



Collectors Editions

Behind the Canvas

SUMMER 2007

Volume 1 Issue 1

HIGHLIGHTS

Sabzi's Colorful World

"Do You Love Me?"

Hand embellished Giclee on hand textured canvas

On his first visit to Southern California in 1988, the first things Sabzi noticed were the colorful landscapes—and the warm air. Originally from Ahwaz, Iran, Sabzi had sought political asylum in Germany in 1985 and had grown depressed. The weather was cold and gray, and he missed his Persian homeland.

“California was a totally different planet, and it was more like my country. A week after I arrived, I sold my first painting. I called my wife and told her, ‘We have to move here.’”



Dimensions: 30" x 45" Edition of 50 SRP: \$1400

Three years later, Sabzi, his wife, Farideh, and their two children moved to California. Although he still misses his country, he's now an American citizen and has fallen in love with his adopted homeland and his home studio in Thousand Oaks, Calif., which is lined with windows and looks out at the mountains.

A Collectors Editions artist for more than 10 years, Sabzi is highly prolific. When working on a painting, he often “forgets time,” starting at 8 or 9 in the morning and not stopping until midnight.

Not surprisingly, his paintings are rich in color and resonate with both Eastern and Western philosophies. His subjects almost always are women, reflecting beauty,

love, mystery and solitude. One of his latest works, “Do You Love Me,” portrays a couple lying on the shore and symbolizes what Sabzi calls “the two natures” of women: the more visible side, represented by land, and the deeper, more elusive and mysterious side, represented by the sea.

When not absorbed with a painting, Sabzi loves to play the tar, a classical Persian instrument similar to a banjo but with a warmer and deeper tone. He also plays guitar, drums and bass, and he performed in bands in both Germany and Iran.

Although he travels for art shows, lately he prefers to stay at home with Farideh and his grown children,

doting on his three cats and surrounded by a large garden that he landscaped himself with palms, more than 150 rosebushes, lilies and dozens of other flowers. (He earned a degree in agricultural engineering in Iran.)

While he's now decades removed from his homeland, his memories still inspire him. As a child, he spent hours watching his mother weave beautiful Persian rugs and listening to his uncle play the violin and his father sing and recite poetry.

“That created for me another world, another life full of beauty and creativity,” Sabzi says. “After all these years, you can still see those elements in my work.”

IDEA PALETTE

A Look Behind The Canvas

Welcome to the first edition of *Behind the Canvas*, the Collectors Editions newsletter designed to bring our galleries and their clients "backstage"—and a little closer to everything that we do here in Canoga Park, California.

With more than 20 years in the fine art publishing business, it is our mission to provide the highest quality fine art from a diverse and unique portfolio of exceptional artists, best-in-class customer service, and of course, the hand-crafted attention to detail that drives our business each day.

Behind the Canvas was created as a result of so many of our gallery partners expressing an interest in bringing "a little bit of Collectors Editions home with them" after making a trip to our corporate offices, Eclipse Workshop, our 2007 Open House, Golden Ticket Event or joining us for one of our summer-time Friday barbecues.

We hope that *Behind the Canvas* will be a helpful and informative tool for you to get to personally know our artists, understand the "ins and outs" of printmaking techniques with Eclipse Workshop, and get to know all things Collectors Editions—and all things art.



Thank you for your continued support and partnership, we greatly appreciate your support and interest in Collectors Editions.

Michael Young
President and CEO

New Additions

It is with great pleasure that we showcase just a few of the remarkable

"White and Magenta Orchids"
Giclee on canvas



Dimensions: 20" x 30" Edition of 50 SRP: \$950

Brian Davis' command of oil on canvas transforms the floral subjects into arresting images that are often mistaken for photographs.

"Jungle Guardian"
Hand embellished Giclee on hand textured canvas



Dimensions: 15" x 20" Edition of 195 SRP: \$450

Jim Salvati captures the spirit of great adventure as Mowgli rides along with his jungle guardian Bagheera prowling through the jungle.

"Sew Beautiful"
Giclee on paper



Dimensions: 11" x 22" Edition of 95 SRP: \$495

Toby Bluth expertly paints "the light and the air" as he beautifully re-imagines this magical moment when Gus, Jaq, Suzie and the rest of those happy, sewing mice reveal their creation to their beloved friend "Cinder-elli!" so she too can attend the royal ball.



BRUSH TIPS: Want to showcase your Collectors Editions Fine Art in the best possible light—and keep it looking



ECLIPSING ALL OTHERS

Tim Dickson: Master Printmaker

the artists that comprise Collectors Editions.

"Valeria"

Hand embellished Giclee on hand textured canvas



Andrew expertly illuminates this delicate beauty in a tender moment of vulnerability.

Dimensions: 30" x 24" Edition of 50 SRP: \$895

"Blooming Beauty"

Hand embellished Giclee on hand textured canvas



Dimensions: 20" x 20" Edition of 50 SRP: \$895

Michael and Inessa Garmash portray a lovely woman taking a moment of rest under the cool shade of pink bougainvillea blooms.

As a UCLA student in the early 1980s, Tim Dickson remembers "not knowing what the heck I wanted to do with my life." But after graduating with a degree in design, he saw an ad for a warehousing job at a small art publishing company called Davis Blue Artwork. One of the company's owners was Brian Davis, today a top artist with Collectors Editions.

"Brian taught me everything he knew about printing art, how to mix color, how to build a press," says Tim, owner and co-founder of Eclipse Workshop, Collectors Editions' in-house printing division. "I owe a lot to him."

He fell in love with printmaking, and when Davis Blue Artwork was sold in the early 1990s, he stayed on with the new company, Eclipse Workshop, through a "sweat equity" ownership deal. Eclipse merged with Collectors Editions in 1997.

Tim was introduced to art by his mother, a painter and photographer who often took Tim and his four siblings to art museums around the San Francisco Bay Area. (He's a third-generation native Californian.) Growing up, he enjoyed ceramics and dabbled in painting and drawing.

Today, he heads out early on summer weekend mornings to photograph scenes of downtown Los Angeles. He prints the photographs on specially prepared substrates, creating chiarographs. In addition to art, he enjoys playing basketball and golf and watching sports (his father was a minor league baseball pitcher) and spending time with his family: his wife, Heather, and their two children, Desmond, 6, and June, 5.

Although Tim cites his mother and Brian Davis as his biggest artistic influences, he also had the opportunity to meet Ansel Adams in 1982. His mother had contacted the photographer after finding photos he had taken for her high school yearbook. The pair spent an afternoon with Ansel at his house in Carmel, just two years before his death.

"It was a great experience to meet someone of that stature and find him to be so humble and welcoming," Tim says. "Although he didn't influence me as an artist, he definitely influenced me as a person."



“With printmaking, you have to maintain the integrity of the original art. But there's also a creative process involved, and that's what I really enjoy.”

beautiful for years to come? Visit our Web site at www.CollectorsEditions.com for tips on caring for your artwork.

Meet John Alvin

Artist John Alvin is a master of cinematic art. His work is familiar to anyone who has seen the posters he created for numerous blockbuster movies, including "E.T.," "The Color Purple," "Cocoon" and "Blade Runner." Today, his specialty work involves making licensed art prints and cinema art.

Recently, Collectors Editions sat down with John to learn a little more about his life "behind the canvas":

What's in your iPod?

The Beatles. Bob Dylan. Paul Simon. ZZ Top. Old guy stuff reaching back to the 60s.

Last movie you saw?

"The Prestige" on DVD.

What are you reading?

"Misquoting Jesus," but I haven't read it yet. I prefer books with pictures.

What did you want to be when you grew up?

An artist, although I haven't yet grown up.

What was your first job?

Building a house with a girlfriend's father.

What is your favorite time of day to paint?

Now. No, wait—right now. No, wait—just now. No—now.

Favorite color?

Red. I mean the powerful pigment exemplified by Winsor and Newton's Cadmium Red Light oil pigment. I don't use this product, but it's that exact color. I paint with acrylics.

Favorite place to eat?

Home. With Andrea, my wife and the other half of my brain.

Animals? What kind and how many?

One. White standard poodle named Milo and known as The Village Idiot.

Greatest artistic influence in your life and why?

Alphonse Mucha. I learned to draw well from his draftsmanship. His descriptive outlines gave me a greater understanding of what interior forms were being described just by manipulating the line's character. His decorative approach to design gave me a sense of understanding opulence in art and the sensuality of his women transcends all periods of art history. The formal and yet beautiful nature of display of subject influences me still.

Tell us one thing we might be surprised to know about you.

I'm afraid that I might be a writer instead of a painter.

What one word describes you?

Serious.



"Hearts Desire"

Giclee on canvas
Dimensions: 20" x 15"
Edition of 295
SRP: \$495



"The Blue Fairy" is that wonderful magical character that bestows both the beauty and the responsibilities of life on our perfect little puppet Pinocchio.

Each edition of *Behind the Canvas* will feature a different artist in our Q&A section who will create a unique sketch, painting or drawing. Galleries are encouraged to visit our Web site to find out how they can become the new owner of the original artwork featured. To learn how you can acquire this lovely 6"x7" graphite drawing of "The Blue Fairy" by John Alvin, go to www.CollectorsEditions.com.

If you have any questions about this publication or would like additional copies contact Janet Smith, Director of Gallery Services and Managing Editor of *Behind the Canvas* at jasmith@CollectorsEditions.com

Contributors This Issue:
Noka Aldoroty,
Manager, International and Disney Fine Art
Tim Dickson,
Co-owner/Vice President of Production
Helen Tu,
Director, Global Sales
Michael Young,
President and CEO

Behind the Canvas
is published by
Grapevine Communications – www.GrapevineCom.com