

## Ben Fenske Born 1978, Minnesota



 $\mathbf{B}$  en Fenske's career and work have evolved greatly since our last catalogue in 2009. The promise of years passed has come to fruition, as fleeting sketches have become fully finished large canvases. Fenske's work has become richer, more colorful, and most importantly, the compositions have become more resolved. As you can see by the interiors, landscapes, and figurative paintings, Fenske continues to be inspired by the world that he inhabits. From an abstract lavender hued "Spring Still Life" to the elegantly reflective "Open Window", Fenske's paintings continue to mesmerize us.

Another major development is that others are noticing and writing about his genius. In a December 2010 profile for <u>American Artist Magazine</u>, senior editor Michael Gormley writes, "Fenske is a brash handler of the brush, and he harbors little regard for restraint. This expression of raw emotion stands out considerably from the new practitioners of this century's realism... Fenske dares to show his hand. His mark making evidences an authentic humanness—what one sees in Homer's art."

Photo by Patrizia Genovesi ©

<sup>®</sup> Following a childhood of drawing and painting, Fenske briefly studied drawing

with Peter Bougie and landscape painting with Joseph Paquet in Minneapolis. His interest in painting, drawing and human anatomy led him to Florence, where he spent time studying at the Florence Academy of Art and the Russian Academy of Art. Inspired by anatomy drawing at the Russian Academy, he has recently started to sculpt in clay and marble. He has participated in exhibitions in Europe and the United States and has an annual summer solo exhibition at the Grenning Gallery in Sag Harbor, New York.

Ben Fenske, although a native of Minnesota, has become very much a fixture of Sag Harbor, as a resident for close to 5 months a year now. The balance of his time is spent in Tuscany and Maine.

Laura Grenning, Sag Harbor, New York, June 2012

Publications:

"12 Artists to Watch", <u>American Artist Magazine</u>, December 1, 2011 pages 34 – p37. "The Interiors and Figurative Work of Ben Fenske: A critical Look at Raw Talent" <u>American Artist Magazine</u>, December 1, 2010, pages 19 -25. "Ben Fenske: Six Basic Tools of Landscape Painting" by Stephen Doherty, <u>Workshop Magazine</u>, Winter 2009.

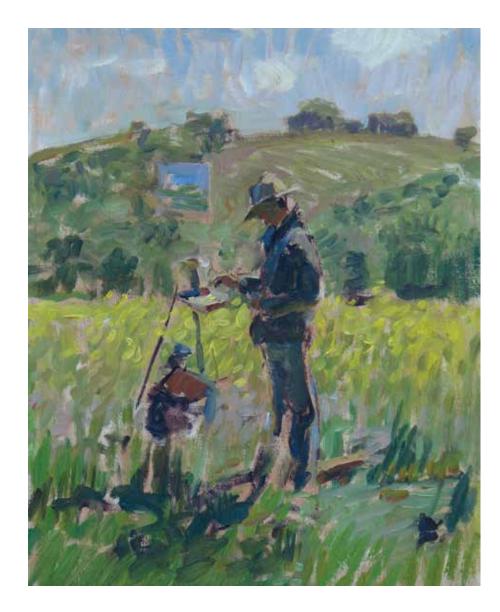
Selected Exhibitions	
2012	Catalina Island Conservancy Invitational, Best Plein Air Painters
2007- 2012, annually	Solo Exhibition, Grenning Gallery, New York
2011	Christies Auction House, March and September, American Paintings
2008	Group Show Eleanor Ettinger Gallery
2006	Group Show, Anne Long Fine Art, Charleston, South Carolina
2006	Solomon Gallery, Dublin Ireland
2005 – present, annually	Florence Academy of Art, Alumni Exhibit

Cover image: "Open Window" by Ben Fenske. 32 x 25 inches, oil on linen, 2012



Opening Reception Saturday July 14, 2012 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm





Artist Sketching, Marc Dalessio 20 x 16 inches, oil on linen, 2011

Ben Fenske

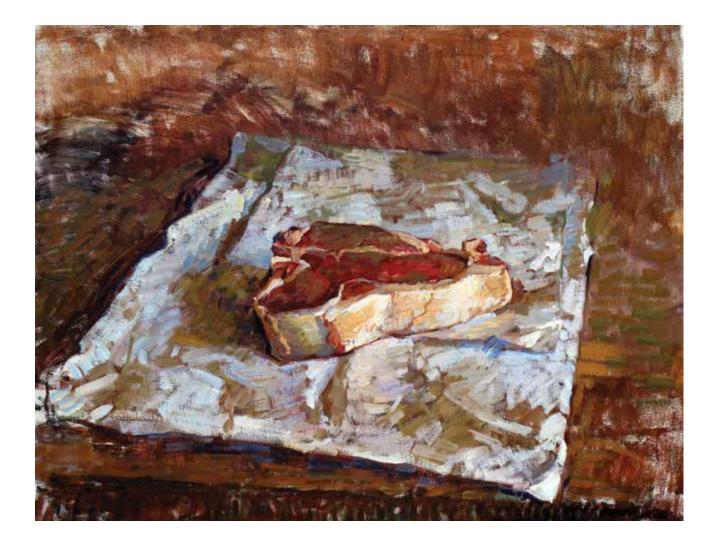
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Casa Abandonata 28 x 48 inches, oil on linen, 2010





Fiorentina 28 x 36 inches, oil on linen, 2011

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Open Window 32 x 25 inches, oil on linen, 2012

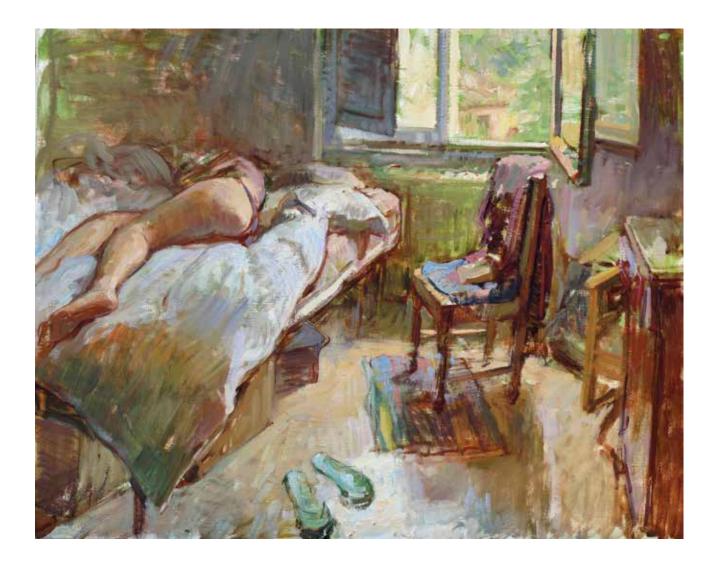


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Still Life with Blue Teapot 28 x 36 inches, oil on linen, 2012

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Sleeping 22 x 26 inches, oil on linen, 2011







Abandoned House 31.5 x 39.5 inches, oil, 2011

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Spring Still life 31.5 x 39 inches, oil on linen, 2012



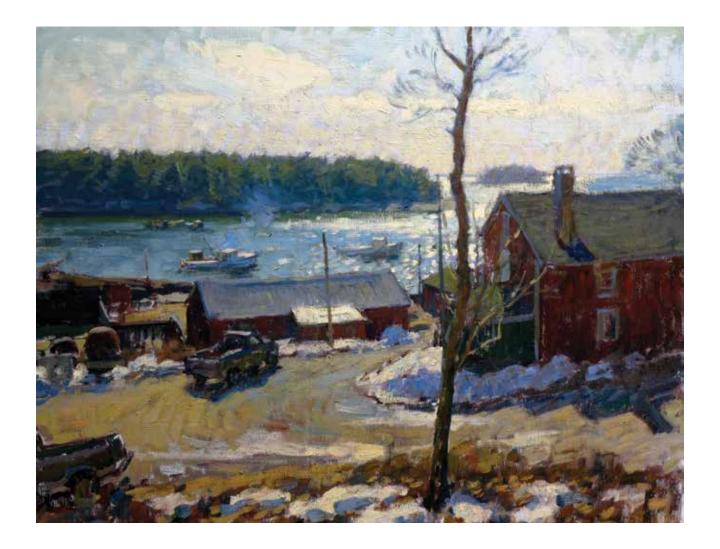


Hauling 8 x 12 inches, oil on panel, 2011



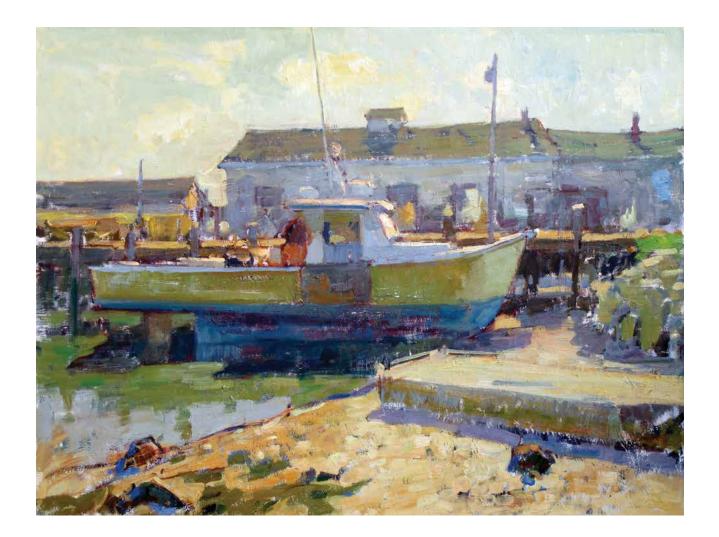
Ford F150 8 x 12 inches, oil on panel, 2011





The Shore 28 x 36 inches, oil on linen, 2011





Lobster Boat 28 x 36 inches, oil on linen, 2012

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Gibson Moonrise 24 x 36 inches, oil on linen, 2011

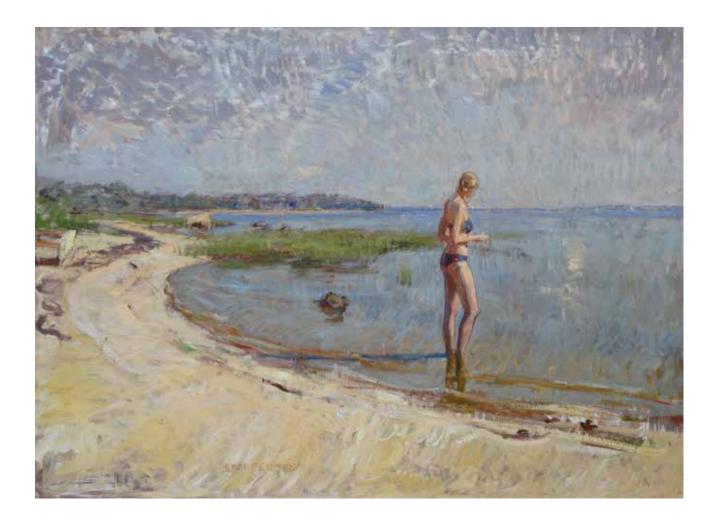






Striped Bass and Fluke 28 x 36 inches, oil on linen, 2011

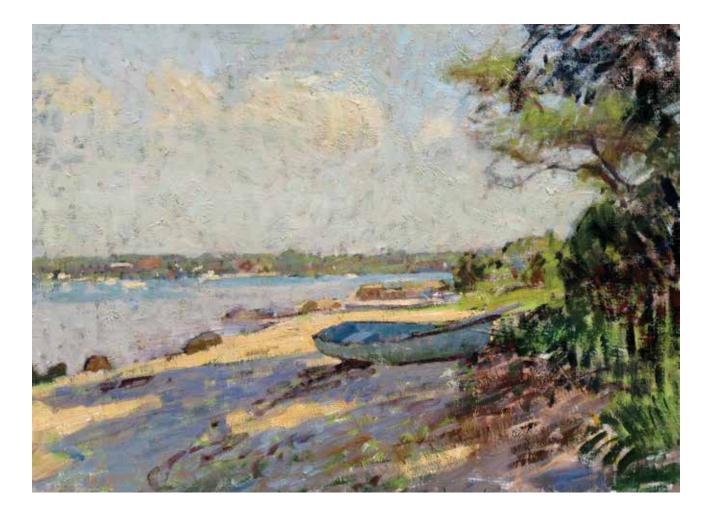
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Secret Beach 44 x 59 inches, oil on linen, 2011





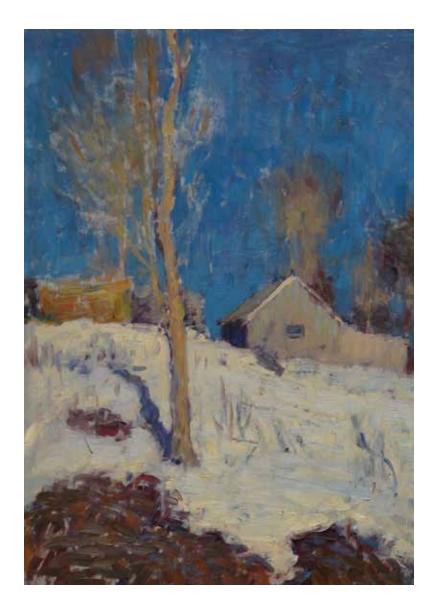


Sag Harbor Dingy 24 x 32 inches, oil on linen, 2011

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Sunblock 36 x 25 inches, oil on linen, 2011



Maine Shack 24 x 18 inches, oil on panel, 2011

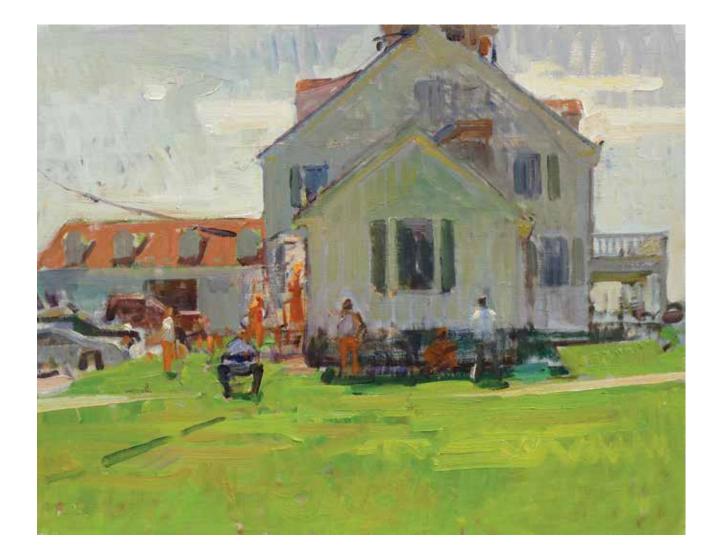
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Ben Fenske



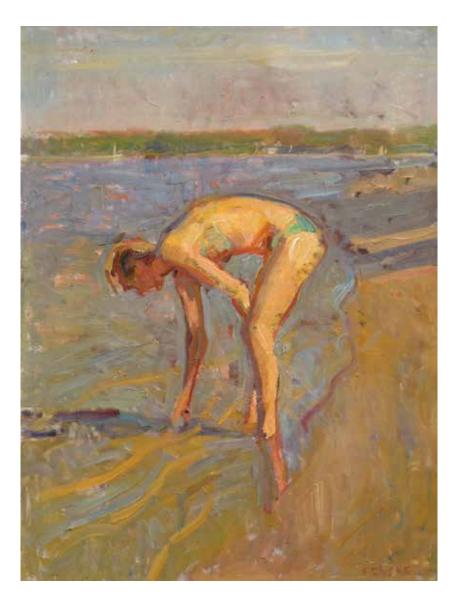
Still Life with White Pitcher 28 x 36 inches, oil on linen, 2011





Prisoners at Montauk 21 x 27 inches, oil on linen, 2011

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Picking Shells 32 x 24 inches, oil on linen, 2011





Beach House Sunset 18 x 25 inches, oil on linen, 2011

## **GRENNING GALLERY**



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