

Life & Arts

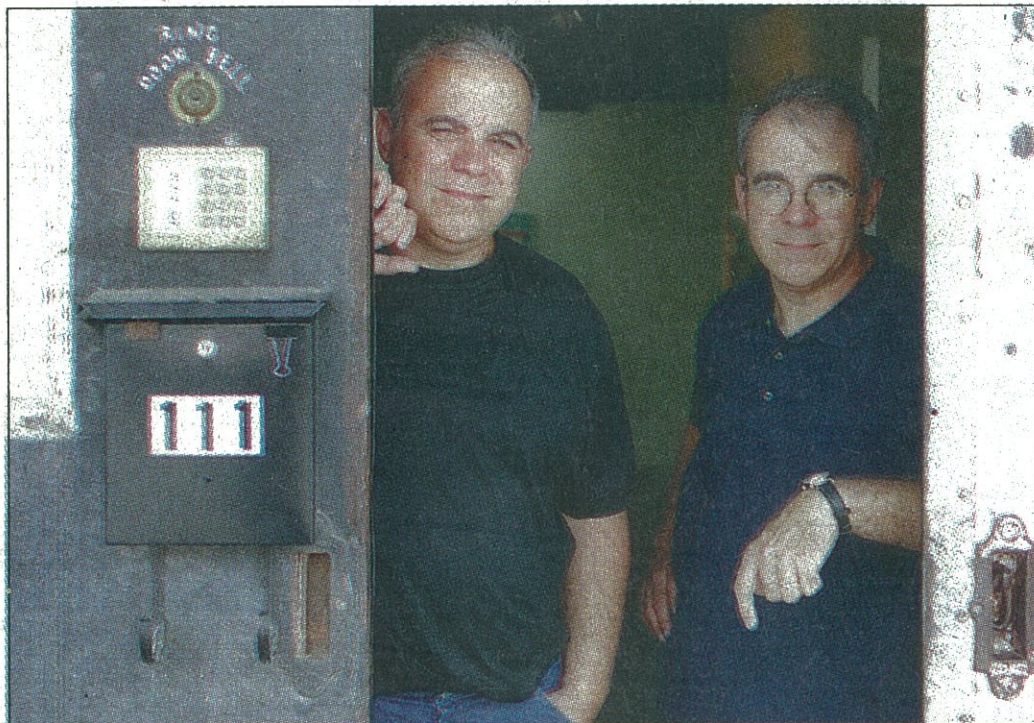
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Thursday, May 23, 2002

STAR-TELEGRAM ■ WWW.DFW.COM/LIVING

Twin painters take different paths through the landscape



Daniel, left, and Dennis Blagg work out of Art Space, their gallery and studio in downtown Fort Worth.

SPECIAL TO THE STAR-TELEGRAM/RICHARD W. RODRIGUEZ

ARTISTS Fort Worth's Daniel and Dennis Blagg convey the spare beauty of the urban and rugged Southwestern landscape.

By **ANDREW MARTON**
STAR-TELEGRAM ART CRITIC

Fort Worth artists Daniel and Dennis Blagg are highly gifted painters. And, not incidentally, identical twins.

Over the last 36 years, the Blagg brothers have created several thousand canvases that, like their twinned physiology, constitute two separate but intimately linked paths toward conveying the urban and rural landscapes.

Though the painters echo each other's meticulously realist approach, Daniel is a master of the sun-bleached or nocturnal urban scene, whereas Dennis' fastidious brushwork depicts the chamois-tinted desert floor, evergreen scrub and foreboding skies of Southwest Texas, especially Big Bend.

"If one didn't know them better, one might think the Blaggs got together before-

hand to decide that one would paint nature, in daylight, and the other would be the urban, night-scene painter," says Michael Auping, chief curator of the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth.

Such is the appeal of the Blagg brothers' work that several of their paintings have fetched as much as \$30,000. A Daniel Blagg work is in the permanent collection of the Museum of South Texas, and his work can also be found as part of the corporate collection of Texas Instruments. Dennis has five pieces in the permanent collection of Fort Worth's Modern Art Museum and is also represented on the walls of Chase Bank.

Despite such success and acceptance, the Blaggs have never strayed from Fort Worth, their home of 36 years. Their 20-year-old studio, Art Space III, ranks as Fort Worth's oldest downtown art studio and gallery.

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Group Exhibition

Through May 30
Art Space 111
111 Hampton St.
Fort Worth
Free
(817) 877-4920