



After the Storm

Paintings
by Stephen Hutchings

After the Storm, 2015, oil and charcoal on canvas, 46 x 66 x 1.5 inches

Stephen Hutchings' work is based in drawing, an interest he has had since childhood. Hutchings' academic background includes studies in biology, literature and fine art, graduating with a degree in Art History. On a technical level, his paintings combine 19th Century photographic techniques with charcoal drawing directly on the canvas. Colour is applied through the application of layers of oil glazes, or tints; each canvas may receive up to ten such layers. The final result is a presentation of the unique refinement and energetic qualities that only a drawing can provide.

Artist Statement

Once the dark clouds have moved off, once the wind has settled down and the rain has subsided, perhaps a patch of blue appears in the sky. Perhaps a soft yellow light infuses the air and swirls of colour enliven the depths of the shadows. After the storm, the world is charged with an expectant energy: a kind of frisson that hovers between hope and relief. The paintings in this show address this moment — when the ravages of a furious energy have waned and a suffusing, gentle light seeps into our world.

The storm is, of course, metaphoric. The light is actually just paint-on-canvas. And the landscapes are more emotive than descriptive. Nonetheless, the moment when our world shifts, when our spirit rises, when we move into the spaces that open up before us — this is a subjective reality that transforms our everyday world into a future of possibility. _Stephen Hutchings

Stephen Hutchings, born in Halifax in 1948, lives and works in Ottawa, ON. Hutchings received a B.A. in Art History from the University of Toronto and attended the Ontario College of Art in the early 1970's. His work can be found in numerous museum, corporate and public collections. Hutchings art has been featured in a number of museum exhibitions over the span of his career. Fury 2012 features 8 x 8 ft. paintings depicting storms and cyclones for the Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa Ontario. In 2010, The Glenbow Museum in Calgary, Alberta mounted a major exhibition of Hutchings work: Landscapes for the End of Time, featuring a number of 18 ft. canvases which is currently traveling across Canada. A hard covered book was published to accompany the show and is available through the Jennifer Kostuik Gallery.

All images for the exhibition are listed under Stephen Hutchings at:
<http://www.kostuikgallery.com>

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