

OPENING FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 6 TO 8PM

BERTA WALKER GALLERY, PROVINCETOWN

Robert Henry

paintings

Brenda Horowitz

paintings

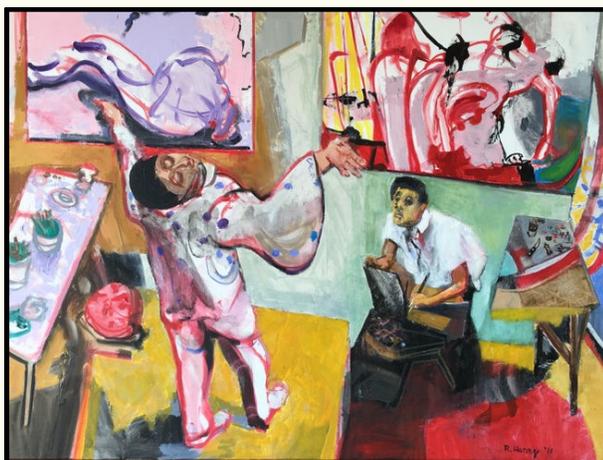
Rob DuToit

watercolors & pastels

Robert Henry

recent paintings

A Robert Henry exhibition is always an exciting adventure in paint and visual impact. He works with symbols that move from the abstract to a pulsating narrative. Both abstract and figurative, they move almost kaleidoscopically from seemingly pure abstract patterning into grounded, interactive story of the eternal human struggle and primal emotions that comprise the human drama.



Robert Henry, Some Models are Artists Too

Art historian Eileen Kennedy observed:
"Henry appears uncategorizable to me.

He is an artist statesman of our age, much as Picasso was/is - or Goya- but he does not confront epic conflict between and within nations in the direct way that they did. He presents the human impulse to harm and heal in the emotional atmosphere, the psychic space that human turbulence creates. His more abstract works seem to me to be what so much of contemporary art is trying to express, the distillation of emotion, the spiritual and psychic space that the times we are living in have created. Looking at a few of his abstract paintings, I could not help but think of the 'weight' of the world that now bears down on all of us who are conscious or attempting to be. Meeting Bob Henry, for me, is like meeting the gentlest of prizefighters. He grapples with the heavyweight philosophical concerns of our times." of experimentation and is rarely preconceived. "I prefer to draw and to paint spontaneously, without preconceived subject matter or image. I have come to accept and indeed I cherish that process. Something happens. An image appears. Its meaning or meanings derive from the image. The image does not derive from its meaning."



Robert Henry, Five Pedestrians

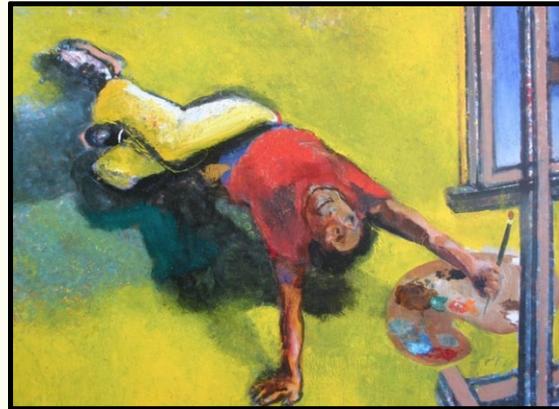
a swing in freedom, adult figures on seesaws.

These paintings offer us many experiences at different moments: perhaps the tension of balance and trust, the joys of playing, the abandonment of childhood, free of responsibility, worry, interaction with others, and throughout every painting, we are invited to become deeply involved in Henry's use of the paint, the action of painting. "I always see the painting as space, light and matter, charged with movement and gravity," he says. He does not judge but he brings his discerning eye and no small amount of skill to showing us the world as he sees it in all of its complexities, its sorrows and joys, its cruelty and kindness. "I confront the frailties and vulnerabilities of individual, society and the environment with sympathy, and sometimes humor, certain in my uncertainties... If there is any element of bravery in my work it is in what I hope is my honesty. I expose what I am feeling. This has not always turned out well, but it is essential to me."

"Art, the way Henry approaches it, becomes a language created out of symbols and color, interaction and overlay. Like music or dance, writing or theater, the artist creates a thing separate from the creator and that thing whispers its bit of truth to the viewer," wrote art historian Susan Harrison recently after meeting with Henry for a future article.

Henry himself notes: "A painting is best, not when it appears real, but when its essence, whatever that is, is realized, whatever that is." His art emerges through the process of painting. He acknowledges, however, that most viewers will try to make a story out of whatever artwork they see, and there may be a story, but the more important thing, for the artist, is the way the piece fits into what has come before and after."

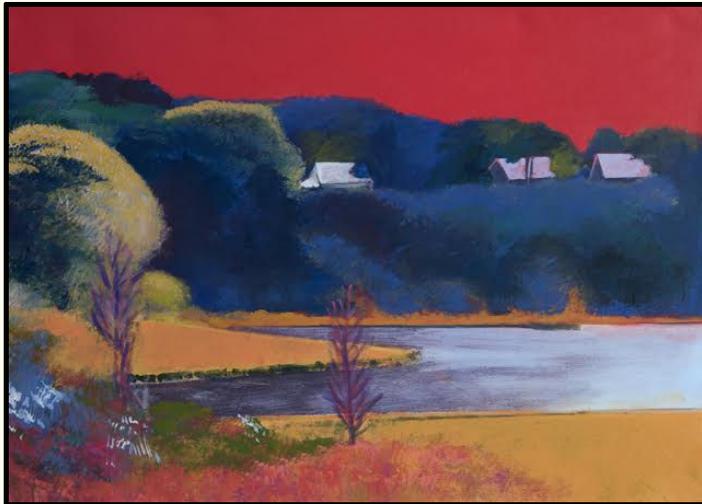
Robert Henry, a student of Hans Hofmann and thus trained as an abstract painter, most frequently uses the figure to express whatever the moment is that's emerging. Poses of pain, contemplation, reaching to the stars, swinging on



Robert Henry, Struggling Artist

Brenda Horowitz

recent paintings



Brenda Horowitz, Chatham II, 2016, acrylic on canvas, 30 x 40"

Brenda Horowitz presents the familiar environment of Cape Cod in astonishing freshness, vibrating with bold energy and intense pigment, vivid and expressive, the view pared down to essential elements - color, line and form. She distills color to such concentration, such saturation, that one can almost hear it. Her compositions, simplified to land, water, sky, sometimes a house, explore the inherent character of the Cape landscape, where the quality of light reflected by the ocean intensifies the color of nature.

The work in this exhibition was created en plein air in the hills, dunes, ponds and marshland in Truro, where Horowitz spends her summer days, working quickly in acrylics or with gouache on paper to capture the ephemeral colors of the landscape. This year, her painting has led her to other towns on the Outer Cape including Chatham and Wellfleet.

It was in 1982, on a trip to Jamaica, that Horowitz began painting outdoors using gouache on paper. It has become her signature medium for paper works. Her continuing focus on the Outer Cape landscape has allowed Horowitz to develop a deep understanding of the land, water, sky, and the relationships among them; and it is this relationship, and her own intense emotional response to the place that Horowitz is painting. Like Matisse, Horowitz finds the color that fits her sensation.

Horowitz studied with Hans Hofmann in both Provincetown and New York. Her paintings are a testament to her brilliant amalgamation of Hofmann's genius, his theories of color, plane, and movement, and her own unique visual language. In his lectures, Hofmann quoted Paul Cezanne saying, "All lies in contrast." Horowitz has taken this lesson into her painter's toolbox, creating enlivening contrasts as she searches for the colors that express her experience of the landscape: the heat and light, the burning dunes, the deep shade, cool water, golden grasses. Where color meets color, the hues are magnified in contrast, becoming abstract shapes moving back and forth in the picture plane. The canvas is animated with color.

And so is the viewer's imagination, as arts writer Rosalind Smith has noted, saying Horowitz's paintings "take me over the high roads on a journey of pure pleasure. Her paintings are a romantic blend of sky, the land and the water and capture the feeling of summer." Cate McQuaid of The Boston Globe describes her experience of Horowitz's painting similarly: "The artist creates a rhythm of hot and cool colors as well as a rhythm of textures - metal smooth undercut with the buzz of deft brushwork. The result is breathless and ripe, more like a dream of summer than summer itself."

Rob DuToit

pastels & watercolors

Rob DuToit's art is known to audiences far and wide. This small exhibition includes pastels and watercolors created "en plein aire". DuToit describes his brush stroke as "the expression of breath and presence."

DuToit's art is subtle, with hints of light peeking through the clouds. It is also sensual, deep and serious, and celebrates the passion of our New England environment. Like many artists, he has come to what looks deceptively simple and his palette often uses what would be considered Impressionist colors.



Rob DuToit, Boat Group, 2016, watercolor, 9 x 12"

They are bold in the way that watercolors can be bold. When the artist commits to a color note, he commits. There is very little rethinking or reworking. This technique was probably absorbed from his love of working with Chinese pen and ink, a medium he started when he was eight years old. He presents starkly beautiful works based on this freedom.

DuToit's watercolors and pastels offer a fresh spontaneity with touches of clear color, suddenly reflected in the sky and waters. He is true to the physical realities while also touching on the underlying emotional content. He often paints outdoors, preferring the early morning or afternoon light. "The light is so changing and open," he says. His brushes are like extensions of his arms as he stands in nature and quickly captures what he sees.

Rob DuToit, like many Provincetown artists, came to town in a roundabout way and found a way to stay. During the summer he runs a framing shop out of his studio, and during the winter he focuses completely on his art. Early on, DuToit followed a pre-med course, but before long, knew he wanted to be an artist, earning his BFA from the University of New Hampshire. His graduate work was done with Paul Resika at Parson's School of Design in New York.

CLOSING SUNDAY, August 21

Berta Walker Gallery, Wellfleet

Varujan Boghosian & Paul Resika



Paul Resika works on paper; sculpture: African bronze ,Romolo Del Deo, Varujan Boghosian, Gilbert Franklin

Next Exhibitions

Berta Walker Provincetown

Opening Thursday October 13, 6 - 8 PM
**Group Exhibition Celebrating a Century
of Women in the Arts in Provincetown**

In conjunction with Women's Week
October 10 - October 16



Selina Trief

And honoring "Bride Pride," the world's largest group wedding ceremony to be performed at Roux B & B, Saturday Oct 15, 11 AM, Kate Clinton, presiding.

A percentage of sales during this exhibition will be donated to The True Colors Fund/Ending LGBT Youth Homelessness.

Berta Walker Wellfleet

Watch for our "Pop-Up" exhibition for Wellfleet artists Penelope Jencks, Selina Trief, Peter Watts, Gloria Nardin around Labor Day weekend!

Gallery Hours

Berta Walker Gallery Provincetown
208 Bradford Street, Provincetown

May 27 to Labor Day: 11am to 5pm, Closed Tuesdays

Berta Walker Gallery
Wellfleet
40 Main Street, Wellfleet

August to Labor Day: 11am to 4pm, Closed Tuesdays

Call for Fall Hours
Often by chance -- Always by appointment

"The Berta Walker Gallery has been highlighting the rich cultural heritage of Provincetown's 100-year old art colony for over 25 years, and is known for showing a wide variety of important Outer-Cape art and artists from Provincetown, Truro and Wellfleet." Andre Van der Wende, *Cape Cod Times*

Representing Donald Beal, Varujan Boghosian, Romolo Del Deo, Salvatore Del Deo, Robert DuToit, Ed Giobbi, Dimitri Hadzi (estate), Elspeth Halvorsen, Robert Henry, Brenda Horowitz, Penelope Jencks, David Kaplan, Judyth Katz, John Kearney (estate), Anne MacAdam, Danielle Mailer, Erna Partoll, Sky Power, Paul Resika, Selina Trief (estate), Peter Watts, Nancy Whorf (estate), Murray Zimiles

Photography: Grace Hopkins, Susumu Kishihara, Dana McCannel, John Romualdi, Blair Resika, John Thomas

Provincetown Masters: Byron Browne, Oliver Chaffee, Marsden Hartley, Charles W. Hawthorne, Hans Hofmann, Edward Hopper, Karl Knaths, Blanche Lazzell, Ross Moffett, Vollian Rann, Agnes Weinrich

Provincetown Folk Art and Ancient African Carvings and Bronzes

Berta Walker
GALLERY

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