

KARIN SANDERS FINE ART

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NEW SHOW OPENS LABOR DAY WEEKEND WITH ATMOSPHERIC WORKS OF PAINTER RICHARD BRUCE

Sag Harbor, August 23, 2006 – Ten recent works by abstract landscape painter Richard Bruce will be featured in a solo exhibition at Karin Sanders Fine Art from September 2 to October 26, 2006.

Bruce's sublime paintings, composed of vast expanses of water and sky separated by only an indication of horizon or land, evoke the luminous color fields of Rothko and the scenery of the Hudson River Valley. Although influenced by the artist's immediate bucolic surroundings in Cold Spring, New York, Bruce's paintings do not depict specific topographies; instead, his art attempts to capture the spiritual essence of a locale.

"Recently I have realized how little my paintings actually have to do with landscape. In fact, most landscape painting holds very little interest for me. I am not trying to create literal depictions of specific places, but am more interested in capturing the experience of the landscape, of being in nature and the inherent spirituality found there" says Bruce.

The incandescent light and gauzy atmospheric qualities that characterize Bruce's works are achieved through thin layers and glazes of acrylic paint. He paints directly onto wood panels ranging in size from 48" x 48" to 12" x 12."

"Being a big fan of the Abstract Expressionists, and especially Color Field painters such as Mark Rothko, this show is a personal favorite for me. Richard Bruce manages to reference the landscape while still remaining ambiguous. Both spirit and matter is existent in the work though one is not sure where they each begin or end," says gallery owner, Karin Sanders.

The public will have the opportunity to meet Richard Bruce at the opening reception on September 2, 2006 from 6-8pm.

About the Artist

Richard Bruce is a native of West Virginia who grew up at base of the Appalachian Mountains and on the shores of the Ohio River. After a brief period in North Carolina, he moved to New York City, where he lived for 10 years, knowing that some day he would return to a rural area. He found everything he was looking for in the Hudson Valley. He now lives in the village of Cold Spring and maintains a studio in the city of Beacon, where many artists have migrated in recent years.

Bruce writes: "My paintings have been heavily influenced by the Abstract Expressionist painters and, during my years in Manhattan, I had the great fortune to work with and get to know many of the greats, including Joan Mitchell, Milton Resnick and Louise Fishman. Abstract elements are still incorporated in my work, but now my paintings are much more informed by the area in which I live and the ethereal beauty of the Hudson Valley. The paintings are very much about the river and water. When I am not painting I spend a great deal of time kayaking on the river or hiking on the many trails in the area. I am also very concerned about the preservation and restoration of this environment and wonderful resource."

Bruce received the Hudson River Arts Award in May of 2006. He has had numerous solo exhibitions in New York City galleries and continues to show to great critical acclaim.

About Karin Sanders Fine Art

Karin Sanders Fine Art opened its doors on June 10, 2006, establishing itself as one of the largest and most prestigious gallery spaces on the East End. The gallery's mission is to combine scholarship with connoisseurship and to bridge the gap between the disparate worlds of academia and the art market. The international scope and high caliber of artists represented gives Karin Sanders Fine Art a distinctly New York character, while its commitment to arts education creates an aura of public accessibility. The gallery represents both emerging and established artists from around the globe.

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Photos are available upon request.

Gallery Hours: Sunday – Wednesday, 10-8
 Thursday – Saturday, 10-10
 Closed Tuesday