

MEDIA RELEASE

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GLOWING LANDSCAPES BY SAN DIEGO'S VERY OWN

William Glen Crooks
recent paintings

July 28 – August 31

Opening Reception: Friday, July 28, 2006, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

For Immediate Release – San Diego, CA

EVENT SUMMARY:

Scott White Contemporary Art presents a new exhibition of recent paintings by San Diego artist William Glen Crooks. The exhibition will be available for viewing, beginning Friday, July 28, through Thursday, August 31, 2006. The opening reception will be held in the gallery, on Friday, July 28, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., in conjunction with Kettner Nights, presented by The Art & Design District. The artist will attend the reception. This event is free and open to the public, and light refreshments will be served.

EXHIBITION DETAILS:

William Glen Crooks has gained national and international recognition for depicting a unique and ethereal light, also inherent to San Diego where the artist was born and raised. Crooks' canvases depict subjects ranging from landscapes, cityscapes, and seascapes, to figurative works as well. No matter what the subject, Crooks' masterful execution of achieving this luminous glow has won him critical acclaim and recognition.

Robert Pincus of the San Diego Union-Tribune observed this of Crooks' last solo exhibition at Scott White Contemporary Art: "The luminous look of his paintings isn't overtly spiritual, but it does give them a transcendental glow that would have made such 19th-century greats as poet Walt Whitman or painter Martin Johnson Heade smile approvingly."

Of this “transcendental glow” that Pincus speaks of, Crooks says that he is merely “responding to something I see out there. That something is definitely permeated by the divine. Words fall short in trying to describe my subject matter. As an artist, I paint my soul on my canvas. When an image stops me, I take a photograph, then I paint away until the painting feels like I want it to feel. That feeling is often sublime.”

Influenced by the scenes and landscapes of American illusionist Edward Hopper, Crooks employs a lighter, more uplifting palette and tone to his work. The translucency and modulation of light on his canvases are reminiscent of Abstract Expressionist Mark Rothko’s color field paintings. Crooks also cites Barbizon painter George Innes as an influence. The presence of these three historical artists is prevalent in his work. The landscapes evoke a distinctly nostalgic sensibility of Americana, revealing a subtext that evokes a heightened interpretation of an otherwise simple subject matter, yet executed with a contemporary sensibility through the color palette.

Crooks has developed into a prolific artist over the past ten years, and was most recently featured in the June issue of Architectural Digest. In addition, he has previously appeared in publications such as Coast Magazine, U.S. Art, Southwest Art, Décor & Style, the San Diego Union-Tribune, the San Diego Reader, and The Publication. He was also selected as one of the artists featured in 100 West Coast Artists, published by Schiffer Books in 2003.

Scott White Contemporary Art is proud to represent one of the brightest stars in art that San Diego has ever produced.

GALLERY INFORMATION:

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