Thoreau, artist Oliver Chaffee, gifted with an extraordinary instinctual knowing, embraced French Fauvism and made it his own. Writes Ross Moffet: "There should be somewhere...a body of Chaffee oils and watercolor landscapes that would represent one of the highest achievements realized by a Provincetown painter. He was a modern before modernism was popular." - "Provincetown Painters 1890s to 1970s"



Oliver Chaffee, 1923, Venice AM, watercolor on paper, 14 1/4 x 22"



Charles Hawthorne, Carcassonne, France, 1929, watercolor on paper, 14 x 20"

CHARLES W. HAWTHORNE (1872-1930) Both a brilliant painter and the founder of the Cape Cod School of Art, the highly influential teacher says about art: "The world is waiting for men [and women] of vision - it is not interested in mere pictures. What people are subconsciously interested in is the expression of beauty, something that helps them through the humdrum day, something that shocks them out of themselves and something that makes them believe in beauty and glory of human existence." - From Hawthorne on Painting

KARL KNATHS (1891-1971)

inspired by the famous 1913 Armory show, Knaths' move from Chicago to Provincetown marked the beginning of his life-long relationship to the artist colony and to Modernism. Author Dorothy Gees Seckler observes about the artist: "From his reading of the Bible [and] the mystical doctrines of Emmanuel Swedenborg, Knaths gradually derived a concept of a structured universe to which the structures of a painting could be related." Musical compositions, the mystic meaning of numbers, a sequential color palette and the implementation of complex theories are inherent in this master's work.



Karl Knaths, Country Cows, mixed media, 8 X 9".

BLANCHE LAZZELL (1878-1956), arriving in Provincetown in the famous "summer of 1915", was a remarkable artist: independent,

curious, courageous, experimental. She was neither timid nor sentimental. She was one of the first woman to create abstract paintings in America. As Roberta Smith wrote recently in The New York Times, "Lazzell (has been) a perennially overlooked American modernist." She was uninterested in conventional married life writing home from college "I am going to be an independent maiden lady. And I will show people I can be as happy as anyone." Early on she learned from her art teacher William Leonard, who had studied in Paris, to see and feel for herself, a lesson she would always remember. She never abandoned her will to experiment.



Blanche Lazzell, St. Petersburg, FL, 1947, gouache

ROSS MOFFETT (1888-1971) Arriving in Provincetown in 1913 to study with Charles Hawthorne, Moffett today is a Provincetown artist of legendary status. The son of an Iowan farm family, Moffett painted with an intense personal focus, composing canvases which inevitably reflected the character of his native American West and the life of the farmer, but transposed those values to the life of the Provincetown fisherman. For over half a century Ross Moffett lived and worked in Provincetown. "Ross Moffett was an important figure in the development of modernism in American Art after World War I", wrote Richard Teitz, then Director of the Worcester Museum for Moffett's 1975 Retrospective. "The turning point for Moffett came in 1916, when he began to feel that he was discovering his own voice" points out Josephine Del Deo in the same catalog, "The contours of Ross Moffett's career followed a curve of unique expression and increasing acclaim," she continues. In 1930, in recognition of his place as one of the foremost modernists in America, Moffett



Ross Moffett, Egret Rookery, St. Petersburg, FL, c. 1948, WC, 13 1/4 x 18"

was chosen to serve on the jury of the Carnegie International along with, among others, Henry Matisse.



Paul Resika, Fayance through the Trees, 1991, O/C, 18 x 26

PAUL RESIKA (1928-) "Just as the Venetian masters did not need to sign their own paintings, since their brushstrokes served as their signatures, Resika has a signature way of handling paint that is entirely his own... [it] is the sheer calligraphy of his brush," wrote James Pendero for The New Criterion. With a body of work that spans eight decades in Provincetown, New York and Europe, the internationally renowned painter creates works that are luminous, lyrical and awe inspiring.



Agnes Weinrich, Tapestry II, 1920-28, 13 1/2" x 32"

AGNES WEINRICH (1873-1946) Born into a prosperous Iowan farming family, Weinrich is considered one of the first American Modernists. In 1900, she went to Europe and studied in Berlin and Paris with Andre L'hotte, becoming greatly influenced by Cezanne and the Cubists. The outbreak of World War I brought her back to the States where she continued her studies at the Art Institute of Chicago, the Art Students League, and the Cape Cod School of Art with Charles Hawthorne. Weinrich led a group of young artists in Provincetown who experimented with Cubism. Their modernist works were the catalyst for a split in the Provincetown Art Association between the conservatives and radicals in 1927. Following her sister Helen's marriage in 1922 to artist Karl Knaths, Agnes became a major influence on his work and introduced him into the New York art scene, including Peggy Guggenheim.

Next Exhibitions

- July 19 to August 11: Robert Henry, Judyth Katz and Salvatore Del Deo
- August 16 to September 8: Herman Maril and Murray Zimiles
- September 16 to October 12: Fall Fling

SPECIAL EVENT

Friday June 28, 7 to 9pm

Unveiling of Romolo Del Deo's Maquette

"Provincetown's Fishermen's Memorial Sculpture"
to be sited on the waterfront in Provincetown



Berta Walker GALLERY

GALLERY HOURS: Through June: Daily, 12-4, closed
Tuesdays

July 1 - September 16, Daily, 11-6
always by appointment and by chance

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Nurture Your Spirit visit Berta Walker Gallery

The Berta Walker Gallery has been highlighting the rich cultural heritage of Provincetown's 100-year old art colony for 24 years, and is known for showing a wide variety of important Provincetown-affiliated art and artists.

REPRESENTING: Varujan Boghosian, Romolo Del Deo, Salvatore Del Deo, Ed Giobbi, Elspeth Halvorsen, Robert Henry, Brenda Horowitz, Penelope Jencks, Judyth Katz, John Kearney, Anne MacAdam, Danielle Mailer, Erna Partoll, Sky Power, Paul Resika, Selina Trieff, Peter Watts, Murray Zimiles
ESTATE REPRESENTATION: Gilbert Franklin, Dimitri Hadzi, Herman Maril, Nancy Whorf
PROVINCETOWN MASTERS: Oliver Chaffee, Marsden Hartley, Charles W. Hawthorne, Hans Hofmann, Karl Knaths, Blanche Lazzell, Loren MacIver, Ross Moffett, Agnes Weinrich

Compassion