



Art-to-art

Dreams, railways, art books and Jane Fonda's identity... all inspired works exhibited in New York this spring. TEXT: RICHARD WARREN

Sixty-one galleries exhibited artists' work from around the world at SCOPE New York, the international contemporary art show, with galleries coming from as far away as China for the four-day event held between March 2 and 6.

New York is the flagship event of five SCOPE art fairs held each year, with the others held in Miami, the Hamptons, London and Basel. More than 400,000 people have visited over 40 of these fairs since they started 10 years ago and sales of artworks have topped Dhs550m.

CULTURE MASH

Artist Karim Hamid painted GGW 33, shown here, in oils. "GGW refers specifically to an underground, cultural phenomenon in the US called 'Girls Gone Wild,'" Hamid says. "I'm mostly interested in the concept of 'information mashing' – there is so much info these days, so much visual information, that we are often overloaded and confused. So, in a sort of homage to both painting, and also in a roundabout way to Pop Art, I want to play with imagery colliding.

"I focus on mixing high and low art forms. In this case, with the GGW paintings, I play with this obscure and 'throwaway' cultural phenomenon and try to paint it in a high art manner." Exhibitor: Aureus Contemporary Gallery

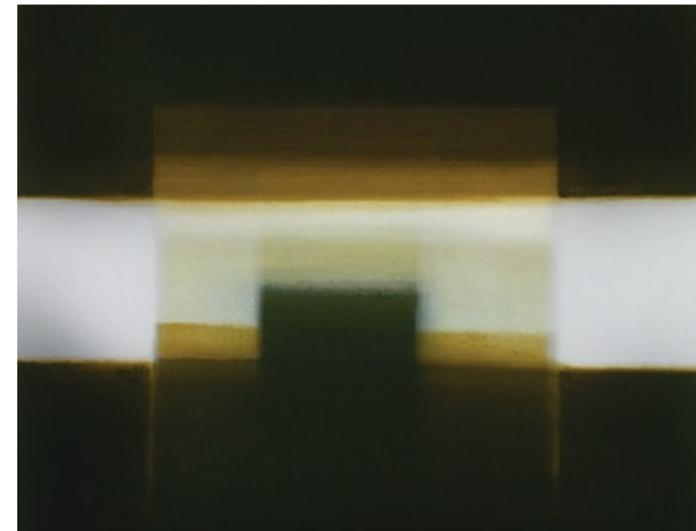


ENDURING CLASSIC

Panorama # 9, shown here, is from the third *Panorama* triptych, part of *The Feast of Trimalchio*. This video and photography project by four Russian artists, AES+F Group, was inspired by Roman poet Gaius Petronius.

"Thanks to Petronius's fantasy, Trimalchio's name became synonymous with wealth and luxury, with gluttony and with unbridled pleasure in contrast to the brevity of human existence," say the artists. "In the third millennium, Trimalchio, the former slave, the nouveau riche host of feasts, appeared to us not so much as an individual as a collective image of a luxurious hotel, a temporary paradise which one has to pay to enter."

Exhibitor: Venezuela's Juan Ruiz Galeria



INNER JOURNEY

Sara Carter painted *Transport 10* in acrylic on canvas. Layering geometric forms, the San Francisco-based painter presents a new formation of landscape that she says belongs in the subconscious world. "The *Transport* series refers specifically to the ethereal realm I believe to be an inimitable aspect of the human psyche," Carter says.

"The drive to harness or express the omnipotence intrinsic to an altered state of consciousness seems to be embedded with in the fold of our nature. The conceptual idea of a mysticism, expressed through the enigmatic perspective of a contemporary mystic, distills this series to a fine point." Exhibitor: Aureus Contemporary Gallery



BREAKING BOUNDARIES

This image of a shattering porcelain figurine, *Untitled (Kung Fu Man)*, is part of a series made by German photographer Martin Klimas. The photographer drops figurines from a set height and the photo is taken automatically through a high-speed lens immediately after the moment of impact. Backgrounds are always neutral and figurines brightly lit.

Describing himself as a sculptor, Klimas says his images depict transformation, not destruction, and that the hardest part of his work is having to smash large numbers of figurines to get a shot that shows something new. He also photographs birds flying and objects falling. Exhibitor: New York's Foley Gallery