



ATTENTIVENESS *to* NATURE

New Work by

JIM SCHANTZ

Pucker Gallery • Boston



River Twilight, Crescent Winter • Oil on canvas • 60 x 48" • JMS752

COVER • After the Storm, Housatonic Dusk • Oil on canvas • 40 x 48" • JMS754

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For Jim Schantz, moments of change are moments of celebration. Our forests, waters, and skies shift and renew in ways that we may take for granted, or simply fail to remember. Sunrises melt into sunsets; sunsets swell into sunrises. Within these transitions, at their peak, is when Jim paints many of his landscapes, invoking the dazzling allure of nature's complex transformations all within a single painted moment.

With its synchronized web of cyclical and unpredictable changes, nature is whole. Jim honors that wholeness by forming an intimacy with his environment, conscientiously achieved by revisiting, and painting, the same natural landscape in a new context again and again. This devotion exposes the rich progression of shifting patterns, colors, and textures that are seen, felt, and heard in all nature. *Atlantic Sunrise* (JMS758) captures the moment a day begins anew, the ocean waves rolling softly in a gentle ebb and flow, the sun awakening as if in a contented, morning yawn. Red, yellow, and orange pour outward into clouds slowly colored by the sun's warmth. The same view of the ocean sunrise transforms in *After the Storm, Atlantic Sunrise* (JMS757), with energetic waves painted in suggestive strokes, the sunlight desperately reaching through the purple clouds to diminish darkness. Two separate paintings, sharing the same oceanic view, express equal beauty in their divergent natures—the beauty of every anticipated calming sunrise, or the aftermath of an extraordinary tempest.

Tapping into the beauty of natural transformations, Jim paints a soaring world that is mindful of moments past, moments still to come, but especially of things as they are. Such a world allows us to explore, accept, and rejoice in our own life's morphing nuances and ambiguities: yearning and mourning, solitude and loneliness, awe and contemplation. *River Twilight, Crescent Winter* (JMS752) ambiguously shows a time of day either after sunset or before sunrise, the sun indirectly visible only by its mere glow. A river isolates two stark, bare-boned trees from a lush forest brimming with pine trees. Is this a mournful moment of beings unwillingly divided? Or is this a moment of hope, with the possibility of reunion in full view? Is the sun setting or rising?

When we are confronted with the unexpected, when storms ravage and divisions materialize, Schantz's paintings remind us that all moments extend, all moments blend and bump into another in a repetitive and ever-evolving cycle. Though we assume the view that each day will renew with orange-yellow dawns turning to blue skies, we may resist the change brought by a brief storm or an unyielding river. Jim's paintings expand this perspective. He replicates a single location found in nature, revealing and accepting all of its fluctuating moods and colors. We too can embrace it all and revel in it all.

— JACQUELINE BELFIELD GERTNER



Atlantic Sunrise • Oil on linen • 12 x 12" • JMS758



Atlantic Dawn • Oil on panel • 20 x 20" • JMS765



Post-Storm Atlantic Sunrise • Oil on linen • 16 x 16" • JMS766



Atlantic Dusk • Oil on canvas • 24 x 60" • JMS764



Housatonic Reflection, Study • Oil on linen • 14 x 14" • JMS756



Early Spring Morning, Housatonic Bend • Oil on linen • 24 x 36" • JMS761



Sunset Housatonic Bend, Study • Oil on linen • 6 x 6" • JMS760



Sunset, Housatonic Bend • Oil on linen • 14 x 14" • JMS751



Late September Afternoon • Oil on linen • 14 x 14" • JMS750



Misty Morning, Housatonic Bend • Oil on canvas • 48 x 48" • JMS748



Winter Sunset from Butler Road • Oil on linen • 16 x 16" • JMS763



Winter Maple, Dusk • Pastel on Arches paper • 21 x 29" • JMS759



Winter Moon • Oil on panel • 12 x 12" • JMS755



Winter Twilight Pines • Oil on canvas • 24 x 24" • JMS745



Housatonic Crescent Twilight • Oil on canvas • 36 x 36" • JMS736



September Housatonic Dusk • Oil on canvas • 36 x 36" • JMS744



Winter Dusk • Oil on canvas • 20 x 16" • JMS746



Atlantic Dawn Study II • Oil on canvas • 20 x 20" • JMS735



June Woods by the River • Acrylic on Arches paper • 29 x 20.5" • JMS738



Woods Along the River, Early May • Oil on Arches paper • 29 x 22.5" • JMS737



Woods by the River, Early June • Oil on Arches paper • 29 x 22" • JMS739



Summer Sunset, Towards Monument Mountain • Pastel • 36 x 46.5" • JMS740



Twin Pine Dusk • Oil on linen • 6 x 12" • JMS743



Winter Morning, Twin Pines • Oil on canvas • 10 x 10" • JMS742



Winter Pine Study • Oil on linen • 10 x 10" • JMS747



Stockbridge Winter Pines • Pastel • 31 x 49" • JMS741



Winter Pine Trio • Oil on canvas • 34 x 34" • JMS753



Winter Pine Couple • Oil on canvas • 24 x 24" • JMS762

Jim Schantz received his master's degree in Painting at University of California, Davis and his Bachelor's in Fine Arts at Syracuse University. He also studied at The Hornsey School of Art, London and at the Skowhegan School in Maine. His works are in numerous public collections, including: The Berkshire Museum; The Center for Spiritual Life at Emerson College; Lowe Art Museum, Syracuse University; The Art Complex Museum, Duxbury, MA; Nelson Museum, U.C. Davis; Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University; Skidmore College; Simon's Rock of Bard College, and University of Massachusetts. Jim has had several solo exhibitions at Pucker Gallery in Boston. His work has also been featured in exhibitions at: the Berkshire Museum; The Springfield Museum of Fine Arts; The Fuller Museum of Art, Brockton; The Albany Institute of Art, and the Brooklyn Museum. He currently resides in Glendale, MA.



PUCKER

ESTABLISHED 1967 BOSTON

GALLERY

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Gallery Hours:

Monday through Saturday

10:00 AM TO 5:30 PM

Sunday 10:30 AM TO 5:00 PM

We are open to all and taking the necessary precautions for visitor and staff safety. We welcome appointments to maximize visitor experience.

Pucker Gallery is a member of the Boston Art Dealers Association and the New England Appraisers Association.

Credits:

Design:

Leslie Anne Feagley

Editors:

Jeanne Koles and Jacqueline Belfield Gertner

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John Davenport and Jim Schantz

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DATES:

17 October through 15 November 2020

ONLINE EVENTS:

Please visit www.puckergallery.com for a list of virtual gatherings and events accompanying *Attentiveness to Nature*.



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After the Storm, Housatonic Dusk • Oil on linen • 14 x 14" • JMS749

Please visit www.puckergallery.com to view current and past exhibition catalogues and subscribe to the Artwork of the Week e-mail list.