

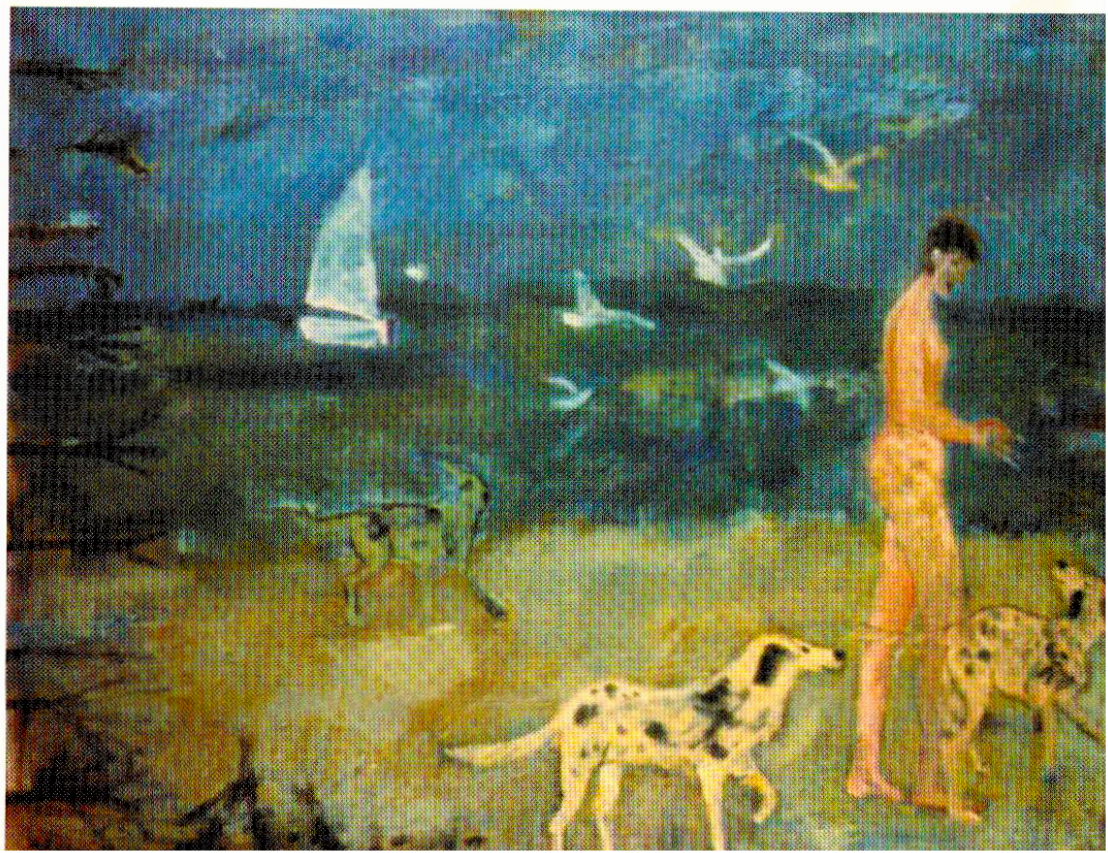


Frances
Hynes

Paintings
1989-1999

Ogunquit
Museum of
American Art

August 16 -
September 30
1999



Frances Hynes

Paintings 1989-1999

The mysteriously evocative paintings of Frances Hynes (b.1945) are not easily categorized. While boldly and confidently painted, they still possess a fragile, ethereal beauty. Her metaphorical scenes contain both abstract and recognizable images based on her personal reaction to historical and contemporary events and places. "My paintings", Hynes says, "are derived from art history, popular culture, photographs I take myself, legend, mythology, memories and experiences." Her works on canvas and paper seem to combine forms both ancient and modern, reminiscent of Henri Matisse, Arthur Dove, and John Marin, with echoes of prehistoric cave paintings. The result is a unique art that pleases the eye and engages the intellect.

Since 1995, Hynes has traveled extensively, teaching and working in Ireland, the Caribbean, Michigan, Illinois, Georgia, and Maine. Because she often works on a piece for many months, even years, most of her paintings reflect numerous influences resulting from those travels. These widening spheres of influence are seamlessly meshed in Hynes's flowing, tapestry-like compositions. Her paintings are built on intricate over-all designs where nature, animals, and humans exist together in a seemingly infinite two-dimensional space.

As is true of the artist herself, there is a quiet and gentle ambiance in Hynes's painting technique. And yet when one looks closely, her brushstrokes are bold and free, in some cases reminding one of the "free calligraphy" painting style of Paul Klee, Joan Miro, or the early Jackson Pollock. Whether using oil, watercolor or gouache, Hynes's colors are soft yet vibrant, the result of many layers of over-painting. Her masterful color selection is richly dramatic and in elegant harmony. "All of my work", she says, "is about the painting process. I experiment constantly with the process, as well as content, and believe this keeps the work fresh and free."

The natural world that Hynes depicts is characteristically lit with a uniform glow that infuses every aspect of the painting. Created is the perfect day where humans, animals and nature co-exist in a Garden of Eden-like environment. The artist's sketchy, fluid appli-

cation of paint, together with her choice of bright, bold colors and beautiful subjects, conveys an exuberant joy in the act of painting. She says: "... when I work, there is the love of paint; mixing color, making spots of paint, drawing with a brush and discovering new forms. "

Hynes was born in Great Neck, N.Y., and earned her M.A. from New York University. She has also studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Florence, Italy, and at Woodstock's Art Students League. Hynes has served as a visiting professor at various institutions including, Burren College of Art in County Clare, Ireland, and at St. John's University, New York. Her numerous solo exhibitions include the Jacksonville (Florida) Museum of Contemporary Art, and the New Britain (Connecticut) Museum of American Art. Her works are in the Brooklyn Museum; the National Museum of Women in the Arts; the Newark Museum; the Farnsworth (Maine) Museum; and the Nassau County (New York) Museum of Fine Arts. In 1980, Hynes received an Artist's Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Michael Culver,
Curator



Holding Back the Horse

CHECKLIST

Three Horses, St. Lucia
1989, 12x32", Oil on linen
Lent by the artist
and June Kelly Gallery, NY

Here and There, Two Horses
1989, 12x16", Oil on linen
Lent by the artist
and June Kelly Gallery, NY

Inside / Outside
1989, 20x26", Oil on linen
Lent by the artist
and June Kelly Gallery, NY

Flamingo Pond
1989, 12x32", Oil on linen
Lent by the artist
and June Kelly Gallery, NY

Boatman
1990, 21x58", Oil on linen
Lent by the artist
and June Kelly Gallery, NY

Heron Bay
1990, 12x32", Oil on linen
Lent by the artist
and June Kelly Gallery, NY

Bone Fishing
1990, 34x48", Oil on linen
Lent by the artist
and June Kelly Gallery, NY

Dancers in a Field
1990-92, 22x30", Watercolor and gouache
Lent by the artist
and June Kelly Gallery, NY

Homosassa River
1991, 40x50", Oil on linen
Lent by the artist
and June Kelly Gallery, NY

Bathers by the River
1991, 34x48", Oil on linen
Lent by the artist
and June Kelly Gallery, NY

In the Pasture
1991, 20x26", Oil on linen
Lent by the artist
and June Kelly Gallery, NY

Beachwalk
1991, 20x26", Oil on linen
Lent by the artist
and June Kelly Gallery, NY

Acrobat
1992, 22x30", Watercolor and gouache
Lent by the artist
and June Kelly Gallery, NY

Explosion from Paradise
1992, 14x18", Oil on linen
Lent by the artist
and June Kelly Gallery, NY

Dog Walk
1992, 20x34", Oil on linen
Lent by the artist
and June Kelly Gallery, NY

Monhegan Harbor
1992, 22x30", Watercolor
Lent by the artist
and June Kelly Gallery, NY

Black Sea, Monhegan
1993, 22x30", Watercolor and gouache
Lent by the artist
and June Kelly Gallery, NY

Two Runners
1994, 14x19", Gouache and graphite
Lent by the artist
and June Kelly Gallery, NY

Holding Back the Horse
1995, 26x30 1/4", Watercolor,
gouache, collage
Courtesy June Kelly Gallery, NY

Riddle of the Hybrid
1997, 41x61", Oil on denim
Lent by the artist
and June Kelly Gallery, NY

Intersections in Time
1997, 20x30", Oil on linen
Lent by the artist
and June Kelly Gallery, NY

Travellers
1998, 20x30", Oil on linen
Courtesy June Kelly Gallery, NY

Hand Prints and Swan
1999, 16x20", Oil on canvas
Lent by the artist
and June Kelly Gallery, NY

Selected works in this exhibition are for sale, and are marked on wall labels with an fs. The curator will discuss details upon request. The OMAA receives no commission on the sale of art work.

This exhibition is made possible by generous grants from Barnacle Billy's, Inc., Ogunquit, ME., and Olde Port Bank and Trust, Portsmouth, NH.

Front Cover: Top: *Homosassa River* - Bottom: *Beachwalk*