

# FINE ART CONNOISSEUR



JUNE 2018



## GATHER YE ROSEBUDS WHILE YE MAY

**IT** begins in childhood when toddlers — moving closer to the ground than the rest of us — pick flowers in a garden or park. Perhaps it's their pleasing colors, or the fragrant scents, or the likelihood that Mom will be pleased with the resulting bouquet. Whatever the reason, humans seem to be hard-wired to enjoy — even cherish — flowers, so it's no surprise that visual artists have for centuries expressed their own admiration in diverse ways.

On offer here is a profusion of blooms created in different media, sometimes seen on their own, other times set into architectural or environmental contexts. Most of these images exult in nature's beauty, while others are rather symbolist in their layered meanings; there are even a few reminding us that flowers' beauty, like life itself, does not endure forever.

At last, springtime is upon us, so enjoy this bouquet, and be sure to appreciate the “real” flowers in your nearest garden or park, too. ●

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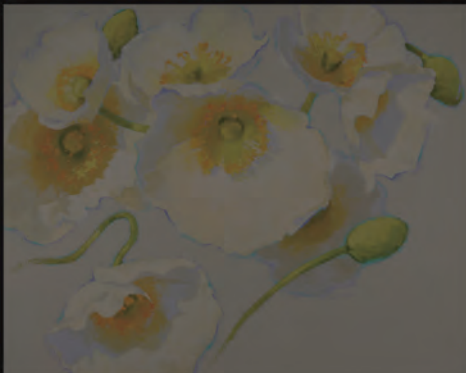
(TOP LEFT) **JEFFREY VAUGHN** (b. 1953), *Last Light*, 2018, oil and acrylic on canvas, 40 x 40 in., Arcadia Contemporary, Los Angeles ■ (TOP RIGHT) **KATIE MUSOLFF** (b. 1982), *Dismantled*, 2017, watercolor on paper, 12 x 10 in., private collection



**PATRICIA LASPINO** (b. 1955)  
*Awakening*, 2017, oil on canvas  
36 x 36 in., collection of the artist



**BRETT SCHEIFFLEE** (b. 1986)  
*August Sunflowers*, 2017  
Oil on panel, 12 x 8 1/2 in.  
Ann Korologos Gallery, Basalt, CO



**SHIRLEY NOVAK** (b. 1946)  
*White Whimsey*, 2017  
Acrylic on canvas, 48 x 60 in.  
Sorrel Sky Gallery, Santa Fe and Durango, CO



**ELIZABETH ROBBINS** (b. 1962)  
*Indian Summer*, 2017  
Oil on linen, 24 x 28 in.  
Private collection