



SHANE GUFFOGG

Shane Guffogg was born in Los Angeles and raised on an exotic bird farm in the San Joaquin Valley. His interest in painting began as a child and was cemented as teenager when he traveled to Europe at the age of 17 doing the traditional backpack and sleeping bag summer tour. In 1989 he traveled through the former Soviet Union, visiting many Soviet artists in their studios and the great Russian Museums. He received his B.F.A. from Cal Arts, and spent a semester in New York where he interned with Gary Stephan.

He relocated to Los Angeles, where he worked as a studio assistant for Ed Ruscha from 1989 to 1995. His work began exploring the iconography of Ancient, Classical, Renaissance, Modern, and Contemporary cultures, as well as the relationships among the various times and peoples. During this exploration he found that painting is one of the few art forms that may express what language cannot. The resulting work contains its own language of sign and symbol, and in its patterning, visual depth, and light, simultaneously seems to refer to emotion, to the human spirit, and to the unseen worlds of Quantum Physics and Super String Theory.

Guffogg works in oils on canvas and paper, and watercolor, gouache, and pastel on paper, in addition to traditional etchings on zinc plates. The size of the work ranges from the intimacy of 10" x 8" to the monumental 10' x 8.' His oils typically have 60-70 layers of translucent colors that have been mixed with a glazing medium in the fashion of the old masters, which causes the paintings to seem illuminated from within.

The artist makes his home in Hollywood with his wife and son. He is a founding member of *Pharmaka*, and he is currently working on a collaboration with the Murano Glass Masters for an upcoming show in Venice, Italy in the spring of 2005 and will also be exhibiting in 2005 in Rome at the Barone Odom Gallery.