

VANITAS

Tom Kimball

Interior II, Bonaparte Antiques

Pen & Ink

\$135

Symmetry has seldom appealed to me. Randomly placed objects with a variety of sizes, shapes and values interest me more. I do not believe this makes me unique. Many of the items in an antique or “curiosity” shop were at one time essential to the home maker or craftsman. Like so much in the world today they are obsolete and are valued only by the collector. Every once in awhile, a rare piece of value is found. It is the only type of shop where it is not uncommon to find the phrase: “Made in the USA”.



VANITAS

Barry Plimpton

Lost Weekend

Digital Photograph

\$150

On the weekend, no matter what we do and how hard we try to forget a problem, Monday rolls around and we are back where it ended on Friday. If we have consumed the adult beverages in the image we are most likely not in condition to face the issue we left behind. "What was will be again, what happened will happen again. There is nothing new on this earth. Year after year it's the same old thing." Ecclesiastes 1:9 (TMSG)



VANITAS

Carol Plimpton

Bread, a Jug and an Empty One

Oil

\$500

How easily one jug is emptied. It is only a matter of time before the bread is eaten and the other jug is also emptied. That is life; full and then gone.



VANITAS

Carol Plimpton

It's About Time

Oil

\$500

Clocks are a constant reminder of how time and our lives pass. In some situations the hands on the clock move incredibly slowly. At other times, the hands seem to fly around the clock. In both cases, the hands only move clock wise, or forward and that is good to remember during difficult times. It is just as important to enjoy the good times with vigor and joy.



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VANITAS

SaraLee Pindar

Alley in Bratislava

Digital Photograph

\$150

In a back alley the sign for an elegant restaurant provides contrast as the establishment continues to advertise for customers even while the alley continues to deteriorate.



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VANITAS

Marge Naperski

Harpy

Acrylic Collage

\$85

Something seemingly attractive can disintegrate before your eyes, showing a toxic core. But recognizing truth opens a door to healing.



VANITAS

Agnes Tucker

Silver Bowl with Cherries

Oil

\$195

The silver bowl represents a precious vessel which is spewing forth life in the form of blood red cherries onto a white table cloth. The whiteness symbolizes the Tabula Rasa at time of birth. And, the vibrant cherries remind us how sweet and rich life is in the beginning. However, the white cloth becomes stained with the blood of the cherries, and we know that death is inevitable.



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VANITAS

Agnes Tucker

Celebration

Oil

\$395

Celebration is a contemporary still life painting base on the philosophy of seventeenth century artists who painted motifs symbolic of the transitory nature of life; the genre was known as Vanitas meaning Vanity. Celebration portrays a group of colored glass bottles evoking a dual symbolism, i.e., the bottles as humankind and the positions implying recklessness. Applying oil paint with a palette knife, the artist attempted to portray the movement of humanity from active living to a deathly stillness, by deliberately placing the bottles against a painted background of intense raw tube colors fading to pale tinted mixtures; interspersed with white glimmers of tears. In addition, the artist uses the symbol of red wine draining from the bottle to again suggest, not so subtly, the life blood draining from the being.



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VANITAS

Edward Ward

Point of View

Digital Print

\$300

Print showing internal room with three window view. The floor blends from ground to sky, each window represents a different stage of life from creation or early morning, midday and twilight. The shadow of man is cast along the floor.



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VANITAS

Edward Ward

Edification of Man

Digital Print

\$500

A print symbolically representing the evolution of man's expression of language in the format of a pinball game. Three different civilizations from the past are depicted with their glyphs. Each civilization has passed on their own symbols for life and death which is all that speak for them in the present.



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VANITAS

Athanasia Ward

Frosted Corn Stalk

Photograph

\$275

Photograph of frosted corn stalks after the harvest. Represents the end of the cycle of life from spring planting, growth, maturity, and final harvest. The ice on the stalk empathized the cold after life is gone.



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VANITAS

Athanasia Ward

I am Hip

Pen/Ink/Watercolor

\$375

This is a self portrait of my hip with my artistic mediations on the fragility of life after I fractured my hip. The different moods from initial injury to healing are reflected in the internal hip designs.



VANITAS

Dominic Martelli

The Pear Triangle Confrontation

Oil

\$1200

This is a still life of two pears and two artist triangles. There is an existential feel and a confrontational feel to it. There is a play on words also - with an unaddressed envelope on words in the background, implying an unknown acquaintance of one of the pears, a triangle of pears.



VANITAS

Dominic Martelli

Pears with a Candy Cane Bowl

Oil

\$1200

This is a still life of ripe fruit with a candy cane striped bowl. In true Vanitas tradition, there is also a dried leaf.



VANITAS

Fran Morrison

All Washed Up

Watercolor

\$200

Nautical gifts that washed ashore on this remote island are gathered by passing boaters and displayed as trophies. Among them are parts of boats, buoys, more and are now deteriorating. Gazing at the water, one can only wonder how far these treasures have traveled and what happened to separate these items from their owners.



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VANITAS

Fran Morrison

Sharing Memories

Watercolor

\$200

Having recently returned from a trip to Germany, I shared my adventures with friends. We laughed, looked at photos, ate cheese and crackers and drank a German liqueur. Sadly, I know that as sure as the flowers will wilt, this evening will also be a memory perhaps forgotten.



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VANITAS

David Watson

Is There Still Time?

Acrylic on Panel

\$400

First of all, this was a fun theme. I enjoyed working in the symbolism. The piece titled "Is There Still Time?" Refers to the crumbling of our American values and if there is still time remaining to reclaim the title of "The Shining City on the Hill?"



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David Watson

Aces and Eights

Pen & Watercolor

\$400

The phrase “Aces and Eights” is historically referred to as “Dead Man’s Hand” which, allegedly, is the hand Wild Bill Hickcock was holding when he was killed.



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VANITAS

Ben Cohen

Clay Pot

Pastel

\$300

The things of this world are transient
tsunami ravaged and reduced to
nothing entire landscapes and with
them all the works of human hand.
Clay unto Clay.



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VANITAS

Rik Viola

La Petit Dijeuner

Acrylic

\$250

French breakfast setting.



VANITAS

Joy Hoffman

Flowers and Stems and Vines

Watercolor

\$200

A vase with most flowers gone and only vines and stems reminds us of what once was most alive and beautiful.



VANITAS

Joy Hoffman

Nothing Lives Forever

Acrylic

\$100

How vain are we to suppose that summer's beauty will last forever. Our lives, too are short and transient.



VANITAS

RJ Haas

Vanitas with Skull

Acrylic

\$300

With life pleasures there is always compensation. Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote extensively on the subject of compensation

“For every up there is a Down.”



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RJ Haas

Vanitas with Flowers

Acrylic

\$300

Sometimes in life there is a point when a Maid becomes a Queen and a life time of intense labor, becomes forgotten.



VANITAS

Joy Hoffman

Vanitas

Acrylic

\$200

A vase with most flowers gone and only vines and stems reminds us of what once was most alive and beautiful.



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VANITAS

SaraLee Pindar

Stairway to Memories

Digital Photograph

\$125

This elegant staircase once connected a fashionable amusement park to a lake front beach. The amusement park is gone and the deserted stairway is overgrown as nature moves to reclaim the property, as nature so often does when human works are abandoned.



VANITAS

Rik Viola

Tear Jerkers

Acrylic

\$400

Still life of onions and garlic on a shelf



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Dorothy Pere

The Actor

Oil

\$2000

There are true dedicated actors in the theatrical arts who can bring to life characters who entertain us on the stage. Then there are people with inflated egos who manipulate others for their own benefit, acting out of vanity. When you look at this painting try to decide which one this actor is.



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