

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“Light Matters” Clifford Smith

Opening Reception Saturday, June 2nd 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Exhibition Summary:

Scott White Contemporary Art is pleased to present a debut exhibition by preeminent artist, Clifford Smith: Light Matters. The exhibition of all new paintings will be available for viewing beginning Saturday, June 2 through Saturday, July 14th. An artist reception will be held in the gallery on Saturday, June 2, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm.

“Light Matters” is a collection of 14 original oil-on-linen paintings. Debut works, this exhibition showcases the diversity of Clifford's subject matter – captured moments in time handled with a precise, yet painterly delivery. Well known for his marine seascapes and landscapes, Smith captures the essence of time, place and light and engages the viewer with his broader observations of the movement and energy of nature and experience.

Smith integrates the *human reality* in works where the subjects are both urban and rural landscapes. His paintings personify the vivid tension between two-dimensional surfaces and three-dimensional reality.

About the Artist

Best known for his photo-realistic works of oil on linen and paper, Smith has been showing in New York and nationally since 1976.

Smith's paintings attempt to render the movement and sound of nature, depicting a style much like Gerhard Richter's blurred photo-paintings. His photo-realistic canvases follow the motion of nature, often juxtaposed with contemporary industrial landscapes. His well known “ocean field” paintings depict the surface of water, the movement of waves rendered blurred to evoke a constant state of movement between water, surf and foam. Although Richter's blurred masterpieces come to mind when looking at his work, Smith's process of painting is entirely organic. Although Smith uses photographs as a reference for his images, he does not project the photo onto the canvas as Richter did.

What motivates Smith is a desire to “get beyond the physical essence of something,” to express a broader understanding of it. “When I'm looking at a landscape, that landscape is alive,” Smith says, “and I'm responding to what I know and feel about it.”

Smith was born in Passaic, New Jersey. He earned his B.S. from Southern Connecticut State College in New Haven, in 1973, and his M.F.A. from Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, in 1979. His work can be found in numerous public collections, including the American Stock Exchange, New York; New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord; and Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut. The artist currently resides in New Hampshire.

Gallery Information

Scott White Contemporary Art has assisted in developing private and public collections for over two decades. Since 1991, the gallery has committed itself to the promotion of emerging and mid-career artists, the majority of which are represented in the permanent collections of museums throughout the world. SWCA features contemporary painting, prints, sculptures, and photography from the United States, Canada and Europe. In addition, Scott White Contemporary Art represents private collections and estates for the acquisition and deaccessioning of artwork and significant modern and contemporary artists.

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