



MASTERWORKS OF AMERICAN PAINTING

Twenty years ago, an endeavor so compelling as to challenge many assumptions about contemporary American painting over the last seventy years was undertaken. What followed was not a discussion of “good” or “bad” art, but a concerted effort to bring about a discourse on what is clearly known to those who hold a deep and abiding respect for painters in pursuit of painting at its highest levels.

The mission of The Center for Figurative Painting is to fill a void left by other museums, by collecting and presenting contemporary masterpieces of the representational and figurative tradition. The intent was to pinpoint truly gifted painters of our time and then to accrue a significant body of their work—which would be simultaneously representative of their oeuvre, yet selective in its pursuit of seminal works. In this light, a body of work so exacting was amassed, and through the auspices of the Center, will be made available to the public at large.

While the Artists represented in this Exhibition are different, they all have fulfilled the accomplishment of our greatest painters throughout history; which is to successfully incorporate modern vocabulary into a timeless language. These Artists, regardless of the changing fashions of our times, consistently upheld their own personal standards and ambitions.

Individual wall texts by Jennifer Samet