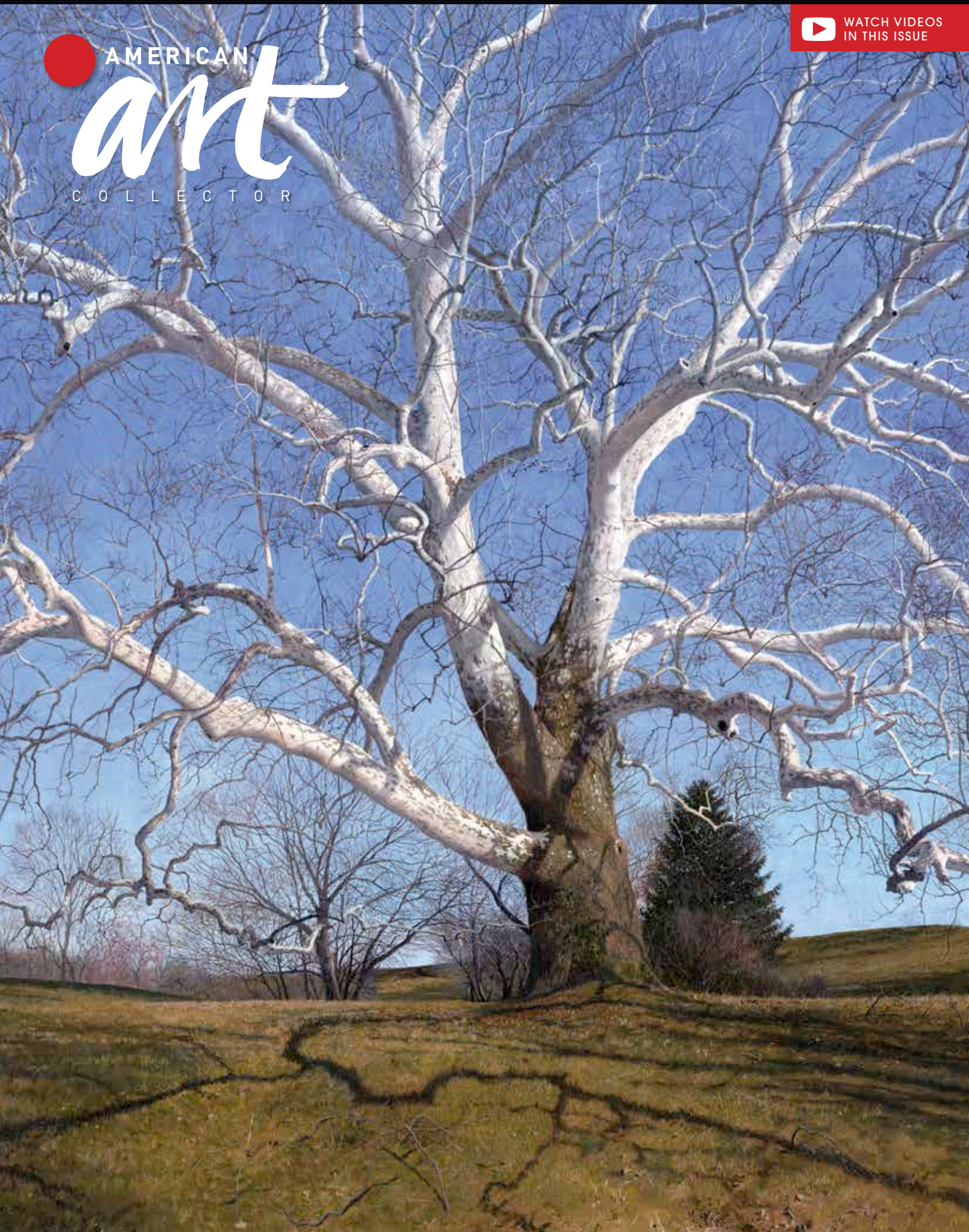


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From Classical to Contemporary

The International Guild of Realism's 11th annual International Juried Exhibition showcases work by 75 artists at Gallery 1261 in Denver.

Now in its 11th year, the *International Juried Exhibition* of the International Guild of Realism brings together artists worldwide to showcase among the best in classical and contemporary realism. Happening August 26 through September 17 at Gallery 1261 in Denver, the show will feature 75 juried artists who paint in a number of mediums and are drawn to varying subject matter. Quang Ho, renowned artist and the gallery's brainchild, served as the final juror for the exhibition.

"The term 'realism' can mean many things to many different people. On the surface it seems to mean work that looks 'real' as in 'tight' realism—work that is rendered to look like life as we assume it should look. To merely render something tightly doesn't necessarily carry with it an understanding of what is real. I would like to challenge the artists to explore what 'real' might actually mean to them," says Ho. "As a judge of paintings, I will not look at ideology or the artists' personal beliefs about a subject matter, but at how the painting is put together and executed



overall, and then how that might unify within the theme of the painting. Pure. Genuine. Expression."

Participating in this year's exhibition are artists such as **Jorge Alberto**, **George Ayers**, **Marsha Chandler**, **Diane Davich-Craig**, **Sharon Guyton Lalik**, **Gary Davis Lang**, **Daphne Wynne Nixon**, **Cher Pruys**, **Guenevere Schwien**, **Josh Tiessen**, **Barbara Walker**, **Elizabeth Weiss** and more.

Trompe l'Oeil pieces are among the highlights of the show, including Weiss' butterfly work *Ascending*. The oil on linen painting depicts the colorful creatures in flight around three display cases, two of which have been filled. "This painting is



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inspired by the power created upon freeing oneself from limiting circumstances,” explains Weiss.

Also highlighted will be Schvien’s Christmas light painting *Modern Beauty*, Davich-Craig’s sign piece titled *Vacation Motor Hotel*, and *Rapsodia Azul* by Alberto of a trumpet in front of crinkled papers.

In a similar vein are still life works such as Lalik’s *Party Shoes* that shows three pairs of heels in red, blue and green colors. Chandler’s *Blueberries and Lemons* plays with color and texture as fruit spills out across a white, blue and yellow cloth. *Illuminated Vessels* by Pruys is another in the show, with various size glass bottles set up outside and gleaming against the sun. Nixon’s still life *The Punch* shows items such as a cocktail shaker, a boxing glove and the Jamaican flag.

Candy Corn by Ayers is another standout piece. “Lately I have been focusing on some of my favorite things as inspiration for painting subjects,” says the artist. “I have always had a craving for candy corn since I was a kid when my grandmother used to have them always stocked for our family visits. With the addition of some M&M’s for color variety and the jar, it ended up

1 Cher Pruys, *Illuminated Vessels*, acrylic and watercolor, 13¾ x 18”

2 Josh Tiessen, *The Wood Between The Worlds*, oil on Baltic birch, 12 x 20”

3 Gallery 1261 in Denver will host the 11th annual *International Juried Exhibition*. Photo courtesy Gallery 1261.

4 Jorge Alberto, *Rapsodia Azul*, oil on panel, 27 x 18”

5 Elizabeth Weiss, *Ascending*, oil on linen, 36 x 18”



6

6
Barbara Walker,
Kaaterskill Eluvies, acrylic,
 40½ x 32"



7

7
Guenevere Schwien,
Modern Beauty, oil on
 wood, 24 x 36"



8

8
Daphne Wynne Nixon,
The Punch, oil on board,
 18 x 24"

9
Diane Davich-Craig,
Vacation Motor Hotel, oil
 on panel, 16 x 20"



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making a fun piece to work on.”

There also will be works on view that highlight elements of nature, such as Tiessen’s *The Wood Between The Worlds* that has a wooden box compass in an imaginative mossy landscape. Walker’s forest painting *Kaaterskill Eluvies* and Lang’s *Barnyard Friends* of a trio of horses are included in the show, too.

Kicking off this year’s exhibition will be an artists’ reception on August 26 from 6 to 9 p.m. During the event, collectors and artists can mix and mingle to discuss the artwork on view. The opening marks the first time the award winners, as selected by a guest judge appointed by Gallery 1261, are recognized.

American Art Collector returns as a proud media sponsor of the show. ●

10
George Ayers,
Candy Corn, oil on panel,
16 x 16"

11
Sharon Guyton Lalik,
Party Shoes, oil on
canvas, 26 x 26"

12
Marsha Chandler,
Blueberries and Lemons,
watercolor on paper,
22 x 15"

13
Gary Davis Lang,
Barnyard Friends, acrylic
on panel, 16 x 20"