INSIDE Art of the Nude • Collecting Fine Art in Charleston • Cheech Marin

AMERICAN
OCTOBER 2010

COLLECTOR



## **UPCOMING SHOW**

Up to 25 works Sept. 6-Oct. 15, 2010 Caldwell Snyder Gallery 341 Sutter Street San Francisco, CA 94108 (415) 392-2299

## Melissa Chandon

## New perspectives

apturing slices of American landscape in vivid bursts of color, Melissa Chandon's paintings resemble a charmed travelogue. Houses rest on bright green lawns beneath sunny skies; vintage cars putter down deserted highways shaded with palm trees. Chandon credits childhood roadtrips for her love of classic Americana: "To this day, I find roadside vernacular fascinating—

cars, gas stations, motels, billboard signs—and I feel it is important to document this era before it disappears."

"Since this exhibition is in the San Francisco gallery, verses the New York gallery or the gallery in St. Helena, I chose to incorporate some images from the Bay Area for the show," says Chandon, who has experimented with new subject matter for this

show, like sailboats in dry docks. "I work from photographs that I take so for this exhibition there have been many photo excursions in and around the Bay seeing what strikes my eye. The paintings for the show include shots from the Berkeley Marina to San Francisco cityscapes and other roadside vernacular."

One constant reoccurring theme in Chandon's work is her strong use of color and



Thunderbird, acrylic on organic canvas, 48 x 60"

## The Collector Says . . .

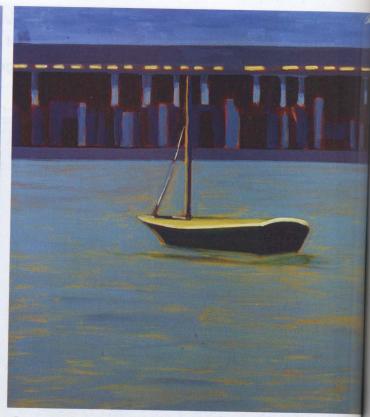
"Chandon has developed an effective synthesis of abstract and representational elements in her works. This gives the works an intensity and raw graphic power to behold."

- Wayne Thiebaud, Artist





VW Bus in Berkeley Marina, acrylic on canvas, 36 x 36"



Green Sail Boat in Marina, acrylic on canvas, 36 x 36"



Melissa Chandon in studio.



that is

our da

emails,

name a

164



Post Modern House with Ocean View, acrylic on canvas, 30 x 30"

her edited or simplified narrative.

"My overall concern with any painting is that it has a striking and edited composition that speaks my own individual language. I am interested in addressing how we experience our daily lives and how we are virtually over stimulated visually through media; television, emails, newspapers, billboard signs, just to name a few," says Chandon. "I like to think of my work as being visually strong enough to grab

one's attention and at the same time provided an edited—hopefully tranquil environment to rest one's eyes and mind."

Chandon was recently inspired by a quote from Anais Nin: "We don't see things as they are; we see things as we are."

"This was very significant to me when I read it. It speaks to the relationship that exists between the painter, the individuals who look at or who collect the work and the painting," says

Chandon. "I think that is what art is all about, be it a poem, a painting or film. It is about that relationship formed between individuals around a work of art, and in the process, giving new insight and meaning to the work."

For a direct link to the exhibiting gallery go to

www.americanartcollector.com