

SKY POWER

Sky Power, born 1951 in Lubbock, Texas, has lived and worked in Provincetown since 1976. While attending the Cornish School of Allied Arts in Seattle, WA in 1971, Power mentored with Dale Owen, who was then Dean. During 2010 through 2013, the artist studied with painters Paul Resika, Selina Trieff, and Robert Henry, all of whom were Hans Hofmann students in the 1940's and 1950's. Since 2004, Power has been an exhibiting artist at Berta Walker Gallery in Provincetown, and for the past four decades has exhibited at various galleries and museums including George Billis Gallery in New York, NY, the U.S. Embassy in Muscat, Oman, New Britain Museum of American Art, Westmoreland Museum of American Art, Wichita Art Museum, Cape

Cod Museum of Art, Cahoon Museum, and Provincetown Art Association and Museum. The artist's work is included in the permanent collections of PAAM and the U.S. Embassy, Valletta, Malta. Power's vision returns abstraction to its earliest roots, that of a bridge between the material and spiritual worlds. Her work is color-infused and evocative, emphasizing the horizon to depict the intimate landscape with the infinite sky and vast sea. Andre van der Wende wrote in Cape Arts Review in 2009, "Within fields of strong clean color and forceful gestures of oil paint – drips and splatters rain freely – Power's work is spirited and energetic, deep and soulful, a winning combination of rapture and reserve."



Detail from *Self Allowing Other to Enter*

Detail of *Interior of a Landscape*

SKY POWER: BECKONING COLOR

May 5–June 25, 2023

Curated by Chris McCarthy



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Detail from *Points of Vision*

The Provincetown Art Association and Museum's visionary commitment to the arts is perhaps best exemplified by the rich group of artists who make up the fabric of the oldest continuous arts colony in America. Since the nineteenth century, American artists, from the beginner to the avant-garde, have been drawn to Provincetown as a site of inspiration. The reasons are many and complex; however, the lure of the landscape and the desire to experience its natural beauty are certainly in the forefront. The elements and the inexplicable light certainly have laid the groundwork for Sky Power as we celebrate her solo exhibition.

On the occasion of *Sky Power: Beckoning Color*, twenty-five works of art, spanning five decades, were selected not only to enforce Power's place within the Art Colony, but her direct impact as a Provincetown painter.

Instead of focusing on one particular series, or body of work, I chose to include artworks from differing series and decades to demonstrate the full scope of Power's career. That the Provincetown Art Association and Museum has organized this project is altogether fitting. Power first came to Provincetown in 1976 and discovered a vibrant art colony. Her various jobs— from owning a horse and buggy business to chef to piano tuner to gallery director— shaped her creative life which has resulted in an exquisite body of work driven from nature and the natural landscape of Outer Cape Cod. I commend Sky for her self-discovery—experimenting, studying, teaching and pushing herself to become a master colorist.

—Chris McCarthy, Chief Executive Officer and Curator, PAAM

ARTWORK LIST

A Dream in a Dream, 2013

Oil on canvas, 24" x 30"

Courtesy of Berta Walker Gallery

A Poem of Fire and Water, 2014

Oil and pencil on canvas, 30" x 40"

Courtesy of Berta Walker Gallery

Anchored by the Sea, 2008

Oil on canvas, 24" x 30"

Courtesy of Berta Walker Gallery

Beyond the Horizon, 2009

Oil on panel, 20" x 34"

Courtesy of the artist

Breakwater, 2018

Oil on panel, 11" x 14"

Private Collection

Clear Water, 2009

Oil on panel, 24" x 36"

Private Collection

Duet, 2022

Oil and charcoal on canvas, 16" x 20"

Courtesy of Berta Walker Gallery

Fire Within, 2011

Oil on canvas, 24" x 30"

Courtesy of Berta Walker Gallery

Ikage #28, 2000

Oil and pencil on panel, 24" x 24"

Courtesy of Berta Walker Gallery

Interior of a Landscape, 2007

Oil on canvas, 48" x 60"

PAAM Collection, Gift of Berta Walker, 2014

Our Changing Climate, 2021

Oil on canvas, 24" x 30"

Courtesy of Berta Walker Gallery

Points of Vision, 2004

Acrylic and pencil on paper, 24" x 24"

Private Collection

Self Allowing Other to Enter, 2002

Oil on panel, 24" x 24"

Courtesy of Berta Walker Gallery

Shelter, II, 2022

Oil on panel, 11" x 14"

Courtesy of Berta Walker Gallery

Solace, 2006

Oil on cradled boards, 18" x 72"

Courtesy of Berta Walker Gallery

Still Life in the Dunes, 2013

Oil on canvas, 30" x 40"

Courtesy of Berta Walker Gallery

Talking Leaves #6, 2001

Oil on panel, 12" x 12"

Courtesy of Berta Walker Gallery

Taming the Fire, 2004

Acrylic on panel, 48" x 48"

Courtesy of Berta Walker Gallery

The Flats (High Summer), 2020

Oil on panel, 11" x 14"

Courtesy of Berta Walker Gallery

The Gift, 2016

Oil on canvas, 24" x 30"

Courtesy of Berta Walker Gallery

The Middle Passage: View from the Ship's Hull, 2002

Oil on panel and padauk wood, 25" x 25"

Courtesy of Berta Walker Gallery

The Poet's Train, 2012

Oil on canvas, 36" x 48"

PAAM Collection, Gift of the artist in memory of Richard McCann (1949-2021), 2021

The Warming Sun, 2017

Oil on canvas, 24" x 30"

Courtesy of Berta Walker Gallery

Transformation, 2020

Oil and pencil on panel, 11" x 14"

Courtesy of Berta Walker Gallery

Waking Up, 1972

Acrylic and oil crayon on illustration board, 22" x 30"

Courtesy of the artist