

Essential Art:
Work by Blue Mountain Gallery Artists during the Pandemic

June – October 2020

Essential Art SPOTLIGHT

MEG LEVESON : Coming back to painting



After the death of my husband, in 2018, I didn't know if I would ever paint again. Being forced to self-isolate brought me back to myself. I realized that I had to paint. It was what gave meaning to my life. This has been the most important consequence of my being sequestered in my Brooklyn home: it has brought me back to painting.

The first painting I worked on during this period was the view from my studio window with my cat as witness to what passed there. This was essentially a Plein Air painting.

Quarantine Views 24 x 18" oil on linen

I then delved into subjects that had interested me over the years, using photographs I had taken while working in the field. I realized that the meaning for me lay in the process of developing an image. Exploring ways of applying the paint to develop my subject. This is a work in progress. The paintings shown here are examples of this work.



Reflections 30x24" oil on linen Sunbathing in Prospect Park 18x24" oil on linen

What has also sustained me during this period is my close contact with fellow artist and friend Helene Manzo through email and phone calls. Also, having the time to read books has proved very stimulating, in particular *9th Street Women*, as well as art books in my vast collection. I want to say too that seeing the postings of members of Blue Mountain Gallery, including Carol Heft, Janet Sawyer, and Elizabeth Bisbing, has been inspirational. Facebook postings by Naomi Nemptow, Marie Roberts, and Inverna Lockpez have put me in touch with the work of other artists whom I would not normally have contact with. These people have shown me how great the creative spirit can be.



The Bushkill 30x24" oil on linen



The Lullwater, Prospect Park 40x30" oil on canvas