

John Morfis
2016



GREENING

Continuing our very long tradition of spotting new artists, the Grenning Gallery is pleased to introduce John Morfis (b.1976). He strikes us as one of the most interesting rising talents. His eye for subject and composition, combined with an excellent classically trained hand, leads us to a fascinating series of single object tromp l'oeil paintings.

The spartan compositions hanging together create a clean, chic, contemporary impression. Each painting has a story, and also stands up to close inspection. In fact, Morfis has a very active website where, in keeping with the classical tradition of passing on these invaluable techniques, he instructs the public on his process. Some of his lessons have over 200,000 views!

Morfis grew up in Bayville, Long Island, from a family of talented tradespeople, which explains why the hand tools are so lovingly rendered. There is an almost religious respect for these items, which is understandable, considering that some of them were used by his fore bearers, when they worked at the fine estates on the North Shore of Long Island during the 20th century. Morfis's deft hand and clear eye has rendered these black and grey beauties into the three dimensions. In addition to simple hand tools, sensitively observed, he includes paintings of horse tack and fishing lures.

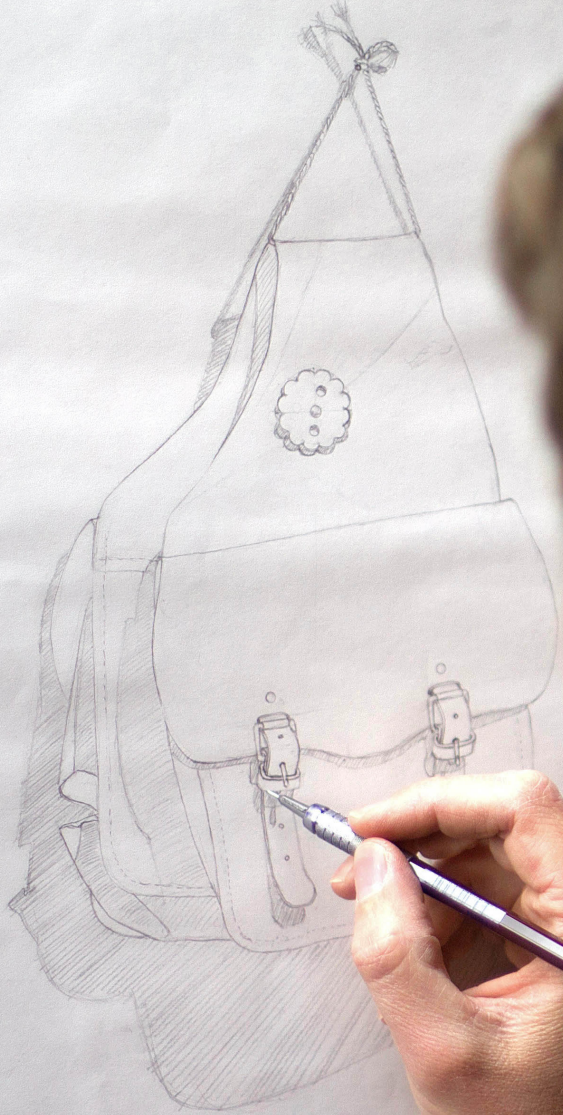
Morfis has been showing at the Grenning Gallery in Sag Harbor, New York since 2014, and had shows in many galleries since 1998. He has a Bachelor's degree of fine arts from University of Hartford, where he was a recipient of a Merit Scholarship. While there, Morfis studied oil painting under the highly respected American realist, Stephen Brown, whose work can be seen at Forum Gallery.

Morfis received his Masters of Science in Art Education from Connecticut State University in 2011. Notably, Morfis's work has also been shown at the New Britain Museum of American Art in New Britain, CT. For more biographical details and images go to www.grenninggallery.com, and for more information about his process and stories behind select paintings, go to his website www.helloartsy.com.

Laura Grenning | May 2016

GRENNING | GALLERY

Cover: "Torn Saddle Bag", John Morfis, 36 x 26, Oil on Linen, 2016





“Aristocrat’s Near Luck”

John Morfis | 14 x 12 | Oil on Linen | 2015



"Aunt Jane's Red Shovel"

John Morfis | 17 x 9 | Oil on Canvas | 2015



“Ford Model T Wrench”

John Morfis | 16 x 10 | Oil on Canvas | 2014



“Blind in One Eye”

John Morfis | 18 x 11 | Oil on Canvas | 2015



“Old Cast Hammer”

John Morfis | 18 x 10 | Oil on Linen | 2015



“English Riding Spurs”

John Morfis | 24 x 18 | Oil on Linen | 2016



“Horse Comb”

John Morfis | 12 x 10 | Oil on Linen | 2015



“Brass Bit”

John Morfis | 18 x 12 | Oil on Linen | 2015



“Meriden Cutlery 1870”

John Morfis | 22 x 12 | Oil on Canvas | 2015



“Barn Auger”

John Morfis | 26 x 20 | Oil on Linen | 2015



“The Curvy Wrench”

John Morfis | 18 x 12 | Oil on canvas | 2015



“The Draw Knife”

John Morfis | 22 x 12 | Oil on Linen | 2015



“H.D. Smith’s Screwdriver”

John Morfis | 12 x 8 | Oil on Canvas | 2015



“The Architect’s Contrapasto”

John Morfis | 11 x 8 | Oil on Linen | 2014



“The Monkey Wrench”

John Morfis | 14 x 9 | Oil on Linen | 2015



“Carol’s Stirrups”

John Morfis | 24 x 18 | Oil on Canvas | 2015



“Todd’s Yellow Lure”

John Morfis | 13 x 9 | Oil on Linen | 2015



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