

Detail from *Barbara Malicoat*

PHILIP MALICOAT

LARGE WORKS

June 10–July 24, 2022

Curated by Breon Dunigan and Robena Malicoat



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PHILIP MALICOAT



Detail from *Self Portrait*

Philip Malicoat painted for over 50 years in Provincetown. He arrived in 1929 to study with Charles W. Hawthorne at the Cape Cod School of Art and immediately found his artistic home.

Between his studio in Provincetown and his trips to Europe, Malicoat produced a serious body of work that is unique for his subtle use of color and for what Ronald Kuchta described in Provincetown Painters as a sense of vastness and mystery in nature.

Malicoat was well respected by his fellow artists and his students during his lifetime.

The consistent and high quality of his painting is evident in this body of large scale paintings produced in his Provincetown studio.

It is a great pleasure to present these works at the Provincetown Art Association and Museum, an organization that he was devoted to and where he exhibited regularly from 1930-1979.

Growing up in our family, creating was as natural as breathing. Be it the lovingly crafted clothes we wore, our handmade toys, or the musical instruments we played, there was always an artist's hand involved. In our childhood, our grandfather, Philip Cecil Malicoat (1908–1981) was the patriarch of this hive of creativity. He and his wife Barbara Haven Malicoat fostered and supported that creative spirit at home and in their community.

From a child's perspective, Phil was two distinctly different people. To us he was the playful, mischievous, funny and supportive grandfather who enjoyed having 6 granddaughters. He was the host of Sunday picnics at the "shack" with extended family and friends. The man who always showered and looked his best on Saturday nights when headed to the Beachcombers.

Yet we were always keenly aware of the other Philip Malicoat. The ARTIST. We understood his important place in the art history of



Detail from *Interior*

Provincetown. The painter who retreated to his studio daily and who we knew, though it was unspoken, not to disturb. His studio was dark and moody, full of artifacts and enormous, looming paintings. Still lifes were set up and not to be touched. Sometimes there were nude models or students taking class. There was always classical music.

It was the place where most of the paintings in this exhibition were created. We understood it to be a sacred space, the only connection to the outside world being the intercom connected to the kitchen so he could be called in for lunch. It was a place we were in awe of, and a little overwhelmed by. On rare occasions we would be invited in to have our portrait drawn or to model for one of his classes and those invitations felt like a special adventure and one to be taken seriously.

As adults and both artists we have grown keenly aware of the importance of that sacred space.

With the Bach Cello Concertos in the background, we remember and imagine the ARTIST Philip Malicoat creating these paintings. We understand his need for time and space to think and to paint. We are pleased to have the opportunity to share these monumental studio paintings together for the first time in nearly 45 years.

Many thanks to all of those who have helped make this show possible. Extensive restoration work was necessary to prepare many of these paintings for exhibition. Special thanks to Michael Carroll, Kristina Bird and Debra Dickinson. Thanks to Jim Zimmerman for always making things look beautiful and Seth Abrahamson for always being game.

—Breon Dunigan and Robena Malicoat

PHILIP MALICOAT



Detail from untitled (landscape)

Biographic Notes

Born, 1908, Indianapolis Indiana

Attended John Heron Institute,
Indianapolis, Indiana 1927–1929

Studied painting Cape Cod School of Arts with
Charles W. Hawthorne, 1929 and 1930; with
Henry Hensche, Cape School of Art, 1931 and
1932

Studied drawing with Edwin
Dickinson, winter 1931–1932

Permanent home, Provincetown,
Massachusetts, 1931

Worked on W.P.A. project, 1932

Taught drawing and painting privately and
under the sponsorship of the Cape Cod Art
Association, Hyannis, Massachusetts; Nauset
Painters, Orleans, Massachusetts; Falmouth

Artist's Guild, Falmouth, Massachusetts;
and the Cape Cod School of Music and Art,
Barnstable, Massachusetts

Painted in France and Greece,
winter, 1955–1956

Painted a year in France, 1960–1961

Painted in France and Greece,
winter, 1966–1967

Painted in Ireland, 1978 and 1980

Included in many private collections and has
works in the Hirshhorn Museum, Washington,
D.C.; the Rochester Museum, Rochester, New
York; The Chrysler Museum, Norfolk, Virginia;
the Provincetown Art Association and Museum,
Provincetown, Massachusetts, and the Cape
Cod Museum of Art, Dennis, Massachusetts.



Detail from *Variations On A Theme*

PHILIP MALICOAT



Detail from *Chess Players*

All works courtesy of the Philip Malicoat estate

Arrangement In The Dunes, 1935

Oil on linen, 64" x 73"

Barbara Malicoat, 1932

Oil on linen, 40" x 50"

Chess Players, 1937

Oil on linen, 50" x 42"

Figure Composition, 1964

Oil on linen, 46" x 40"

Interior, 1972

Oil on linen, 40" x 46"

Margaret (Nude), 1967–68

Oil on linen, 61" x 54"

My Backyard, 1972

Oil on linen, 54" x 60"

Reflection, 1969

Oil on linen, 50" x 44"

Self Portrait, 1969

Oil on linen, 29" x 23"

Sonata Players, 1935–36

Oil on linen, 36" x 32"

Storm Over Sea, 1967

Oil on linen, 48" x 40"

Three Seasons, 1965

Oil on linen, 80" x 160"

Variations On A Theme, 1968

Oil on linen, 48" x 30"

untitled (landscape), 1975

Oil on linen, 70" x 60"

untitled (figure on blanket), 1975

Oil on linen, 48" x 40"



Detail from *My Backyard*

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