



JOSEPH KEIFFER

COURTHOUSE GALLERY
FINEART

JOSEPH KEIFFER

JULY 11 – AUGUST 5, 2022

Places of Beauty



The Strawberry Vase, oil on panel in a Robert Kulicke frame, 8 x 6 inches

COVER *Sea Smoke*, detail, oil on canvas, 28 x 34 inches

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6 court street ellsworth, maine 04605 courthousegallery.com 207 667 6611



The Perfect Summer Day, oil on canvas, 28 x 30 inches



Morning at Seal Harbor, oil on canvas, 28 x 30 inches

JOSEPH KEIFFER *Places of Beauty*

“After a day sketching, I am often dismayed to find the most beautiful sight of the day happens during the last hours. My painting of *Sundown* was one of those moments. Beauty is often unexpected.”

— Joseph Keiffer

Joseph Keiffer continues to paint places of beauty for his solo exhibition at Courthouse Gallery Fine Art, including landscapes, interiors, still lifes, and flowers. Since we began representing Keiffer in 2013, several writers have eloquently described why collectors find Keiffer’s paintings so intriguing, including Lynne Barrett, Carl Little, and Jonathan Harding. Following are some excerpts from those essays. Enjoy!

LYNNE BARRETT

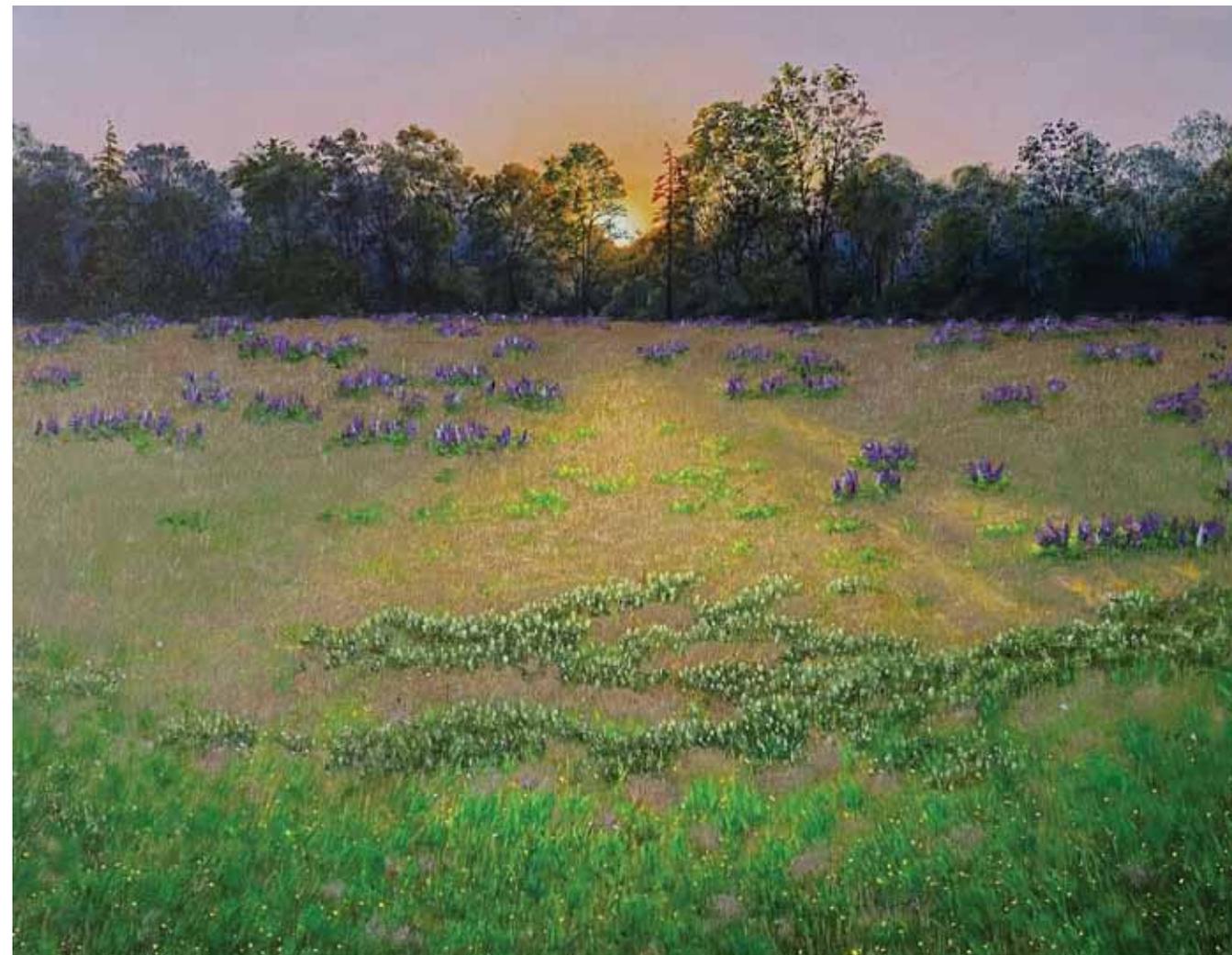
Author and longtime Joseph Keiffer collector

“What compels us to look and look again? When we discover art we’re unable to resist, what about it draws us? What within us is responding? I’ve asked myself these questions through the twenty years that I’ve been looking at and being taught to look by Joseph Keiffer’s paintings.

“Light travels through a Keiffer painting, a messenger of time, here but ever-changing. Often it touches something that has lasted long and known such light before, an old scale, a vase relegated to holding pencils, rocks, a lake. Or



Rising Moon, oil on canvas, 8 x 12 inches



Sundown, oil on canvas, 30 x 34 inches



Sea Smoke, oil on canvas, 28 x 34 inches

it catches what's alive in a moment of transition: Summer flowers in their potting soil, displaced inside before they'll be replanted. Diplomatic nasturtiums negotiating their share of sunshine. Radishes, uprooted, radiant, enjoying their spicy selves, not yet trimmed or tasted.

"After you've looked long at Keiffer's paintings, a strange thing will happen, or at least it has to me. In a familiar room, you'll find you're appreciating a corner, its angles and odd charm. And standing outdoors at twilight, picking out the deepening hues of foliage and sky, you'll discover you're awake in a world waiting to be perceived."

CARL LITTLE

Poet and author of numerous montages on Maine artists

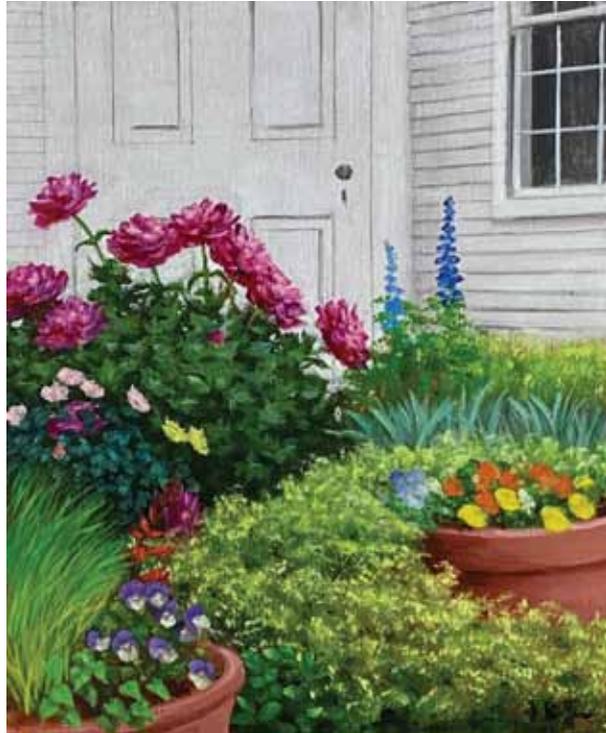
"Every painter must choose—or be chosen by—a subject. As they walk through this world, certain objects and images appeal to their senses. They strive to convey these sensations by way of pigments, offering us their findings.

"Joseph Keiffer presents places and objects that have caught his eye—and which in turn catch ours. He offers landscapes and still lifes; he paints both fireworks and a lamp-lit room. He is a stylist, but without overdoing it. His work sometimes has the feel of certain nineteenth-century artists, yet he brings his own sensibility to bear on each canvas.

"Exploring the coast of Maine, Keiffer will set up his easel before a motif and get to work. He is not afraid to take on the iconic view, be it Caterpillar Hill overlooking Eggemoggin Reach and the Deer Isle Thorofare or the Porcupine Islands dotting Frenchman Bay. His painting of Bar Island in Somesville may hark back to Fitz Henry Lane, who frequented the area, but the rendering is his alone: bright and balanced.



Water's Boiling!, oil on canvas, 18 x 12 inches



Mrs. Gardner's Garden, oil on canvas, 12 x 10 inches

“Paintings of fireworks over Northeast Harbor employ a profound blue reminiscent of Maxfield Parrish. Keiffer captures the light shows in mid-burst, water and anchored sailboats briefly illuminated by the pyrotechnics, smoke drifting off—transfigured night.

“While an aficionado of the panorama, in Maine and in the Catskills where he lives much of the year, Keiffer is also an intimist, as witness his floral still lifes.

Keiffer can be intimate, painting a room with shelves filled with books to which we would like to retire. His still lifes of flowers are lovely: potted pansies, a rhododendron blossom in full glory, nasturtiums arranged in a simple enamel measuring cup.”

JONATHAN P HARDING

Curator at the Century Association, an arts and letter organization founded by members of the Hudson River School in 1847.

“The effects of light have played a major role in his works, and early on in his career it influenced his decision to pursue representational painting. Just as we relish the changing moods light adds to nature, so does he.

“Keiffer’s fascination with light extends well beyond his landscapes to include his passions for interiors and still life. Here, in such works as [*July’s Colors* or *Water’s Boiling!*], we see his joy in capturing the dichotomies of the indoor and outdoor worlds, not just in subject but in light.

“For those who have followed Joseph Keiffer’s career, his landscapes, interiors, and still lifes are a perpetual source of delight and surprise. Each presents its own challenge, yet all encapsulate our shared visions of life and nature in the modern world.”



July's Colors, oil on canvas, 18 x 22 inches



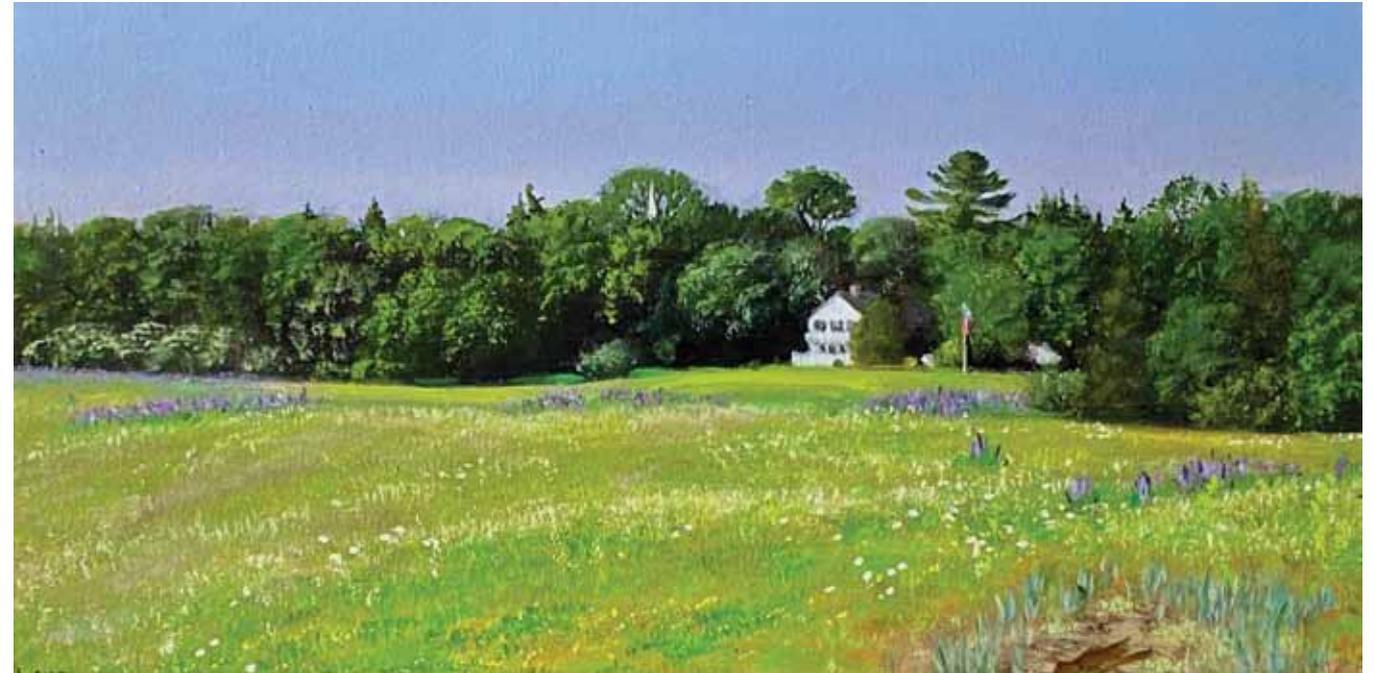
Spring Pots, oil on canvas, 20 x 16 inches



Nasturtiums and Pansies
oil on canvas
30 x 20 inches



Impending Shower, oil on canvas, 20 x 24 inches



A June Morning, oil on canvas, 10 x 20 inches



A Celebration, oil on canvas, 17 x 14 inches



Spring Greens, oil on canvas, 10 x 12 inches



Lupine's by the Shore, oil on canvas, 10 x 20 inches



Morning Porch, oil on canvas, 18 x 20 inches



Eagle Lake, oil on canvas, 28 x 30 inches



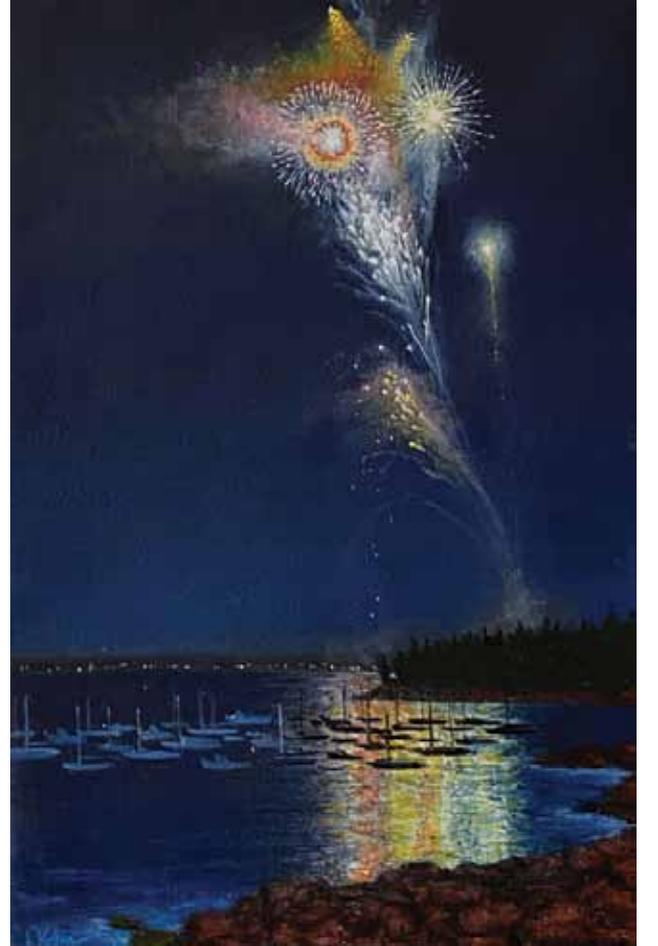
Wheat Field with Poppies, Normandy, oil on canvas, 10 x 12 inches



Normandy House
oil on canvas
17 x 11 inches



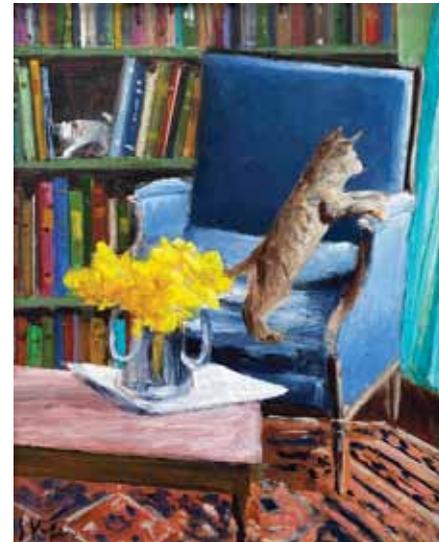
The Rainbow, Penobscot Bay, oil on canvas, 24 x 48 inches



The Fourth of July, oil on canvas, 18 x 12 inches



Greenhouse, oil on canvas, 20 x 24 inches



ABOVE
Church's Garden at Olana
oil on panel
10 x 10 inches

Curiosity
oil on canvas
10 x 8 inches





Following a year at Sotheby's "Works of Art" course, Keiffer was employed by Sotheby's as a cataloguer and appraiser of paintings, and after six years there, and three years at Doyle Galleries, he became a private art dealer and president of a non-profit art foundation. In his thirties, Keiffer began painting full time.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS (selected)

Courthouse Gallery Fine Art, Ellsworth, ME 2013, '14, '16, '18, 2020, 2022
 Jane Roberts Fine Art, An American Eye, Paris, France 2015, 2020, '22
 Gallery Neptune & Brown, Washington, DC 2016–2021
 Pamela Burns Presents, Recent Paintings, NY 2011
 Kaaterskill Fine Arts Gallery, Catskills Retrospective, Hunter, NY 2009
 The Armoire, While the Sweet Fields..., Ellsworth, ME 2009
 Arlington Art Gallery, Hudson River Views, Poughkeepsie, NY 2008



A Glass of Radishes, oil on canvas, 8 x 10 inches

Wingspread Gallery, Northeast Harbor, ME 2006, 2008
 Jones/Clark, New Paintings, NY 2007
 The Century Association, Recent Observations, NY 2007
 Gallery @510, Joseph Keiffer, Harrisburg, PA 2006
 The Armoire, Ellsworth, ME 1994–2009
 Beauregard Fine Art, Landscape, Still Life, Interiors, Rumson, NJ 2005
 Hubert Gallery, Recent Paintings, New York, NY 2004
 Beauregard Fine Art, Rumson, NJ 2003

JOSEPH KEIFFER (b.1952) is a realist painter who credits the Hudson River School as an important influence and source of inspiration. Keiffer's paintings ignite the senses with a cornucopia of imagery and emotions—awe, intimacy, playfulness, wonder, and joy. He takes the viewer from brilliant sunlight to twilight, from panoramic vista to cozy interior, and from fields of lavender lupine to cardboard boxes brimming with splashy annuals.

Keiffer was born in New York City. His father was a painter, and his mother a writer, which enabled the family to spend quite a few years abroad, mainly in Europe. While living in Paris, Keiffer began painting at the age of seventeen. The following year he enrolled at Brandeis University, and after several leaves of absence to attend the New York Studio School, he graduated with degrees in philosophy and art history.

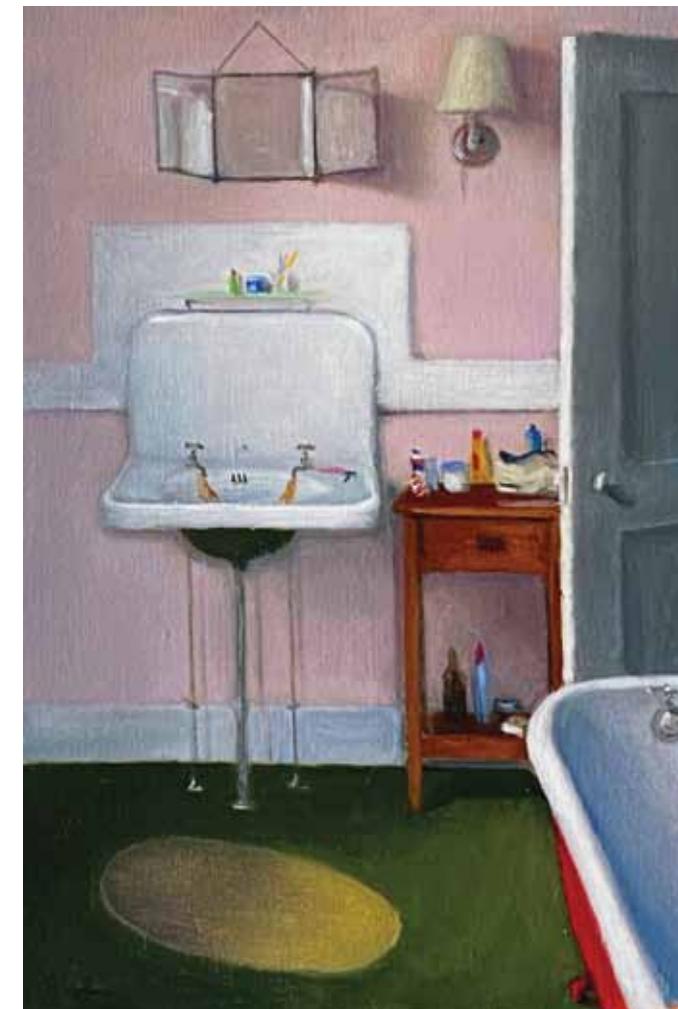
Hubert Gallery, Recent Paintings, New York, NY 2002
 Hubert Gallery, As Far As I Can See, New York, NY 2000
 The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art, Ligonier, PA 1999
 St. John's College Art Gallery, Santa Fe, NM 1999
 70th Street Art Gallery, New York, NY 1995–99
 Meadow Creek Gallery, Edina, MN 1996
 Capstick-Dale Fine Arts, NY 1993
 Tiglietto, Kent, CT 1992
 Blue Mountain Gallery, New York, NY 1992
 Garrison Art Center, Garrison, NY 1990

GROUP EXHIBITIONS (selected)

Courthouse Gallery Fine Art, Ellsworth, ME 2013–2022
 Windham Fine Arts, Windham, NY 2016–2018
 Spanierman Gallery, New York, NY 2011, '12, '13, '14
 Midtown-Payson Gallery, Transport, Hobe Sound, FL 2010
 Hoorn-Ashby Gallery, Landscape, NY 2007–08
 Hubert Gallery, The Painted Gift, NY 1999–2004
 The Century Association, Professional Painters, NY 1997–2007
 Wingspread Gallery, Northeast Harbor, ME 1999–2001
 Sherry French Gallery, New York, NY 1989, 1990, 1998–99
 Spring Bull Gallery, Summer Invitational, Newport, RI 1999
 Sherry French Gallery, *Mainely Maine*, NY 1997–98
 Peter Hastings Falk, Madison, CT 1997
 Gleason Gallery, Boothbay Harbor, ME 1997
 The Schoolhouse Gallery, Croton Falls, NY 1995–97
 Bert Gallery, Providence, RI 1994–95
 Closson's Gallery, Cincinnati, OH 1993–95
 Connoisseur Gallery, Rhinebeck, NY 1992–95
 Montgomery Gallery, San Francisco, CA 1993
 Alexander Gallery, New York, NY 1992
 Blue Mountain Gallery, New York, NY 1990–91
 Garrison Art Center, Garrison, NY 1987–90

COLLECTIONS (selected)

Adelphi University, Garden City, NY
 The Berkshire Museum, Pittsfield, MA
 Bryn Mawr College, Special Collections Library, Bryn Mawr, PA
 Ms. Eleanor Alter and Dr. Allan Lans, NY



Pink Bath, Red Tub, oil on canvas, 15 x 10 inches



A Spring Garden, oil on canvas, 12 x 9 inches

Mr. W.M. Brady, New York, NY
Ms. Dominique Browning, NY
Mrs. F.E. Dixon, Lafayette Hill, PA
Mrs. Richard B. Fisher, NY
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Fairbanks, San Francisco, CA
Mr. and Mrs. Ben Ali Haggin, NY
Mr. and Mrs. George Hambrecht, New York, NY
Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Janney, Baltimore, MD
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Kennedy, New York, NY
Mr. and Mrs. William I. Koch, Palm Beach, FL
Mr. Nicholas Lemann, New York, NY
Mr. James Maroney, Leicester, VT
Mr. and Mrs. A.D. McCulloch, Bryn Mawr, PA
Mr. and Mrs. Armour Mellon, Ligonier, PA

Mrs. Charles Moffett, New York, NY
Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah Milbank, NY
Ms. Joan Morgan, Washington, DC
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Nederlander and Pat Cook, New York, NY
Ambassador and Mrs. John Ong, OG
Mr. John Whitney Payson, Hobe Sound, FL
Pfizer Art Collection
Mr. Marc Porter, New York, NY
Mr. G. Remak Ramsay, NY
Mr. and Mrs. Peter Rathbone, New Canaan, NY
Sir Peter and Lady Ricketts, London, England
Mr. and Mrs. George Segal, Kent, CT
Mme. Arlette Serullaz, Paris, France
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sillerman, NY
Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art, Greensburg, PA
Mr. Jerry Speyer/Katherine Farley, NY
Ms. Linda Vester, NY
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Widing, Ligonier, PA

EDUCATION

Brandeis University, BA
New York Studio School
Sotheby's Works of Art Course



Cherries and Loquats in a Silver Urn, oil on canvas, 8 x 12 inches



Lightning and Thunder, 7/4, oil on panel, 12 x 12 inches

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