As seen in the January 2011 issue of





UPCOMING GROUP SHOW

Up to 20 works
Dec. 3, 2010-Jan. 5, 2011
The Peterson-Cody Gallery
130 West Palace Avenue
Santa Fe, NM 87501
(505) 820-0010

Fresh paint

n a never-ending search for the most promising talent working in contemporary realism today, The Peterson-Cody Gallery hosted an inaugural national juried competition, *Fresh Paint*, which attracted over 100 artists from across the United States and Canada. The gallery will exhibit works by the top seven *Fresh Paint* winners through January 5, 2011.

First- through third-place winners were Forrest Solis of Arizona, Philip R. Jackson of Mississippi and Neal Philpott of Oregon, respectively. Honorable Mentions were awarded to Martin Arnold, Christine Gedye, Timothy Horn and Charlotte Strauss.

Jurors included John O'Hern, American Art Collector's Santa Fe editor, Elizabeth Szancer Kujawski, founder and curator of Elizabeth Szancer Kujawski Art Advisors in New York City, and American Art Collector's editor Joshua Rose as well as gallery staff.

Second-place winner Philip R. Jackson merges the historical importance of still life painting into the 21st century with a unique contemporary vision. An assistant professor of art at the University of Mississippi, Jackson's paintings celebrate the unpredictable connection between everyday experiences and common objects. In the piece titled *Broken*, the artist highlights the beauty of a simple

object—a smashed egg—that is only revealed when broken, as the dense yellow yolk and the translucent white spill out.

"In my still life paintings, I use objects that are inanimate and serve practical or decorative purposes. My goal is to find their individual importance through a radiant illumination of color and light, allowing them to possess their own supernatural presence," says Jackson. "Through my motivation of visual curiosity, I hope that my paintings will stir the hearts and minds of viewers to pause during their daily routine and experience special moments of wonder."

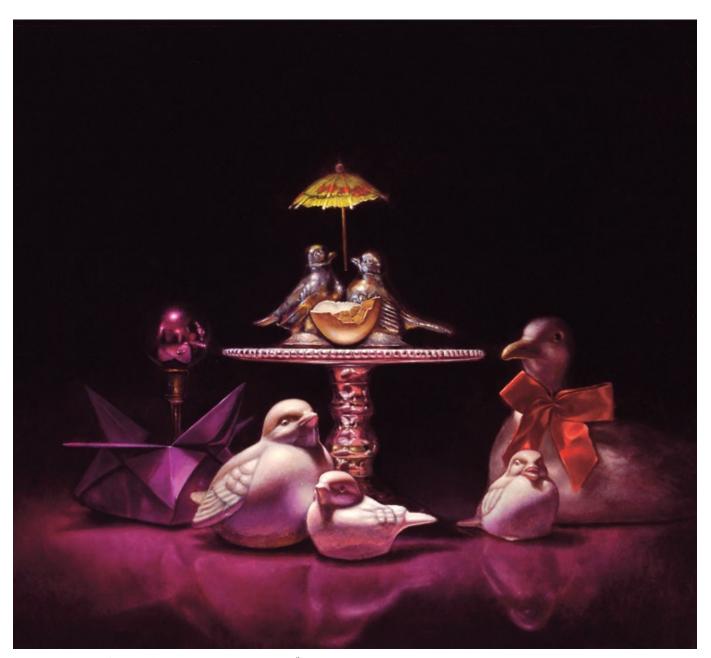
Jackson's piece titled A Family Portrait



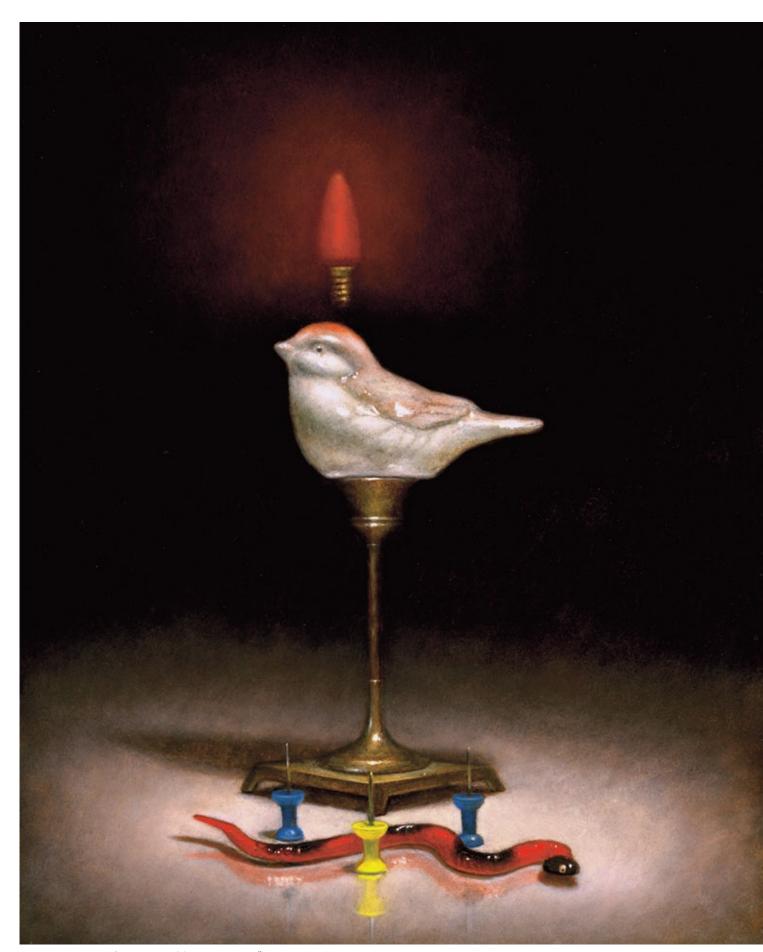
NEAL PHILPOTT, FOOTHILL RANCH, OIL ON CANVAS, 20 X 30"



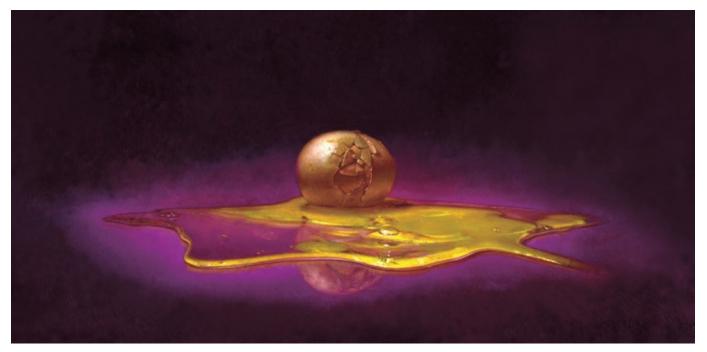
Neal Philpott, Coming On, oil on canvas, 10 x 30"



Philip R. Jackson, A Family Portrait, oil on panel, 21 x 21"



Philip R. Jackson, Snake in the Tacks, oil, 10 x $8^{\prime\prime}$



PHILIP R. JACKSON, BROKEN, OIL ON PANEL, 9 X 15"

The Gallery Says . . .

"Although Philip R. Jackson's oeuvre may technically be classified as still life, it is the exquisite, luminous quality the artist infuses into common objects that raises this genre to new heights. Expressive brushstrokes, nuanced color, paint layering and interesting compositions effectively differentiated Neal Philpott's oil paintings from the many other landscape submissions received."

— Martine Bertin-Peterson, Owner, The Peterson-Cody Gallery

reflects his own brood. The painting celebrates life, the joy of family, and the roles that each of us brings to form our unit. The multitude of reflections within each object heightens the viewer's awareness.

"The painting is at its best when these details are discovered," says Jackson. "What is revealed is that we are like all families, seeking to find balance and to gain insight for what is ahead."

"Although Jackson's oeuvre may technically be classified as still life, it is the exquisite, luminous quality the artist infuses into common objects that raises this genre to new heights. Jackson's eggs and egg shells, in particular, look like liquid gold," adds Martine Bertin-Peterson, owner of The Peterson-Cody Gallery.

Third-place winner Neal Philpott seeks to capture the fleeting imagery of the natural world in his landscape scenes. Using light to create lines, forms and structure gives his paintings their unique charge. As a full-time painter, Philpott is always looking for the unusual in the everyday scenes he encounters.

"I try to make an honest recording of what I've experienced and convey that in the most convincing way," he adds. "My style continues to evolve by trying to say more with less. Subsequently, my brushwork is bolder and my color mixtures are richer."

In Philpott's new 10-by-30-inch oil painting *Coming On*, he seeks to convey the warmth of the sun on a farm field nestled among the fir trees.

"Spring was just coming on, and I felt there was hope and inspiration for the new and fresh of the year to come," he says.

Foothill Ranch was inspired by the dirt road leading to a ranch. Here, the artist plays with complementary colors to lead the viewer's eye up the road. He painted it very direct and very aggressively to evoke feeling the ruts in the road.

"Expressive brushstrokes, nuanced color, paint layering and interesting compositions effectively differentiated Neal Philpott's oil paintings from the many other landscape submissions received," says Bertin-Peterson.

For a direct link to the exhibiting gallery go to www.americanartcollector.com