

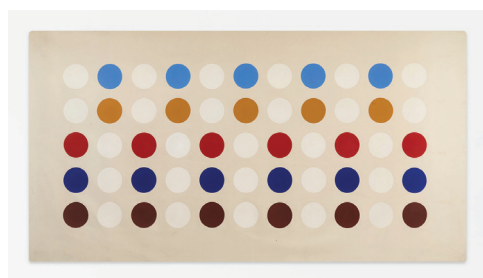
Gary Snyder Fine Art MT at ExpoChicago 2023

Gary Snyder Fine Art MT returns to ExpoChicago with a booth titled **Discovery and Rediscovery**, reflecting his 40 years of championing more historically rooted and under-recognized artists alongside Montana based artist Ben Miller. Following last year's presentation in EXPO's Profile section, Ben Miller will once again cast his fly rod, this year to capture the rhythms and textures of Lake Michigan. Miller will be stationed on the Navy Pier April 11 and 12 prior to EXPO Chicago's opening on Thursday, April 13. Proceeds from the sale of the painting will benefit NRDC (Natural Resources Defense Counsel).

The five artists in the ReDiscovery section – Thomas Downing, Peter Pinchbeck, Ralph Rosenborg, Janet Sobel, and Vivian Springford – all died in relative art world obscurity. Only Pinchbeck received a New York Times obituary upon his death in 2000 (Janet Sobel, who died in 1968, received a Times *Overlooked No More* obituary in 2021.) Through careful nurturing of these under-recognized artists, Snyder has sought to reclaim their rightful historic stature.

Sobel's ascendancy is evidenced in two forthcoming solo museum shows – *Janet Sobel - Wartime*, opening April 27, 2023 at The Ukrainian Museum in New York City, and *Janet Sobel - All-Over* at The Menil Foundation in Houston in February 2024.

Springford's work appears in the current *Action, Gesture, Paint - Women Artists and Global Abstraction* exhibition at Whitechapel Gallery in London, and was included in the groundbreaking show *Women of Abstract Expressionism* at the Denver Art Museum in 2016.



Downing's stature has risen with the reappraisal of the Washington Color School, and his paintings, along with Sobel's and Springford's now sell well into six figures.

Rosenborg was a founding member of the American Abstract Artists group in 1937, and showed with the legendary Willard Gallery in the early 1940s. Rejecting the admonitions of his friends Jackson Pollock and Willem de Kooning to "paint large," Rosenborg produced a body of intimate expressionist landscape and floral paintings until his death in 1992.

Pinchbeck rose to recognition in the seminal *Primary Structures* exhibition at the Jewish Museum in 1966 but later turned his back on the art world. An ArtForum reviewer wrote in

2009, "Largely ignored during his lifetime, he in turn largely ignored his contemporaries to work in self-imposed isolation as a stubborn avant-garde of one at the century's end. Uninterested in the essentially conceptual, self-conscious historicism he saw in the painting around him, he chose instead to engage art history in an integral, recuperative way, acting on his faith in abstraction's ability to articulate the mystery of being."

Snyder has presented Ben Miller in three solo exhibitions in the Bozeman, Montana area over the last three years. Miller's painting process is documented in acclaimed filmmaker Manabu Inada's *Rhythms of the River* (which can be seen at www.benmillerartist.com). The Japanese clothing company Nepenthes has created two lines of outdoor wear from his designs. Miller has collaborated with Friends of the Chicago River (EXPO 2022) and MANA Contemporary, to paint the Hudson and Hackensack Rivers.



Ben Miller comes out of a Western tradition of *wilderness artist* that harkens back to Charles Russell in the late 1800s, continues on through the early American modernists such as Georgia O'Keeffe and Arthur Dove, and arguably most radically manifests in Cody, Wyoming-born Jackson Pollock. Miller models an immersion in the natural world that offers a lesson for those of us too much in cities and tethered to technology. His unconventional adaptation of a fly rod

as his painting method conjures a felt, transcendent, natural algorithm unifying agent and action, time and place.

For further information, contact Gary Snyder at gary@gsfamt.com.

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Images

Janet Sobel *untitled (JS-062)*, c.1948 mixed media on canvas board 20" x 16"

Thomas Downing *Grid Ten Saranac*, 1969 acrylic on canvas 8 ½' x 16 ½'

Ben Miller, photograph by Jon Dodson

Ben Miller *Madison River, MT 8/15/22, 2022* acrylic on polycarbonate 36" x 48"

Images available upon request.