

Ben Fenske 2019



**B**en Fenske (b. 1978) continues to help lead this generation of painters by meticulously advancing and adjusting his process. He's focused solely on capturing the beauty that he sees in nature and all around him whether he is at home in Chianti, spending the summer on the East End of Long Island, or traveling in the States and Europe.

His latest work gives us a window into his world; there are intimate interiors and still life's, portraits of friends, and grand paintings of the lush landscape surrounding his home in Chianti, Italy. A prime example is *Clouds, Building*, and then again in *Evening Cloud*, where one sees a Tuscan valley with rolling hills illuminated by sunlight and then in the latter, some of the scene shadowed by an unseen cloud. The foreground of *Evening Cloud* depicts green plowed land darkened by a shadow from a large cloud directly above, yet out of view. Beyond, the earth is bathed in bright natural light.

Perhaps one of the most important Fenske painting of the last five years, *Summer Afternoon*, which graces the cover of this catalogue, is to be shown at the Bardini Museum in Florence in the "Corpo a Corpo" (Body to Body) exhibition from October 26th, 2019 through January 12th 2020. This invitational show will consist of the finest figurative work from thirty five classically-trained artists, from twelve different countries, all of whom have studied in Florence over the past 30 years. For more information go to [www.VillaBardini.it](http://www.VillaBardini.it), or check #CorpoACorpo on social media. *Summer Afternoon* captures the mood of conviviality between friends over lunch, while demonstrating Fenske's supreme ability to paint light effects. The glinting sunlight cascades through the bamboo awning, drenching the luncheon setting with informative and beautiful dapples of light and shadow, with a glowing mid-day Tuscan landscape in the background.

Fenske has also just returned from filming in Los Angeles, for the new online atelier *New Masters Academy*. His devotees will finally have access to his original approach to creating paintings when his classes are uploaded in September 2019. For more information visit (<https://www.nma.art/#lessons>).

Finally, we invite you to the new gallery space at 26 Main Street to see his latest paintings from August 26th through the end of September.

*Laura Grenning  
Sag Harbor, New York  
July 2019*

## Ben Fenske | 1978 | Minnesota

### Artist Bio

Ben Fenske (b. 1978) although a native of Minnesota, and has been working and living in Sag Harbor, New York and Florence, Italy for the last 12 years. An oil painter in the spirit of the 19th and 20th century impressionists, he often chooses informal and contemporary scenes with an implied narrative. His work, which features brash and suggestive brushstrokes, delights in light and color and is regularly exhibited in shows across the US. Fenske has been the subject of countless national articles, most notably the *American Artist Magazine* which included him as one of the Best 25 Living Artists in 2012.

### Awards

BP Portrait Award 2016 Exhibited Artist

### Education

Russian Academy of Art | Florence Academy of Art  
Studio of Joseph Paquet, Minnesota | Bougie Studio, Minnesota

### Artist Exhibitions

**2007 - 2019** | Annually: Solo Show, Grenning Gallery, Sag Harbor, NY; **2005 - 2019** | Annually: Florence Academy of Fine Art, Alumni Exhibition, Florence Italy; **2016, 2018** | The Russian American Painting Alliance, Grenning Gallery, Sag Harbor, NY; **2017** | Dalessio | Fenske | Personett - Gallery Schloss Wiespach, Austria; **2016** | BP Portrait Award Exhibition, National Portrait Gallery, London UK & Usher Gallery, Lincoln UK; **2014** | Solo Show, Grenning Gallery @ The Union League Club, NYC, Sept 2014; **2013** | "Green Noise" Group Show, Open Air Invitational at Plyos Museum, Ivanovo Region of Russia, sponsored by the Russian Ministry of Culture; **2012** | Catalina: The Wild Side Art Show and Sale, Catalina Island, California; **2011** | Christies Auction House, March & September, NYC; **2006** | Group Show, Eleanor Ettinger Gallery, NYC; **xxxx** | Group Show, Ann Long Fine Art, Charleston, SC

### Publications

American Art Collector, *A Colorful World*, September 2019 | American Art Collector, *Personal Connections*, October 2016 | Fine Art Connoisseur, *A Russian Alliance Worth Your Attention*, November 2016 | Fine Art Connoisseur, *Colorful Curves*, August 2015 | American Art Collector, *A Fluid Collection*, November 2013 | Fine Art Connoisseur, *Bottled Magic*, August 2013 | American Art Collector, *Inside Out*, August 2013 | American Artist, *Best 25 Living Artists*, September 2012 | American Artist, *12 Artists to Watch*, December 2011 | American Artist, *The Interiors and Figurative Work of Ben Fenske: A Critical Look at Raw Talent*, December 2010 | Workshop, *Ben Fenske: Six Basic Tools of Landscape Painting*, Winter 2009 | Dan's Papers, The Sag Harbor Express, Hamptons Art Hub, Shelter Island Reporter, Southampton Press, East Hampton Star: various articles 2007-2019

GRENNING | GALLERY



“Poppies, Green”  
23.6 x 19.7 inches | Oil | 2019



“Window”  
39.4 x 31.5 inches | Oil | 2019



"Watching a Sunset"  
23.6 x 35.4 inches | Oil | 2017



"Olive Grove"  
31.5 x 39.3 inches | Oil | 2019



“Pomegranate Still Life”  
25.2 x 31.5 inches | Oil | 2016



“Clouds, Building”  
47.2 x 59.1 inches | Oil on canvas | 2018



"Lilacs, Pecorino, Wine"  
39.3 x 55.1 inches | Oil | 2019



"Apricots and Laundry"  
31.5 x 43.2 inches | Oil on canvas | 2018



“Secret Beach Sailing”  
31.5 x 45.3 inches | Oil | 2017



“Greenport Basin”  
27.5 x 35.4 inches | Oil on canvas | 2018



“Spring Still Life”  
37.6 x 47.24 inches | Oil | 2019



"Poppies, Blue"  
27.6 x 23.6 inches | Oil | 2019



"Sunlit Interior"  
39.3 x 47.2 inches | Oil on canvas | 2018





“Yellow Teapot”  
21.6 x 25.6 inches | Oil | 2019



“Kitchen”  
27.5 x 35.4 inches | Oil | 2016



“Evening Cloud”  
25.4 x 49.2 inches | Oil | 2019



"Sun Bath Sketch"  
19.7 x 29.5 inches | Oil | 2019



"Light Through the Window"  
43.3 x 35.4 inches | Oil on canvas | 2017



“Cedar Point”  
\_\_ x \_\_ inches | Oil | 2xxx



“After a Storm”  
27.5 x 35.4 inches | Oil | 2017



“Red Shirt”  
39.3 x 31.5 inches | Oil | 2016



“Shelter Island Creek”  
27.5 x 35.5 inches | Oil on linen | 2017



“Summer Afternoon”  
39.3 x 47.2 inches | Oil on canvas | 2016



“Main Street”

31.5 x 25.5 inches | Oil on canvas | 2016



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[www.grenninggallery.com](http://www.grenninggallery.com)