

## UPCOMING SHOW

*Up to 20 works on show*

Jan. 24-Feb. 14, 2009

Addison Gallery

345 Plaza Real

Boca Raton, FL 33432

(561) 338-9007

• SHOW LOCATION BOCA RATON, FL



# RICHARD S. JOHNSON

## Captured in time

Richard S. Johnson continues to expound on his expressive skill for capturing the human form, especially the female figure. While he continues to bring a luminescent beauty and lyrical quality reminiscent of the Old Masters and pre-Raphael romanticism to the canvas, his latest paintings also include the male figure. In an effort to bring more variety to his work, Johnson's second solo show at Addison Gallery, titled *Captured in Time*, will include both figurative and landscapes as well as some pencil drawings and scenes of Nigeria.

Johnson describes his style as representational bent toward abstract backgrounds.

"I like to think of myself as following in the footsteps of John Singer Sargent, N.C. Wyeth and Charles Dana Gibson," he says.

While his subjects remain mostly the same, Johnson has made improvements behind the scenes that are unnoticeable to the average eye. This show also will include two larger pieces: *Prayer* and *Misty*. In both scenes Johnson uses his daughter Brywn as the model. These paintings illustrate how Johnson aims for contrast in his works with deep darks and reflective light, using the main light source to highlight the model's face and shoulders, emitting bright spots of illumination.

Johnson uses a new model in his paintings titled *Amber*, *Luxuriant Sea of Flowers* and *Golden Dreams*. The model is actually a national figure skater named Taylor who grew up with his daughter. Taylor's coach is Frank Carroll, Michelle Kwan's coach for 10 years and is currently the primary coach of Evan Lysacek and Beatrisa Liang, among others.

"I never worked with Taylor before and it was fun to try someone new,"



MISTY, OIL ON CANVAS, 36 X 24"



MONA, OIL, 30 X 40"

### *The Gallery Says . . .*

**"The luminescent beauty and lyrical quality of Richard Johnson's work is what captivates collectors today. Old Masters technical virtuosity, pre-Raphael romanticism and contemporary expressionism and abstraction all combine to create his unique works of touching depth and artistry."**

— *Patricia Bowe, Owner, Addison Gallery*

says Johnson.

*Luxuriant Sea of Flowers* was inspired by a neighbor's garden that he can observe from his window.

"I can see the different seasonal flowers coming up, so when I saw orange lilies in the background and flocks of

hydrangea, the combination was so lovely that we went over there and put Taylor in the scene," says Johnson.

Inspired by the light of the day and his surroundings, Johnson often titles his work after the moment or color combination rather than someone's name,

as in *Amber*. A beautiful summer day and his new hammock provide the backdrop for *Golden Dreams*.

"I always wanted to paint a girl in a hammock. I added the flowers deliberately for color balance," he says. "It's a technical challenge creating an image or a mood

**BRONZE AND GOLD,**  
OIL ON CANVAS, 20 X 16"

that someone will look at and say it's reminiscent of a time, yet half the fun is creating that mood."

Johnson's background as an illustrator shines in his two new paintings titled *Crimson Night* and *The Knockout*.

"I like these because they're both different," he says. "As an illustrator I had two file cabinets of every conceivable subject so I went to the boxing file and found 10 to 15 exciting images. I had a lot of fun with it because it's a boxing scene and dramatic lighting."

Johnson hopes his collectors appreciate the growth and cultural diversity in his new work.

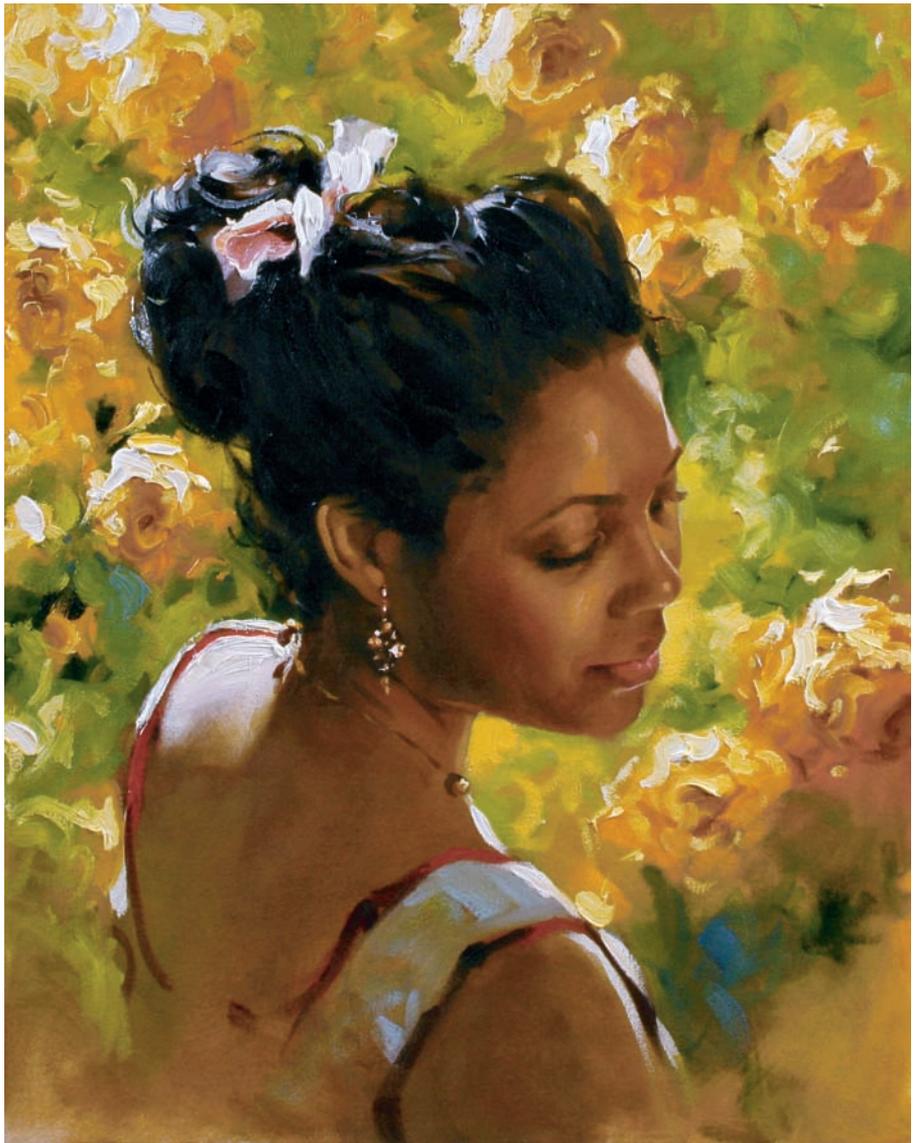
"The fact that I'm not limited to a lovely girl in a lovely moment of repose, which I'll continue, but I can do the male figure in action," he adds.

Other examples of Johnson's diversification can be seen in his Nigeria paintings titled *Bronze and Gold* and *Mona*. Attracted to the Nigerians native brightly colored garb, the images are based on photos taken by his friend Beatrice Kadangs, who started The Gwaimen Center in her home of Kwoi, Nigeria, a self-sufficiency center for widows and orphans of HIV/AIDS.

"I was so touched by them that I knew I had to paint these scenes. I am also donating part of the proceeds of the sale of these paintings to the center," says Johnson. "Usually the story that we hear of the AIDS epidemic in Africa is one of hopelessness and despair, but The Gwaimen Center is different. I am so honored to be a small part of it." ●

For a direct link to the  
exhibiting gallery go to 

[www.americanartcollector.com](http://www.americanartcollector.com)



LUXURIANT SEA OF FLOWERS, OIL ON CANVAS, 18 X 24"

## Price Range Indicator

Our at-a-glance Price Range Indicator shows what you can expect to pay for this artist's work.

	Small	Medium	Large
2009	\$3,200	\$5,000	\$7,700



AMBER, OIL ON CANVAS, 30 X 24"