

## UPCOMING SHOW

*Up to 15 works on show*  
February 13-26, 2009  
Scottsdale Fine Art  
7116 E. Main Street  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251  
(480) 990-3100

• SHOW LOCATION SCOTTSDALE, AZ



# DAVID GRAY

## Through the painter's eye

**D**avid Gray continues to tap into viewers' aesthetic sense with paintings that display an affinity for the classical tradition. Each piece represents an intense exploration and refinement of Gray's personal pictorial sensibilities; especially as they relate to beauty, form, light and shade, composition, color, and craftsmanship.

Mostly self-taught, this Washington artist skillfully depicts still life and figurative subjects in a classical realist style. His new paintings represent a refinement and maturity not seen in earlier work. His familiar subject matter communicates a sense of beauty, order, and a pleasing yet not wholly definable mood.

"My paintings are less about trying

to find something and more about how I discovered ways to communicate," says Gray. "In every painting I want to give a sense of real presence. I want to convince the viewer this is a real object."

Gray's latest paintings are more monochromatic. While within a painting it might look warm, he says, there are actually both warm and cool colors in each image.



ECHO, OIL ON CANVAS, 16 X 20"



PITCHERS, OIL ON CANVAS, 16 X 32"



MELODY, OIL ON PANEL, 9 X 12"



GOLDENHAIR, OIL ON PANEL, 9 X 12"



SILVER PLATE, OIL ON CANVAS, 16 X 32"



OCTOBER SHAPES, OIL ON CANVAS, 14 X 28"

### *The Gallery Says . . .*

**“Collectors are drawn to David Gray’s work by the exceptional beauty and flawless depiction of his subject matter, whether it’s still life or figurative. David’s still life paintings are sumptuous and his inherent reverence for the female form is captured in each masterful figurative painting. If his current popularity is any indicator as to where he’s going as an artist, he has a long and illustrious career ahead of him.”**

— *Beth Lauterbach, Owner, Scottsdale Fine Art*

“I enjoy grays and whites and things that don’t have a distinct local color,” says Gray.

“I enjoy composing images with those kinds of colors because it gives me the opportunity to explore warm and cool color relationships.”

Gray paints daily and often composes a piece based on the interplay of shapes, which is particularly evident in his still lifes.

“They’re all about shape, and I feel like they communicate what I want to say,” says Gray. “I’m not going to make an arrangement of tin cans or modern appliances that doesn’t appeal to me aesthetically. I’m using things that have a timeless feel. What’s more important to me is pleasing shapes and how they’re arranged, and tonal values.”

The piece titled *Pitchers* reflects the timeless quality Gray strives for. Here, he arranges a 100-year-old white enamel pitcher with an antique silver one next to a little modern white pitcher from IKEA.

“But it has a beautiful shape and fits in there,” he adds.

Gray thinks abstractly and intuitively when composing a picture. In his figurative works, he simplifies the subject by focusing only on the head adorned with drapery, such as a turban or ribbon. Collectors respond well to his turban-clad female figures, creating a demand for such images.

“I like folds and fabric, and I started doing heads because I like coming up with convincing flesh tones,” says Gray. “For me, it’s not about the figure or a narrative; it’s about shape and light. The abstract qualities in my paintings are more important to me than the actual recognizable subject matter.”

Several of Gray’s figures communicate a minimalist statement in a tonalist fashion; there’s only the subject with no supporting material, as illustrated in *Echo*.

“A viewer is forced to decide if the head is enough. I think it is,” says Gray. “I think *Echo* is intriguing because the face—the focal point of the picture—is in shadow. Usually

a focal point will be clearly lit.”

Whether creating still lifes or figures, shapes, values, and a sense of being bring continuity to Gray’s work.

“People will see I’ve reached a certain level of maturity where I feel like I’ve tapped into who I am as an artist, and I’ve reached a level of competence in my ability to communicate that,” Gray says. ●

For a direct link to the exhibiting gallery go to



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

### *Price Range Indicator*

*Our at-a-glance Price Range Indicator shows what you can expect to pay for this artist’s work.*

	Small	Medium	Large
2009	\$1,850-\$2,650	\$2,650-\$4,550	\$5,000-\$8,000