



ROBERT KIPNISS AND ROBERT NATKIN – TOGETHER AT THE WHITE GALLERY IN SEPTEMBER

September is the month for art in the Litchfield Hills as famed American artists Robert Kipniss and Robert Natkin exhibit together at The White Gallery in Lakeville. The exhibit opens on September 4th and runs through October 11th. An opening artists' reception was held on September 5th.

"This is a rare opportunity to showcase the work of two fine artists whose work are in some of the best known museums and art collections in the world," said Tino Galluzzo, director of The White Gallery. "Both artists have had careers that span many years, and a variety of differing art paradigms, and both have been true to the quality and content of what they paint and print. They are masters of their art and American art treasures."

Natkin is a painter of intensely colorful abstraction who was inspired by the color of Henri Matisse, Cezanne, and Paul Gray. During his 50 plus years painting, Natkin's work has evolved, changing from delicate nuance to much bolder and richer colors and forms. His love of color has evolved from his early days growing up in a Chicago neighborhood that was bleak – for the most part devoid of color as Natkin remembers it -- to a world flourishing in color. "Today our whole environment is beautiful," says Natkin, "our surroundings are full of color and life."

From canvas, to experimenting with different textured cloth wraps around sponges (intimate lighting), to paintings on paper (Bern) that allow him to "recapture the expressionism of his youth;" Natkin is always exploring new ways to convey his work.

Kipniss, who was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Society of American Graphic Artists, is widely known as an artist whose works evokes intense contemplation. His preferred medium of print for nearly 20 years was lithographs, but now he's concentrating on intaglio prints, primarily mezzotints – which make-up his upcoming exhibit. The art of the mezzotint is something that Kipniss has perfected over the years. His works are often characterized by a landscape or a simple setting with views of small towns featuring trees, houses, or both; and often includes closer views of isolated trees or branches.

Both artists' works can be seen in top galleries including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Whitney Museum of American Art, The Museum of Modern Art, The Art Institute of Chicago, British Museum, Library of Congress, The New York Public Library, Harvard University Art Museums, Yale University Art Gallery and more. Additionally, Natkin's giant murals adorn the walls of Baxter Laboratories Corporate Headquarters in Chicago, and 1211 Avenue of the Americas Rockefeller Center, NY.

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