Object Number 2016.04.07 Image

Title North Of Mojave Desert

Location Broken

Date

Era Depression Era Landscape

Depression Era Lanascape

Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size

Frame Size

Frame Type

Materials



Peter James Samerjan Studio, Hollywood, California, May-June, 1947; Architectural League: New York City, The Art Directors Club of New York Members' Fine Arts Exhibition, 1951; Somerstown Galleries: Somers, New York, Samerjan One-man Show, October 20-November 17, 1985

Artist Notes

Tired, after days of painting in the desert, I headed home to Hollywood at sundown. Racing south on a lonely uninhabited desert highway - Route 395, below Lone Pine, Owens Lake to the east...just south of Cartage - a bang sounding much like a gun shot, struck underneath the hood of the car bringing it to a dead stop! Raising the hood of the car, I discovered that the cap on the vacuum tank had blown away. Grabbing my flashlight, I started walking up the road in the dark of night hoping that with luck, I might find the cap, although dime-sized. Sweeping the flashlight back and forth across the road, I quickly attracted the attention of the ever alert coyotes who were joined by other assorted creatures. The drop in temperature comes quickly after the sun sets and having left the warm car hastily, I realized that I needed additional clothing to keep from freezing. Looking back, I realized that I had wandered a considerable distance from my disabled car. Then, through the crystal clear desert night, I saw what appeared to be a roundish, orange-colored light dancing a few feet above the surface of the road - but it was a long, long way off. Eventually, the quivering light came closer and closer. Suddenly, a car materialized out of the blackness! The ancient Ford coupe, a 30 's model was listing 45 degrees. A voice called out, "Get in the car before you lose your life!" As the car pulled closer, a man gargantuan in size, once again demanded I lose no time getting into their car. I saw no possible way to squeeze into the car - stepping on the running board, I saw a very thin man behind the steering wheel. "Get in, quick man - we leave no one on the floor of the desert at night!" Driving me to my car, it was agreed they would push my car to the nearest station...only I didn't know it was twenty-five miles away. What a glorious sight in the middle of the night - a gas station operated by a family. Without the gasoline pump, the facility could have been used as a setting for a western movie. While I treated the men to "iced beer," the only gratuity they would accept, the father of two sweet teenaged girls and I went out to the back of the building. There in the dim desert light were acres of wrecks - cars, trucks, wagons, a welcome graveyard of possibilities. In seconds, he lifted the hood of a car and retrieved the very cap required! (My mother-in-law, Grandma Alma, had among her keepsakes, a postcard of this very gas station-garage-pit stop, etc. When I first saw the postcard, I couldn't believe my eyes. When questioned about the postcard - the story becomes more intriguing. Grandma's friend traveled the west making pen and ink sketches that he converted into postcards for advertising purposes - and had discovered the station years before!)

Object Number 2016.08.01 Image

Title

Wreckage

Location

Broken

Date

Depression Era Era

Watercolor

Provenance

Medium

Painting Size

Frame Size

Frame Type

Materials

Object Number 2016.05.15

Image

Title

California Farm

Location Rack 1A

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 19 X 12 1/4

Frame Size 31 3/4 X 23 1/2

Frame Type Brown, wooden

Materials On ray paper

Artist Notes Southern California



Object Number 2016.05.17

Title

Mums

Image

Location R

Rack 1A

Date

Depression Era

Era

Depression Era

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

17 X 21

Frame Size

31 1/2 X 36 1/2

Frame Type

Silver, wooden, carved

Materials

Artist Notes



Provenance

Friends of American Art - First Annual Exhibition, Grand Rapids, MI 3/40; The San Diego Museum of Fine Arts, CA, Invitational 4/5/1938; The Whitney Museum of American Art, NYC Exhibition of 200 watercolors, Sponsored by the Section of Fine Arts, Washington, DC 9/16-30/1941; 20th Annual Exhibition California Watercolor Society In cooperation with the Los Angeles County Museum, 1940

Contact John Samerjan: (609) 306-2933, johnsamerjan@aol.com

Object Number 2016.05.01 Image

Title

June Lake, High Sierra

Rack 1B Location

Date

Depression Era landscape Era

Provenance

Watercolor Medium

20 1/2 X 13 1/2 Painting Size

28 1/4 X 22 1/4 Frame Size

Frame Type Brown, wooden

Materials



Object Number 2016.05.03 Image

Title Bianchi Ranch

Location Rack 1B

Date

Depression Era Provenance George Samerjan Studio, 9047 Sunset Boulevard

Hollywood, California, 1939; The Laguna Beach Art
Medium Watercolor Association: Member's Exhibition, April-May 1942,

Painting Size 27 1/2 X 21 Awarded Honorable Mention; Santa Paula Chamber of Commerce: Santa Paula, California, Sixth Annual Art Exhibition, August 28 - Spetember 1942; Biltmore

Frame Size 33 1/4 X 27 1/2 Salon: Biltmore Hotel, Los Angeles, California, March 1943; The Los Angeles County Museum of Art: Los

Frame Type Light brown, wooden Angeles, California, 22nd Annual Exhibition, The

California Watercolor Society, December 1943, Prize

Materials Award

Artist Notes

Courting a beautiful young lady took me north on Highway 101, through magnificent rolling hills, mission country, where I painted Mission Santa Ynez, through Atascadero and finally to Paso Robles. While she, June Lunde, was dutifully at work during the day whenever I drove up to visit, my painting paraphernalia always in tow; I found the landscape a watercolor painters dream. Most often when I'm in the field painting, acts of kindness by total strangers is inevitable and indeed appreciated. Here I was, set up on the "shoulder" of a rural road with not a single soul in sight, working rapidly as one must with watercolor...then suddenly I heard an angry voice scream out, "Sic him!" From out of nowhere, several huge dogs came rushing down the hill at full bark. Speaking softly to the dogs, they came to a sudden stop, turned and went back up the hill. (1939)

Object Number 2016.05.04

Image

Title

Stream - Yosemite

Location Rack 1B

Date Depression Era landscape

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 25 1/4 X 20

Frame Size 35 X 30

Frame Type Light grey, wooden

Materials



2016.05.05 **Object Number** Image

> Title Jenny Lind, Where She Sang,

> > Piper's Opera House

Location Rack 1B

Date

First Invitational Purchase Prize Exhibition Chaffey, Provenance Depression Era Era Free Public Library, Ontario, California, Chaffey

Community Art Association, October 24-November 2, Watercolor 1941; Somertown Galleries, Somers, New York,

George Samerjan One-Man Show, October 20-

November 17, 1985

Medium

27 X 20 3/4 Painting Size

37 1/2 X 31 3/4 Frame Size

Light brown, wooden Frame Type

Materials

At the time, a Southern Californian unfamiliar with snow and freezing weather, I relished the stimulation of **Artist Notes** painting outdoors in freezing weather. Virginia City, once with a population of 40,000 had dropped down to 400 when I arrived. Although not a State at the time, President Lincoln called on her to supply the silver that financed the Civil War. The painting was executed outdoors during a gentle snow fall. Once accepted by the residents, I was invited to enter an unlocked haberdashery store - alone! Situated nearby Piper's Opera House, I walked into the vacated store finding it left by its owners years before - all items still in place - untouched! The

experience truly turned back the clock to another era. Years later, I read that Arshile Gorky and Noguchi visited

Virginia City in 1941, as well.

Object Number 2016.06.10

Image

Title

Unknown (Mountainouse

Landscape)

Location

Rack 1B

Date

Era

Depression Era landscape

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

21 3/4 X 14 1/4

Frame Size

29 X 21 1/2

Frame Type

Light grey, wooden, shadow

Materials



Object Number 2016.05.07

Image

Title

Model "T" Ford/Merry Go

Round - School Playground

Location

Rack 1C

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

20 1/2 X 13 1/4

Frame Size

28 1/2 X 22 3/4

Frame Type

Silver, wooden

Materials

Artist Notes Additional watercolor on back (signed) "Merry Go Round - School Playground"



Object Number 2016.08.03 Image

Title Unknown (Girl With Bear)

Location Rack 1C

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 5 X 7

Frame Size 12 X 15

Frame Type Tan/Black, wooden

Materials



Object Number 2016.08.05

Image

Title

Karen (Child)

Location Rack 1C

Date

Era Depression Era

Watercolor

Provenance

Medium

Painting Size 6 X 9

Frame Size 12 X 15

Frame Type Black, wooden

Materials



Object Number 2016.08.11

Image

Title

Model Resting

Location Rack 1C

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 11 1/2 X 15 1/4

Frame Size 18 3/4 X 23

Frame Type White, wooden

Materials



Object Number 2016.08.12 **Image**

Title

Apollo's Attendants

Location

Rack 1C

Date

Era

Depression Era

Samerjan Studio, 9047 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, Provenance

California, 1941

Oil Medium

Painting Size

24 X 20

Frame Size

25 1/4 X 21 1/2

Frame Type

Brown, wooden

Materials

Artist Notes

The Samerjan studio-gallery on the Sunset Strip was a means to an end! Having received my third mural commission from the Section of Fines, Department of the Treasury, Washington, D.C., I needed large space. What had been a gallery-workshop for a leading silversmith turned out to be an ideal solution as well as location, although at the time, that was not a pressing problem. Next door was the famous Tone Price Book Store - a meeting place for notables of the motion picture colony. Across the street was the Bing Crosby building. Near the bookstore, a luncheonette was my source for refreshment as well as change to make phone calls. In truth, I always looked forward to an opportunity to take a "break." The interludes were not only enjoyable but oftentimes turned out to be exciting experiences - considering my strict, disciplined working regimen. High adventure best describes the delight and pleasure I experienced one morning when I saw seated at the counter, Dorothy Lamour, Bob Hope and Jerry Colonna - engaged in animated conversation! A block west across Sunset Boulevard, at the beginning of the bridle path (a median divider planted with a border of hedges that marked the beginning or boundry between Hollywood and Beverly Hills) was the Cock & Bull. One just couldn't help watching when a shining-bright maroon-colored Rolls Royce slowed down in front of the entrance and before coming to a stop, the doorman bounced out and with a flourish opened the limousine door. The unmistakble Franklyn Pangborn alighted. Slowly, but with grace, elegance and the broad mannerisms identified with his film rools, he guided a beautifully groomed lady, Edna Mae Oliver to the entrance. Celebrities loved to stroll this area of chic shops and boutiques - especially at night. Working late, the gallery door always open, I don't recall ever having a concern for security. Celebrities dropped in and a quick glance at the guestregister was all the prompting I needed. Rosalind Russell's father-in-law, a handsome gentleman, showed a sincere interest in my work and visited and chatted with me while I worked on the full scale cartoons for the murals. In his youth, he modelled for life classes - that "confession" gave me reassurance. His compliments were based on experience and knowledge. Carl Brisson, exhuberant, gracious, and sympathetic enriched my life experiences. One balmy, quiet eveing, a lone man entered the gallery and signed the guest book. Seeing his signature, I was overjoyed. He was genuinely pleased if not surprised that I knew of him and his work. We both began talking at the same time. Art Center School - now Art Center College in Pasadena, California had acquainted us with his animated films - which were innovative and utilized graphic symbolism with great imagination! He did not need to explain that Walt Disney had brought him to America to help launch the first full feature animated film - Fantasia. As he relaxed in the gallery, conversation flowered and I sensed that he was

Object Number 2016.08.24

Image

Title

Figure Resting

Location Rack 1C

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium Oil

Painting Size 24 3/4 X 29 1/2

Frame Size 29 X 34

Frame Type Brown, wooden

Materials



Object Number 2016.08.25

Title

Six Horses An Impression

Image

Location Rack 1C

Date

Era Depression Era

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 21 X 13 3/4

Frame Size 31 1/4 X 25

Frame Type Grey, wooden

Materials

Artist Notes Opening Day - Santa Anita



Provenance Honorable Mention California Watercolor Society, 1938

2016.08.27 **Object Number**

Image

Title

Autumn - High Sierra

Location

Rack 1C

Date

Era

Depression Era landscape

Birmingham Public Library Gallery, Birmingham, Provenance

> Alabama, Watercolor Society of Alabama, 10th Annual Jury Exhibition, February 1-28, 1950; Somerstown

Galleries, Somers, New york, Samerjan One-man

Show, October 20 - November 17, 1985

Medium

17 1/2 X 13 1/2

Frame Size

Painting Size

25 1/2 X 22

Watercolor

Frame Type

White/brown, wooden

Materials

Artist Notes

Arriving late at night, having driven up from Los Angeles through the eastward passage, Dad and I spotted a small clearing ideal for setting up camp. Exhausted by the long drive, we were soon fast asleep on our cots. The "roar" of sierra winds racing through and above the timber line was an unforgettable lullaby! Dad, an early riser, prepared a sumptuous breakfast on his treasured Coleman stove. In the meantime, I started the painting exposed to the frigid air - but assured of a delicious breakfast as the aroma of crisply prepared bacon wafted through the chill air. My father spent the time while I was painting by trout fishing in the adjacent streams. The closing days of October, while bringing luscious color to the landscape, also meant the end of the fishing season. The high altitude combined with sharp, penetrating wind, discouraged lengthy exposure to the weather. One needed to paint quickly - feet freezing and hands buring from the cold. It was a marvelous challenge to try to preserve the instant image in a fresh and lasting resolve. Returning finally, to our campsite, I found a sad and dejected Dad. "You see, son, this gorgeous, strong raindbow trout danced franticallly over the ice-cold water bit the gut leader off the hook...and disappeared!"

2016.10.01 **Object Number**

Image

Title

Blonde Beauty

Location

Rack 1C

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance George Samerjan Studio, Hollywood, California, 1941

Oil Medium

Painting Size

16 X 20

Frame Size

Canvas on Stretcher

Frame Type

Materials

Artist Notes

The model's throne stood in the center of the painting studio. Easels circled the throne and anticipating the most interesting spot prior to the appearance of the model was a gamble. The raised platform was adequate for either standing or reclining poses. One usually got set up and prepared one 's palette when painting in oils before the model arrived and disrobed - naturally I'm talking about a life class. The instructor determined the pose often deferring to the suggestions of the model. However, most models had a sense of work level of the particular class and tried to accommodate - by slowly turning, twisting and seeking an "attitude" that would be both interesting and paintable. An important consideration or concession in the selection of a final pose was time - the ability of the model to hold or freeze a pose with- out moving for twenty minutes. One's view of the final pose, as mentioned previously was unpredictable. The pose now set, looking up I realized that the back of the model was to be my subject or "view." I was truly distressed! The model was a stunning blond the male students relished painting. Suddenly, standing alongside of me, was my professor, Willard Nash whom I admired as a fine artist. Years later, I came to realize that I had also been a confidant. He quietly verbalized the possibilities and helped me to plan an exploration of color, planes and subtle movement of light as it caressed her torso. However convincing his pep talk, he knew instinctively that I would have preferred spending the time allowed for the session studying possibilities that to me were more seductive. The painting incorporates the "tertiary" palette preached constantly by Willard Nash.

Object Number 2016.10.02

.10.02 Image

Title Friend - LA

Location Rack 1C

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Oil

Painting Size 16 X 20

Frame Size Canvas on Stretcher

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.10.06

Image

Title

Self Portrait

Location

Rack 1C

Date

Era

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium Oil

Painting Size

20 X 24

Frame Size

Canvas on Stretcher

Frame Type

Materials

Object Number 2016.10.07

Image

Title

Fisherman

Location Rack 1C

Date 1936

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium Oil

Painting Size 20 X 24

Frame Size Canvas on Stretcher

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.10.08 Image

Provenance

Title

Profile

Rack 1C Location

Date

Depression Era Era

Oil Medium

20 X 26 Painting Size

Frame Size Canvas on Stretcher

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.10.09

Image

Title

Mandolin

Location

Rack 1C

Date

Era

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

Oil

Painting Size

28 X 18

Frame Size

Canvas on Stretcher

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 20

2016.10.11

Image

Title

Woman In Red

Location

Rack 1C

Date

1935

Era

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

Oil

Painting Size

25 X 30

Frame Size

Canvas on Stretcher

Frame Type

Materials





Object Number 2016.10.13 Image

Title

Twilight Figure

Rack 1C Location

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Oil Medium

25 X 30 Painting Size

Frame Size Canvas on Stretcher

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.10.14 Image

Title Merced River, Yosemite

Location Rack 1C

Date

Era Depression Era landscape Provenance

Medium Oil

Painting Size 30 X 25

Frame Size Canvas on Stretcher

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.10.17 Image

Title Girl Walking In A Starry Night

Location Rack 1C

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Oil

Painting Size 34 X 26

Frame Size Canvas on Stretcher

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.10.20

Image

Title

Yellow Flowers

Location

Rack 1C

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

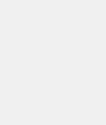
Medium Oil

Painting Size 10 X 14

Frame Size Canvas on Stretcher

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.07.06

Image

Title Nude: One

Location Rack 1D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 27 1/2 X 20 1/2

Frame Size 29 1/4 X 36 1/4

Frame Type Silver, metal, thin

Materials



Object Number 2016.02.01 Image

Title Los Angeles Night

Location Rack 2A

Date 1938/39

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Oil

Painting Size 25 X 22

Frame Size 32 X 29

Frame Type Multiple browns, wooden

Materials Painted entirely with a pallette

Artist Notes Painted in situ - using a flashlight as source of light



Object Number 2016.02.02

Image

Title

San Pedro Harbor

Location

Rack 2A

Date

Era

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

Oil

Painting Size

25 1/2 X 24 1/2

Frame Size

36 1/4 X 30 1/4

Frame Type

Green, wooden

Materials

Title

Object Number 2016.02.03

Cannery Row - Monterey

Location Rack 2A

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Image

Medium Oil

Painting Size 25 1/2 x 21 3/4

Frame Size 34 1/2 X 30 1/2

Frame Type Light brown, carved, wooden

Materials



2016.02.04 **Object Number**

Image

Title

Barbara

Location Rack 2A

> 1940/41 Date

Depression Era Era

Oil Medium

27 1/4 X 29 1/2 Painting Size

36 1/2 X 32 1/2 Frame Size

White, wooden Frame Type

Materials



Provenance

George Samerjan Studio, Hyperion Avenue, Los Angeles CA; George Samerjan Studio, Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, CA; George Samerjan Studio,

80 W. 4th Street, New York City

Artist Notes

Gordon Newell the sculptor, moved from Los Angeles to Big Sur and I was fortunate to have been able to rent the studio he owned. I had received a commission to paint murals, three panels, for the Maywood, California Post Office – which of course provided the wherewithal. His property also included two other studio/apartments. One was rented to a classmate, James Hanson who had received a commission to create a sculpture of young Lincoln for the Justice Building in Los Angeles. The studio in the center of the property was occupied by a mother of two daughters. The older daughter was away a great deal of the time. Barbara, the younger of the two girls was very shy and quiet. The mother was deeply interested in anything creative or artistic and rarely missed an opening reception for local talent or people of wide acclaim. She was always willing to expand in depth and detail providing stimulating critiques of the receptions she attended the previous evening. Reflecting back nearly fifty years, I realize that she was a most unusual and extraordinary individual. Her enthusiasm for the work of artists doing exciting and interesting things also gave me moral support! Her descriptions of the Calder Show and George Gershwin exhibition, which were big hits in Hollywood at the time (1940-41), were masterpieces. My work schedule was proscribed by the Treasury Department Section of Fine Arts and making deadlines left little time for socializing. One morning, the mother while performing a chore, perhaps watering her garden, called to me and asked if I wouldn't like to see her daughter Barbara's lovely tan. Before I could answer, she called, "Barbara!" Responding promptly, Barbara came outside and her mother continued, "I told George you have a striking tan, why don't you go into his studio and show him. Perhaps he'd like to paint you!" From what I saw, she had a fine tan but in Southern California a tan in itself isn't that unique. Barbara stepped into my studio and without hesitation disrobed. Up until that moment, I had no idea nor hint of the good fortune awaiting me. Thomas Wolfe wrote about the Lundgren sisters..."lily white breasts and cherry tits..." Barbara's breasts were magnificently enshrined by a body saturated with a golden honey-colored tan. A tan that acted as a mat to spotlight and enhance the alabaster-like luminosity of her opalescent breasts! Within seconds I placed a canvas on my easel and as the painting progressed so did my expectations. Barbara was a quiet, introspective young lady and a superb model. The resulting painting is bright luminous and painted with my teacher Willard Nash's "tertiary color techniques" in mind. Throughout the sitting, Barbara remained stoic while I concentrated on the problems at hand. There was no conversation between the two of us and I was unable to read or to interpret the deadly silence nor understand her mother's motive in allowing me to immerse myself in a sexually arousing unforgettable encounter. Barbara was totally in control and I did not betray her mother's

Object Number 2016.02.05

Image

Title Ellena's Bouquet

Location Rack 2A

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Oil/Wax

Painting Size 36 X 30

Frame Size 42 3/4 X 37

Frame Type Reddish brown, wooden

Materials Oil/ wax emulsion on linen



Object Number 2016.03.12 Image

Title Mediterranean View...

Watercolor

37 3/4 X 31 1/2

Light brown, wooden

Location Rack 2B

Date

Medium

Frame Size

Frame Type

Materials

Depression Era

Provenance The National Academy Galleries, New York The

American Watercolor Society, 100th Annual Exhibition, April 6-23, 1967; Traveling Show: The American

Watercolor Society Matted Traveling Show, 1967-68
Painting Size 30 X 22 1/4 (Laguna Beach, California; Southern Method

University; Dallas, Texas; Hallmark Cards, Kansas City,

Missouri; Centenary College Library, Shreveport,

Louisiana; Columbia Museum of Art, Columbia, South Carolina; Davenport Municipal Art Gallery, Davenport,

Iowa; Grand Rapids Art Museum, Grand Rapids,

Michigan; Castleton State College, Castleton, Vermont;

Artist Notes

This watercolor is the most "traveled" and exhibited of my paintings having been selected for the American Watercolor Society Traveling Show. The view is from my window overlooking the Mediterranean Ocean - at the Hotel Negresco, Nice. The figure I hasten to add is based on a drawing from one of the models in a figure painting class I once taught at Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, New York. (Other faculty members at the time: Franz Kline, Richard Lindner, George McNeil, Brooks, etc.) (1952)

Object Number 2016.01.01

Title Midnight Family

Location Rack 2C

Date 1938

Era Depression Era

Medium Oil

Painting Size 23 1/2 X 17 1/2

Frame Size 30 1/2 X 24

Frame Type Light grey, wooden

Materials

Artist Notes

Image



Provenance Exhibited Laguna Beach Art Association 1939; Virginia Myseym of Fine Arts 1940; Santa Cruz Art League

1941; California State Fair Sacramento 1941

Object Number 2016.01.02

Image

Title

Fourth Ward School House,

Virginia City, Nevada

Location

Rack 2C

Date

Era

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

23 1/2 X 18 3/4

Frame Size

31 3/4 X 27 3/4

Frame Type

Green, wooden

Materials



Object Number 2016.01.04

Image

Title

Sunday Afternoon- Migrant

Workers' Children Playing

Location

Rack 2C

Date

1939

Era

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 1/2 X 16

Frame Size

34 1/4 X 25

Frame Type

Red, wooden

Materials

Artist Notes In situ

2016.01.05 **Object Number**

Image

Title

Boy's Playing - Spinning A

Top

Location Rack 2C

> 1935 Date

Provenance Depression Era Era

Watercolor Medium

20 1/2 X 13 1/2 Painting Size

32 1/2 X 24 1/2 Frame Size

Silver, wooden Frame Type

Materials



Artist Notes

In situ. The "Great Depression" was in full swing. Each day revealed new and different aspects of large numbers of people seeking work, food and shelter - America in the '30's had no "safety nets" providing for social welfare assistance, etc. People helped each other when possible and indeed to the very best of their ability. I was eighteen years of age, I believe, when I painted our neighborhood children playing - spinning tops. We were a neighborhood of families - if not the entire town of Hollywood, California where I grew up. Families seemed to survive. Hardly a family was without a "senior" member- a grandparent, aunts, uncles, etc. often living togeher. Perhaps it was this sense of unity that allowerd children to be children...through those treacherous times. Drugs, muggings, etc. were virtually unknown where we lived. I witnessed many, many examples of compassion, caring and outright sharing of scarce commodities. Nothing was ever thrown away -"save it for someone less fortunate than we," mother would admonish.

Object Number 2016.01.06 Image

Title Things Are Bad All Over

Location Rack 2C

Date 1934

Era Depression Era

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 20 1/2 X 16

Frame Size 31 X 27 1/2

Frame Type Green, wooden

Materials



Provenance Palos Verdes, California, Aquarelle Painters of California, August 27- September 29, 1939; George Samerjan Studio, 9047 Sunset Boulevard, Holly-wood,

California, 1939

Artist Notes

The road north from my Hollywood, California home to the San Fernando Valley, in my boyhood, was known as "Cahuenga Pass." Parallel to this winding, precipitous highway, was a dirt road it replaced. It was the "pass" used by Junipero Serra, conquistadores, Joaquin Murietta, and assorted explorers, desperadoes, land speculators and snake-oil con artists. Often, I thought of turning off the highway and "exploring" for myself hopefully seeking fresh visual images and exhilarating experiences. The valley ahead was undeveloped. Residential lots were being sold for twenty dollars down. The real estate agents sat at card tables and at night their Mazda lamps strung out like "luminarios" reminding one of the early Spanish settlers. This was Laurel Canyon and Ventura Boulevard, when I was a boy. Beyond, were rolling fields of wild flowers, foothills dotted with chaparral, oaks, eucalyptus, acacia and marauding coyotes; overhead the cerulean sky, hosting the dancing, ever-changing images concocted by abundant cumulus clouds. Our family, composed of three sons, was held together by a resolute mother and an easy-spirited father known as the Will Rogers of the Armenian community. The Depression was everywhere! Driving, the top down, I easily left the problems of the world behind, joyously seeking a painting "location." This day, something urged me, perhaps instinctively, to explore this replaced road of the early settlers. Leaving the hot macadam, I found the dirt road unchanged, unalt-ered since the early days of wagons, horse and mule trains. I wondered what the view of the valley would be like from the top of the hill, separating the valley from the Hollywood-Los Angeles basin. Just off the turn, facing a western landscape unchanged by human hands, excited with the prospect of finding a lovely, inspiring landscape subject, I saw this man and his truck! Sad, disconsolate and dejected, he sat on the running board of a truck that must have been home to his dreams and asp-irations. While our family did not "suffer" through the depression, we were nevertheless sensitive to the needs of others. Conspicuous consumption was unthinkable - if at all possible. But now, alone with this man, broken, homeless, his only possession - his only means of making a living had come to a dead stop and he realized that he was at a dead end. This was the Depression! He had sold fruits and vege-tables - driving through areas distant from local markets bringing fresh produce to waiting housewives. His loud and clear voice calling out in broken English, "bananas, tomato's, potato's," provided a needed service. A service he could no longer provide due to the impossibility of generating a "profit." How could one buy tires, gasoline and maintain a vehicle when lettuce sold for five cents a head, carrots were three bunches for a nickel, radishes sold for three cents a bunch, etc. The tires blew out, out of gas - in desperation, he propped up the wheels - a last hope that by keeping his truck from sinking, he might possibly

Object Number 2016.01.07

Image

Title

End Of The Line

Location Ra

Rack 2C

Date

1934

Era

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

24 3/4 X 20

Frame Size

28 X 23

Frame Type

Brown/Grey, wooden

Materials

Artist Notes

Near the Los Angeles City Hall - not far from the terminus of three major railroads...for many desperate if not hopeful men, America's boundary came to a dead end! It was the farthest west a free "ride of the rods" could take them! The "Great Depression," clutched tightly the economic arteries of the nation. These brave men, bearing silently their helplessness and the terrible hazards of cross-continent rail travel seeking employment, only to be met by shotgun-bearing Sheriffs. Obviously, it wasn't easy for men scrounging to survive to find an inaccessible hide-a-away. The sad flotsam gathered together with wire, piano crates and debris, thought to have little further use, became leantos - shelter, home! With a makeshift stove reminiscent of "salamanders" utilized by contractors and builders in cold climates, two men ponder their destiny! Stacks of wood, their protection from the cold California nights - their most evident asset. The discarded carcass of an abandoned car, in all likelihood a survivor of a cross-country trek...an all too familiar sight during the 1930's. The area was desolate, depressing and isolated - a true no-man's-land! Only those who experienced the catastrophic economic upheaval, unemployment of the '30's are, to me at least, acceptable witnesses to the degradation, humiliation and destructiveness people endured. I was 20 years old when I painted this watercolor and deeply sensitive as well as respectful of the privacy of these men - surviving - in poverty!

2016.01.08 **Object Number**

Image

Title

Men Playing Cards

Rack 2C Location

> Date 1934

George Samerjan Studio, Hollywood, California, Provenance Depression Era Era

is quite obvious that they are truly unemployed and not just homeless!

1940-'41

Watercolor Medium

Frame Size

Painting Size

21 1/2 X 14 1/4 30 1/4 X 23 1/2

Grey, wooden Frame Type

Materials

Few people today can possibly understand the desperation and degradation that accompanied extended **Artist Notes** unemployment in a time when "safety nets" were unknown. The Great Depression was synonymous with an immovable wall of rejection, defeat, hunger, unemployment, homelessness - a daily chore with little hope was looking for work! Pain and suffering blanketed America. The womenfolk stayed home, kept house and were the special fabric of stability. The men, though work was elusive and virtually non-existent were up and out -"looking!" For a young aspiring art student, the group afforded an excellent opportunity to compose quickly and to execute deliberately. The dry California climate allows a watercolor painter to lay in washes and glazes without losing too much time to prolonged periods of drying. My presence did not disturb the card players and it

Object Number 2016.04.03 Image

Title

Oak Creek Canyon

Rack 2C Location

Date

Depression Era landscape Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

27 X 21 Painting Size

34 1/2 X 28 1/2 Frame Size

Frame Type

Silver/Red, wooden

Materials

Artist Notes Painted on our honeymoon



Object Number 2016.04.08 Image

Title

Abraham Lincoln (Death

Mask)

Rack 2C Location

> 1939 Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Watercolor Medium

Painting Size 13 1/2 X 18

20 X 24 1/2 Frame Size

Light brown, wooden Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.04.09 Image

Title Children Playing - On Swings

Location Rack 2C

Date 1934

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 20 1/2 X 13

Frame Size 31 X 23 1/4

Frame Type Multi-color, wooden

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.01

Image

Title

After The Storm - Piper's

Opera House - Virginia City

(California) - Nevada

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

30 1/2 X 22 1/2

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Object Number 2016.09.01

Image

Title

Fruit With Chair

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era De

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

um Watercolor

Painting Size

30 1/2 X 22 1/2

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Object Number 2016.09.01 Image

Title Ranch In Mountains Scene

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era landscape Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 30 1/2 X 22 1/2

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 20

2016.09.01

Image

Title

Cow

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

um Watercolor

Painting Size

30 1/2 X 22 1/2

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.01 Image

Title

Girl on Tree Swing

Rack 2D Location

> 1935 Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 17

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.02

Image

Title

Nude Woman on Blue

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

lium Watercolor

Painting Size

15 X 10 1/2

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Object Number 2016.09.02 Image

Title

Clown

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

15 1/2 X 11

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Artist Notes

Contact John Samerjan: (609) 306-2933, johnsamerjan@aol.com

Object Number 2016.09.02

Image

Title

Flowers

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Watercolor

Provenance

Medium

Painting Size 1

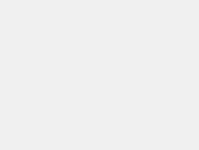
15 X 11

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.02

Image

Title

Westwood Garden

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression Era

Watercolor

Provenance

Medium

Painting Size

15 X 11

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.02

.09.02 Image

Title Lumber Yard

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 11 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



2016.09.02 Object Number

Image

Children Playing Island Maui Title

Buff

Rack 2D Location

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Watercolor Medium

23 X 16 Painting Size

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.02 Image

Title Fishing Fleet

Location Rack 2D

Date

Provenance Florida Southern College, Lakeland, Florida, Florida

International Art Exhibition, Frank Lloyd Wright Campus, 1952; Grand Central Galleries: New York

City, award winning paintings from the Florida Southern

College Fine Arts Exhibition, sponsored by M. Grumbacher, June 2-13, 1952; Award: The M. Grumbacher Professional Watercolor Award

Era

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 14

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Artist Notes

Late afternoon, driving along the Pacific coast highway near Redondo Beach, south of Los Angeles, I stopped my car, finding a convenient parking space to enjoy the view. Walking down to the shore, I found this narrow, wooden-slatted walkway that led to this gathering of boats, the wind sterring up the flags added a sense of celebration in contrast to the near silence. Quickly, I raced back to my car and set up my gear trying to establish the watercolor before the sun set. The fishermen were finishing their tasks as a pelican watched with anticipation - and I might add, with great patience. I loved the Pacific Ocean! The evening sea breeze sprinling its salty mist over one when painting, like a warm and loving embrace, is an unforgettable experience! (1935)

Object Number 2016.09.03

Image

Title

Shipyard

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Watercolor

Provenance

Medium

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.03 Image

Title

Popcorn Stand

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Object Number 2016.09.03 Image

Title

Santa Monica Beach

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Object Number 2016.09.03

Image

Title

California Hill

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era landscape

Provenance

Medium

ium Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.03 Image

Title

Winter Forrest

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.03

Image

Title

Downtown

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Watercolor

Provenance

Medium

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Object Number 2016.09.03 Image

Title

Woman Lounging in Green

Dress

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Depression Era Era

Watercolor

Provenance

Medium

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Artist Notes

Contact John Samerjan: (609) 306-2933, johnsamerjan@aol.com

Object Number 2016.09.03 Image

Title Catalusa Island, California

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era landscape Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.03 Image

Title

Garage

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.03

Image

Title

Night Parking

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.03 Image

Title

Industrial Factory

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.03 Image

Title

Winter Trail

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Depression Era landscape Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Title

Object Number 2016.09.03

Building with Ironwork

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Image

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.03 Image

Title Mountain Pass, California

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era landscape Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.03 Image

Title

Rhyolite, Nevada

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression Era

Watercolor

Provenance

Medium

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.03

Image

Title

Cahuenga Pass, Hollywood,

California (South of San

Fernando Valley)

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression Era landscape

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Object Number 2016.09.03 Image

Title California Meadow

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era landscape Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.03 Image

Title

Tractor

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Object Number 2016.09.03

Image

Title Cars in Small Town

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.03 Image

Title Woman With Red Bow

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.03 Image

Title Horses Eating In A Storm

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.03 Image

Title Man Wearing Red Hat

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 15 X 22

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.03 Image

Title

Silo

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.03 Image

Title Children Playing in Puddle

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.03 Image

Title Children in Lake (Row Boats)

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.03 Image

Title

Café? Downtown

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.03 Image

Title Women in Pink And Green

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 15 X 22

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.03 Image

Title

Girl Painting At Desk

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.03 Image

Title Yosemite Stream

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era landscape Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 15 X 22

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.03

Image

Title

Hot Plant

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Watercolor

Provenance

Medium

Painting Size

19 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.04 Image

Title Bianchi Farm, Paso Robles

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 30 1/2 X 22 1/2

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.04 Image

Title

Man with Trucks

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

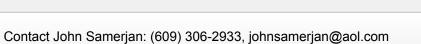
30 1/2 X 22 1/2

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials





Object Number 2016.09.05 Image

Title

Cherub

Rack 2D Location

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 1/2 X 29 1/2

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Object Number 2016.09.05 Image

Title

California Hills

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression Era landscape

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

30 X 22

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.05

Image

Title

Nude Sitting

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

lium Watercolor

Painting Size

28 1/2 X 23

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.05

Image

Title Rocks Off The Coast

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era landscape Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 28 X 22

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.05

Title Women Bathing In Stream

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Image

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 28 X 22

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.05 Image

Title

Fall Storm

Rack 2D Location

Date

Depression Era landscape Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

28 X 22

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number

2016.09.05

Image

Title

Tunnel

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Object Number 2016.09.05 Image

Title Fisherman At Pond

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 15 X 22

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.05 Image

Title

Man On Green Tractor

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.05 Image

Title

Girl Painting At Easel

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

24 X 19

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Artist Notes

Contact John Samerjan: (609) 306-2933, johnsamerjan@aol.com

Object Number 2016.09.05 Image

Title

Furry Mammal

Rack 2D Location

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

24 X 18 1/2

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.06 Image

Title Mt. Whitney, Painted In Storm

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era landscape Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 14

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Artist Notes Painted on the spot in snow storm



Object Number 2016.09.06

Image

Title

Mt. Whitney, From The

Meadow

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression Era landscape

Provenance

Medium

ium Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 14

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.06 Image

Title The Stream, Yosemite

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era landscape Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 14

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.06 Image

Mt. Whitney, From The Desert Title

Floor

Rack 2D Location

Date

Depression era landscape Era

Provenance

Watercolor Medium

22 X 14 Painting Size

Matted Frame Size

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.06 Image

Title Fishing Friends On Path

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era landscape Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 14

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.06 Image

Title Near Lake Tahoe

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era landscape Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 14

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.06

Image

Title

YMCA Boy's Camp, Santa

Catalina Island

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

m Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 14

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Artist Notes

In my youth, I was an active boy's worker in the Hollywood, California YMCA. The Secretary, Sheldon Swenson called me at home one day and said "The Pasadena YMCA wished to invite a boy's camp leader from our 'Y' to join their group at Catalina Island, are you interested, George?" Of course I was delighted. Packing my suitcase carefully, I found room for my painting materials. The summer was a rich and beautiful experience. This watercolor is one of many that I was able to paint in my spare time. Outdoors, the boys are listening and participating in a group discussion. On a day off, one of the youth counselors talked me into joining him in sailing a small craft, a "snow bird." In spite of the fact that I warned him of my complete ignorance of sailing, soon we were sailing majestically in the bay, the wind carrying us away from shore, ocean spray and sunshine coupled with the joy and ecstasy of an exhilarating experience - suddenly turned into imminent disaster. Out of nowhere, the Catalina Steamship was virtually on top of us. Inadvertently, and quite innocently, we had sailed into the ship lane. The warning whistle of the steamship became increasingly menacing and bellicose. Passengers became terrified and screamed instructions to my friend at the tiller. I pleaded with him as well to move away from the path of the giant ship nearly on top of us...the passengers continued screaming and trying desperately to help us avoid disaster shouted nautical terms and instructions - to no avail. My friend turned to me and said, "George, you take over, it's the first time I've sailed a boat!" Avoiding panic, somehow, I took the tiller and was able to sail back to shore.

Object Number 2016.09.06 Image

Title

Creek In Forrest

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 14

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Object Number 2016.09.06

Title Lone Pine, View Of The High

Sierras

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era landscape Provenance

Image

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 14

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.07

Image

Title

Men Playing Cards - Westlake

Park, LA

Location

Rack 2D

Date

1934

Era

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 1/2 X 16

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.07

Image

Title

Victorian Houses

Location Rack 2D

Date 1937

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 1/2 X 16

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.07 Image

Title

Near Whittier, California

Rack 2D Location

> 1936 Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

22 1/2 X 12 1/2 Painting Size

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Title

Object Number 2016.09.07

Circus Worker Resting

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Image

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 24 1/2 X 17 1/2

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.07 Image

Title

Refinery - LA

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

23 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Object Number 2016.09.07 Image

Title

Trees Around Lake

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 1/2 X 14 1/2

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.07

Title Refinery At Torrance

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 21 X 13 1/2

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Artist Notes

Provenance The Armenian Allied Arts Association of Southern California, 1938; Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts

Image

Annual Exhibition, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1938

Contact John Samerjan: (609) 306-2933, johnsamerjan@aol.com

Object Number 2016.09.07

Image

Title

Mexico

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era landscape

Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 23 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.07 Image

Title Calexico Looking To Mexicali

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 23 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 20

2016.09.07

Image

Title

Colleen

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression Era

Watercolor

Provenance

Medium

Painting Size

15 X 22

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Object Number 2016.09.07 Image

Title Laguna Beach, California

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era landscape Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 1/2 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.07 Image

Title

Culver City

Rack 2D Location

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

28 X 22

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.07 Image

Title

Farmhand

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

25 X 19

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Artist Notes

Contact John Samerjan: (609) 306-2933, johnsamerjan@aol.com

Object Number 2016.09.07 Image

Title

Ceramic Pots In Yard

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

21 1/2 X 14 1/2

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



2016.09.07 **Object Number** Image

> Title Westlake Park, May, 1938

Location Rack 2D

> 1938 Date

Provenance George Samerjan Studio, Hollywood, California - 1947 Depression Era Era

Sunset Boulevard, 1940

Medium

Watercolor

22 X 14 Painting Size

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Artist Notes

Westlake Park was located a few blocks away from Art Center School where I was a scholarship student. It was my work "assignment" to sweep out the entire school - all classrooms, offices, etc. before classes started. On those occasions when I was able to complete my chores earlier than usual, I would race to some area - such as the park and paint a watercolor. I made it a point to paint one watercolor daily! The abstraction of a painting was frowned own when I was a student. In many ways I felt that I was a "traitor" - at least made to feel that way, whenever I ventured away from traditional, academic and/or realistic painting. Westlake Park holds a special place in my heard. It was here that I enjoyed sitting and eating my "brown-bag" lunch. Usually, a little bag with unexpected tasty morsels neatly wrapped in wax paper. My mother pursued a consistent and very definite menu when she packed my lunch. While bountiful and delicious, lunches packed by my father had a distinctive character of their own. To say the least, they revealed an unbelievable inventiveness in variety and the transformation of eggplant and cauliflower into delectable delicacies was sheer magic! These two watercolors were painted within a few days of each other. There wasn't the slightest encouragement when I was a student to explore abstraction - which I always enjoyed. After all, when I was a student at Hollywood High School, I was given a lasting and precious introduction to great modern art by a famous collector-neighbor. One day, on my way home from school, he was watering the lawn in the front of his house. He was so pleased to know that I intended to become an artist - an unlikely pursuit for a young man during the Great Depression. "Would you like to see our paintings?" he asked, I was of course thrilled! He turned off the nozzle of the hose and we walked up a few cement steps that led to a picket gate that closed off the back yard. A man in a white coverall was trimming and shaping exotic looking shrubs. As we passed, the small man turned and looked at me. Matter of factly, my hose said, "That is Brancusi!" I was given a personal room by room tour of a home studded with paintings. One could not find a spare inch of space on the walls - floor to ceiling. When he introduced me to Mrs. Arensberg he said, "It is she who aroused my interest in modern art." This was the first of many times that I was privileged to see the Arensberg Collection - in the home of the collectors. I was twenty-three years of age when I painted these watercolors. The "traditional" painting required little intellectual application. The California School of watercolor painting - wet-into-wet, is ideal when painting outdoors. Whether landscape or seascape, lovely transparent washes of luscious color blending into a unified tone - impossible with other mediums, helps convey the sparkling light of Southern California...realistically. Another day, looking at the exact same subject, my reaction was exhilarating! Instantly, elevations, planes, vanishing points, true height lines - and color values

Object Number 2016.09.07 Image

Title

Coffee Grower Junkyard

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

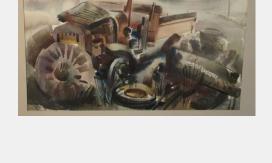
22 x 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.07

Image

Title

Nude With Basket Of Fruit

Location Rack 2D

Date 1934

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 23 X 16

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.07 Image

Title

Coast at Sunset

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression era landscape

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 14

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.07 Image

Title Snow At Mt. Baldy, California

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era landscape Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 15 1/2

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.07 Image

Title On The Beach - Santa Monica

Location Rack 2D

Date 1935

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.07 Image

Title

Tong War, Los Angeles

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.07

Image

Title

Four Men In The Park

Location

Rack 2D

Date

1934

Era

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

n Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.08 Image

Title

Clifford DeVirian - Student -

Art Center

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

Oil

Painting Size

16 x 20

Frame Size

Canvas

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 201

Title

2016.09.08

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Pin Seller

Medium Oil

Painting Size 16 X 20

Frame Size Canvas

Frame Type

Materials

Artist Notes



Provenance

Image

Object Number 2016.09.08

Image

Title

3 Cavorting Figures

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium Oil

Painting Size 23 1/2 X 16

Frame Size Canvas

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.08

Title Male - Full Figure

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Image

Medium Oil

Painting Size 20 X 35

Frame Size Canvas

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.09

Image

Title

Water Truck

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 1/2 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.09 Image

Title

Black Nude

Rack 2D Location

> 1939 Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

13 X 14

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.09

Image

Title

Nude With Hair

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

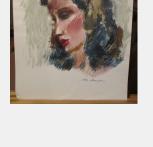
Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 15 X 18 3/4

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.09 Image

Title Farm In Mountains

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era landscape Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 21 1/2 X 14 1/2

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.09

Title Boys With Boat

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Image

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 15 X 22

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number

2016.09.09

Nude

Image

Title

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

12 X 22 1/2

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Object Number 2016.09.09

Title Snowy Mountain

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era landscape Provenance

Image

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 15 X 22

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.09 Image

Title

Mojave Desert - Sunset

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Depression Era landscape Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

15 X 22

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.09 Image

Title

Man With Pipe

Rack 2D Location

> 1938 Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size 15 X 22

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number

2016.09.09

Image

Title

Woman

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

15 X 22

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Object Number 2016.09.09

Image

Title

Woman With Chair

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

Painting Size

15 X 22

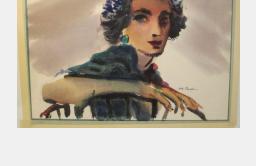
Watercolor

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.09

Image

Title Refinery, LA

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 15 X 22

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.09 Image

Title Santa Monica In Moonlight

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 15 X 22

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.09

Image

Title

Westlake Park, LA

Location Rack 2D

Date 1938

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 15 X 22

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.09

Title Vase With Flowers

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Image

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 19 X 25

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.10 Image

Title

Men In Park

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

21 1/2 X 14 1/2

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Object Number 2016.09.10

Title Man And Wheelbarrow

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Image

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 21 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.10 Image

Title

Children's Playground

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

21 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.10 Image

Title Migrant Family's Car and Tent

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 21 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.10

Image

Title

Clown

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 14 1/2 X 21

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.10

Image

Title

American Bald Eagle, Griffith

Park Zoo, Los Angeles

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

m Watercolor

Painting Size

23 1/2 X 18

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.10 Image

Title Mozart Teaches Beethoven

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 15 X 22

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.10 Image

Title Outdoor Garden Accessories

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.10 Image

Title

Joey

Rack 2D Location

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

19 1/2 X 16 1/2

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.10 Image

Title

Catalina Yacht

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.10

Image

Title

Fisherman

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Watercolor

Provenance

Medium

Painting Size 15 X 22

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.10

Image

Title

Semi Nude

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.10

Image

Title

Model - Jane Fores - Art

Center School LA

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

Painting Size

22 X 15

Watercolor

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.10

Image

Title

Dancers

Location Rack 2D

Date 1937

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.10

Image

Title

Negroe Young Man

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Watercolor

Provenance

Medium

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.10 Image

Title Experimental Seated Nude

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.10

Image

Title

Seated Old Man

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 15 X 22

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.10 Image

Title Prismatic Nude

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 15 X 22

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.10

Image

Title

Sad Girl

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 14 X 18

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Object Number 2016.09.10 Image

Title

Nude

Rack 2D Location

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Watercolor Medium

Painting Size 15 X 22

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Object Number 2016.09.10 Image

Title

Model Sitting

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.10

Image

Title Woman In Color

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 12 X 16

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.10

Image

Title

Nude

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 17 X 24

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.10

Image

Title

Nude - Oil

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium Oil

Painting Size 16 X 23 1/2

Frame Size Canvas

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.11

Image

Title

Going Home

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression Era landscape

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

23 X 17 1/2

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Object Number 2016.09.11 Image

Southern California Horse Title

Farm

Rack 2D Location

Date

Depression Era landscape Era

Provenance

Watercolor Medium

Painting Size 15 X 22

Matted Frame Size

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.11 Image

Title

Horses Eating In A Storm

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.11

Image

Title

San Pedro Across From The

YMCA

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression Era

Watercolor

Provenance

Medium

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.11 Image

Title

Rogue River

Rack 2D Location

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.11

Image

Title

Venice CA

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 18 X 24

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.11 Image

Title

How Green Was My Valley -

Movie Set, California

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

23 X 17

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



2016.09.11 **Object Number** Image

> **Drillers** Title

Rack 2D Location

Date

The Fine Arts Gallery of San Diego, California, Tenth Provenance Depression Era Era

Annual southern California Art Exhibition, June 10 -

September 5, 1938

Medium Watercolor

14 X 22 1/2 Painting Size

Matted Frame Size

Frame Type

Materials

Imagine a 22 year old being permitted to set up his easel on a drilling platform! The men, wearing fedoras, went **Artist Notes** about their duties puzzled by my enthusiasm. They thought-why waster your time painting our dirty, smelly world? With the cool breezes of the Pacific Ocean (the scene is Signal Hill) sweeping across my easel, mingled

with the heavy odor of crude, the basso vibrations permeatting the area and rocking my entire body - I felt one

with the exploration!

Object Number 2016.09.11 Image

Title

Bridle Path, LA

Rack 2D Location

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Watercolor Medium

Painting Size 22 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.11

Image

Title

Fishing

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Watercolor

Provenance

Medium

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials

2016.09.11 Object Number

Image

Title

Cowboys

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era

Depression Era landscape

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.11 Image

Title

Desert Ruins

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.11

Image

Title

Fishing Pier

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Matted

Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 15

Frame Type

Frame Size

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.11 Image

Title

California Beach

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Depression Era Era

Provenance

Medium

Watercolor

Painting Size

22 X 15

Frame Size

Matted

Frame Type

Materials

Object Number 2016.09.11 Image

Title Yosemite River

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era landscape Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.11

Image

Title

Mermaids

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.11 Image

Title Sunset - Hollywood Hills

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era landscape Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 22 X 15

Frame Size Matted

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.09.09

Image

Title

Man In Top Hat

Location Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium Oil

Painting Size 24 X 30

Frame Size Canvas

Frame Type

Materials

Object Number 2016.09.09

Image

Title

Woman With Book

Location

Rack 2D

Date

Era Depression Era

Provenance

Medium Oil

Painting Size 25 X 29 1/2

Frame Size Canvas

Frame Type

Materials



Object Number 2016.11.04 Image

Title Southern Belle

Location Upstairs

Date

Era Depression Era Provenance

Medium Watercolor

Painting Size 20 X 14 3/4

Frame Size

Frame Type

Materials



Laguna Beach, California, 20th Annual Prize Exhibition Laguna Beach Art Association, August-September, 1938; Tuscon, Arizonia, Fine Arts Gallery, November 6 - December 2, 1938; Gardena, California, Gardena High School 12th Annual Invitational Purchase Prize Exhibition, August - September, 1939; Sacramento, California, California State Fair, September, 1939; Occidental College, Los Angeles, Samerjan One-man show, January 2-23, 1940; Oakland Art Gallery, 8th Annual Exhibition Watercolors, April 3-27, Gold Medal, Adele Hyde Morrison Prize - also Popular Prize Award

Artist Notes

Many people whose judgement I respect, consider "Southern Belle" one of the finest watercolor portraists of my era. Edward G. Robinson loved this watercolor. "How much," he asked. When told by Tone Price's salesman, Robinson responded, "I don't buy anything less than five figures." A Maharajah visiting in Laguna Beach, California, on seeing this watercolor at the Laguna Beach Art Association Exhibition, requested my permission to allow his personal family painter to copy my painting...in order to execute paintings of his family in the same fashion!