

VICTORIA
MUNROE
GALLERY

PRESS RELEASE

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SAM GLANKOFF: WORK FROM 1940-1982
PETER SCHROTH: PAINTINGS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(212) 226-0400
January 22 through
February 23, 1991

From January 22 – February 23, 1991, the Victoria Munroe Gallery will present two exhibitions: SAM GLANKOFF (1894-1982) Work from 1940-1982 and the small oil landscapes of PETER SCHROTH.

Viewed by very few in his lifetime, SAM GLANKOFF's impressive body of work is a unique development in the history of 20th century works on paper. Determined to voice specific abstract events of color and texture, Glankoff invented an elaborate process whereby he painted directly on wood templates and transferred many layers of painting wet paper by hand. This idiosyncratic method, now called "print painting," with all of its subtle practicalities, enabled Glankoff to express his joyous abstractions in a lucid, sympathetic medium all his own.

This exhibition begins with woodcuts and their original blocks from the 1940s, and proceeds to document the artists shift from the traditional woodcut to his later works in which he combined elements of woodcut, monotype and direct painting techniques. The lively fusion of textures from the materials – wood and rice paper – with the vibrant color saturation resulting from multiple translucent layers of water-based inks, creates a profound resonance in Glankoff's animated, mythic forms.

Glankoff lived and worked in New York City most of his life, showing his work rarely – at the Whitney Studio Club a few times in the 1920s and much later at the Graham Gallery in 1981. Making his living drawing for *True Comics* and designing toys such as the original three-dimensional "Babar" and Dr. Seuss' "Cat in the Hat," Glankoff made no effort to push his art into the public eye. As a result, his audience has grown and his recognition among museum curators has been established solely by word of mouth. Glankoff's work is in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum and the Detroit Institute of the Arts, among other institutions.

In February we are also pleased to present the first New York exhibition of small oil paintings by Peter Schroth. Schroth's re-examination of the pastoral landscape is full of longing for the forgotten corners of America. Using every square inch within their handmade painted frames to stretch our experience of the serenity of nature, Schroth achieves a mysterious, often brooding calm. Not a soul is in sight. And yet, one feels the presence of humanity deeply in these paintings. Whether he is painting an urban marshland with a factory in the distance or a reddening autumn field, Schroth's work expresses an intelligent, gently surreal response to the condition of his subject. With an invisible handling of small brushstrokes and a delicate palette, Schroth paints intimate monuments of reverie.

Peter Schroth has shown extensively in exhibitions around the country and he has been the recipient of numerous fellowships, including the MacDowell Colony, Yaddo and the Millay Colony.

Gallery Hours are Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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