

Sullivan Goss

AN AMERICAN GALLERY

11 EAST ANAPAMU STREET
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 25, 2019

MASTERWORKS

OF THE ARTISTS AT SULLIVAN GOSS

APRIL 25 - JUNE 23, 2019

OPENING RECEPTION: 1ST THURSDAY, MAY 2 | 5 - 8pm



SANTA BARBARA, CA - Sullivan Goss has built relationships with a great many artists throughout the community, the State, and the Nation at large, but it represents just thirteen living artists full-time. The gallery selected these people for representation based on their quality, individuality, value, and art historical importance. Their places in the program have been secured over the past two and a half decades and reflect the gallery's evolving interests and profile.

In the gallery's first *MASTERWORKS* exhibition in 2017, curator Susan Bush carefully selected one work from each of the artists to bring attention to their individuality within the gallery program. Sales were strong, which made sense. Some of the artist's have two decade tenures with Sullivan Goss. Some of the newer artists to the program have only been here for a few years, but gallery curators have nevertheless followed their careers for much longer. Deep familiarity creates connoisseurship – a word very much out of fashion in certain parts of the art world these days – but one which gets its meaning from the French verb for “to know.” Gallerists Nathan Vonk, Susan Bush, and Jeremy Tessmer *know* these artists' works well, as do many of their collectors at this point. As such, selecting especially good examples becomes a matter of patience and careful looking.

Each of these artists soars when their favorite kinds of images also employ their specific technical gifts. From **Meredith Brooks Abbott**, a master class in warm and cool greens and browns forms an Impressionist landscape of Carpinteria valley in Spring; from **Whitney Brooks Abbott**, a sturdy, if somewhat dessicated barn painted in afternoon light in the broken color technique of the Post-Impressionists; from **Ken Bortolazzo**, an outdoor kinetic stainless steel sculpture of uncommon grace with three separate rotor joints whose Minimalist and OpArt impulses are as balanced as the arms

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of the sculpture; from **Phoebe Brunner**, a Magical Realist wetland with rippling grasses and churning clouds; from **Patricia Chidlaw**, a moonlit railyard in Los Angeles that sits along the concrete embankments of the L.A. river; from **Jon Francis**, a Tonalist dream of an airstream Bambi perched on a cliff overlooking the Pacific; from **Robin Gowen**, a dance between hills and valleys, between shadows and highlights; from **Susan McDonnell**, a suggestive still life tableau inhabited by an inquisitive small creature in the Magical Realist tradition; from **John Nava**, a postmodern Realist figure painting with strong classical references; from **Angela Perko**, a fractured and dynamic – almost Cubist – painting of the Santa Barbara Mission; from **Hank Pitcher**, a formal and architectonic painting of the cottages that line Miramar Beach; from **Nicole Strasburg**, a subtle and abstracted painting of lily pads floating in the ambiguous space described by water reflecting the sky above; and from **Sarah Vedder**, an evanescent image of a primordial Central Coast landscape painting with Tonalist roots.

In any solo show, these would be among the highlights. For the months of May and June, they can all be seen together in one room.

Artists included: Meredith Brooks Abbott, Whitney Brooks Abbot, Ken Bortolazzo, Phoebe Brunner, Patricia Chidlaw, Jon Francis, Robin Gowen, Susan McDonnell, John Nava, Angela Perko, Hank Pitcher, Nicole Strasburg, Sarah Vedder.

Come to the opening. Explore, acquire, network, and celebrate!

1st Thursday, May 2nd, 2019 from 5 - 8pm.