Providence Gallery in Charlotte, NC, Offers Works by Curt Butler

Providence Gallery in Charlotte, NC, proudly presents a new collection of oil/encaustic paintings by regional artist, Curt Butler, on exhibit from Mar. 1 - 22, 2016.

Butler does not refer to himself as an encaustic artist in the purest sense because his painting process calls for the use of wax mostly as a medium. The word encaustic means to literally "burn in", which requires the use of a heating tool to layer the color pigment with the wax. The technique originated from ship builders in ancient Greece and resurfaced in modern art in the work of Jasper Johns.

Butler chooses the oil/encaustic process because it affords him the opportunity to carve into paint, while adding additional layers of color, and the ability to control and slow the tempo of his brushstroke. The process varies; sometimes he mixes oil and wax to build an abstract surface and then heats it up; other times, he does not apply heat until a particular stage of the painting is complete.

According to Butler, "However I choose to work with it, I find it provides



"Superman" by Curt Butler

me the emotional and physical response I am seeking with paint, which leaves me with a feeling of rawness, energy and movement." Butler's work has been featured in juried exhibitions regionally and nationally and his paintings are included in numerous private and institutional collections.

For further information, check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the Gallery at 704/333-4535 or visit (providencegallery.net).

Jerald Melberg Gallery in Charlotte, NC, Offers Works by Robert Kushner

Jerald Melberg Gallery in Charlotte, NC, will present an exhibition of new paintings and works on paper by Robert Kushner, an important figure in our national art scene since the 1970s, on view from Mar. 12 through Apr. 23, 2016.

In this recent body of work, Kushner continues expanding the style he has worked in for decades: boldly colored, opulent paintings patterned with flowers and plant forms. The exhibition also includes a series of mixed media collages composed of elements from varied times and worldly locales, overlaid with minimalist flora forms.

Kushner's work is in the permanent collections of many major institutions, including the Museum of Modern Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York; the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; the National Gallery of Art in Washington DC; the Tate Gallery in London and the Uffizi Gallery in Florence, Italy. In addition to his recent inclusion in the MOMA P.S. 1 show Greater New York, his work has been shown in the Whitney Biennial three times and twice at the Biennale in Venice. Kushner has completed numerous large scale public art commissions, including 4 Seasons, Seasoned, a mosaic for the MTA-Art in Transit Program, and a mosaic for the



Work by Robert Kushner

Raleigh/Durham international airport.

Publications on Kushner's work include the monograph *Gardens of Earthly Delight* (Hudson Hills Press, 1997) and *Wild Gardens* (Pomegranate, 2006). In 2012, Kushner edited an important volume of art criticism by Amy Goldin (1926-1978) titled *Amy Goldin: Art in a Hairshirt* (Hudson Hills).

Jerald Melberg Gallery is located on South Sharon Amity Road near the intersection with Providence Road.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 704/365-3000 or visit (www.jeraldmelberg.com).

Charlotte Fine Art Gallery in Charlotte, NC, Features Opportunity to Buy the Artwork of Rock Stars

Charlotte Fine Art Gallery in Charlotte, NC, will present *The Art of Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr, John Lennon, George Harrison & Bob Dylan*, for a limited time: Apr. 1, 2016, from 10am-9pm; Apr. 2, from 10am-6pm; and Apr. 3, from noon-5pm. A reception will be held on Apr. 1, from 6-9pm.

Collection curator, as well as Ringo Starr's art publisher and Paul McCartney's art distributor, Neal Glaser will be on hand throughout the exhibit providing special insights into the background and stories behind the artwork.

Glaser comments, "Never before has one exhibit featured the hand signed artworks of all four Beatles and Bob Dylan, together in one place. This is a rare opportunity to see the creative minds of five Rock legends." Glaser continues, "Attendees will have the opportunity to witness each artist's different personalities emerge and the different styles they favored. Dylan uses an impressionistic style reminiscent of Van Gogh. Lennon is the line drawer in the style of Hirschfeld and Thurber. Paul is an abstract expressionist similar to De Kooning and Dali, while Ringo is the pop artist in the style of Warhol and Page 14 - Carolina Arts, March 2016



"Still Life with Peaches" by Bob Dylan

Haring."

For more than 33 years, Paul McCartney continued above on next column to the right



has been a committed painter using his art as another outlet for his drive to create. Paul first exhibited his work in Siegen, Germany in 1999. His paintings have been mostly a private endeavor but he has chosen to release a small number of hand signed lithographs which are highly sought after by collectors.

Ringo Starr has always had an artistic flair. In the 70's he designed furniture. He progressed to painting in acrylics and creating sculptures in the 80's, he then began experimenting in computer art in the late 90's. Ringo commented, "While I was touring it gave me something to do in all those crazy hotels you have to stay in on the road." After his first exhibition in 2005, Ringo has continued to evolve and create new and different artworks each and every year. Ringo's pop art has captured the feel and spirit of the colorful, modern age in which we live. Ringo's art is collected worldwide and has been exhibited in Europe, South America, Australia, Canada, Mexico as well as the United States. Ringo donates 100% of all his proceeds to the Lotus Foundation.

John Lennon, a student at the Liverpool College of Art, only officially signed and released 14 different artworks in his lifetime/ This 1969 series, entitled "Bag One" portfolio was presented to Yoko as a wedding gift and featured six sketches from the couples' wedding and honeymoon along with 8 erotic lithographs. These erotic sketches were originally confiscated by Scotland Yard on the second day of John's art debut at the London Art Gallery in 1970. John

Lennon's "Bag One" portfolio is now part of the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art (MOMA). The Charlotte Fine Art Gallery exhibit is a rare opportunity to see and purchase the actual hand signed Lennon collection which was later reissued posthumously by Yoko with her signature on it.

In 1986, George Harrison partnered with his friend British rock musician Keith West to publish three works of art based on his songs, "Piggies," "Here Comes the Sun" and "Taxman." West illustrated the artwork based on George's vision and both Keith West and George Harrison hand signed the artwork. These very limited edition fine art lithographs were published by Genesis Publications and



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have been sold out for decades.

Bob Dylan's art has not been available in the United States until recently. One of the most influential figures in pop culture over the past 5 decades, Dylan paints mostly from life. Dylan comments "I'm pretty much interested in people, histories, myth, and portraits; people of all stripes."

In 1989, Dylan was approached by Random House to publish a book of his sketches with no parameters and no deadlines. He was handed a blank notebook which three years later, he returned to the publisher. The 1994 book, entitled "Drawn Blank" gave a new perspective on Dylan's limitless talent.

Dylan first exhibited his works in Chemnitz Germany in 2007 which was followed by a larger show in 2008 at London's Halcyon Gallery. Paul Green, director of the Halcyon gallery, said in an article in the *Evening Standard*, "I realized this was somebody who was an intrinsically a great painter.....The move from music to poetry and painting seems to be a seamless process. He is obviously a genius." In 2003, Dylan showcased a dozen of his portraits at the National Portrait Gallery in London. His work has been showcased almost exclusively in Europe until now.

Beatle signatures and memorabilia have always gone up in value. In fact, in a recent auction Ringo Starr's drum kit sold for \$2.4 million and John Lennon's guitar went for almost a million dollars. Bob Dylan, whose autograph is one of the hardest signatures to acquire is also considered a coveted collectible.

For further info check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 704/541-0741 or visit (www.CharlotteFineArt.com).