Auction of Artwork by

simon michael

Photography by Pamela Keyman Fulcher

Catalog by Karen Ernst

Simon Michael
Artist, Teacher & Philosopher

Rockport Center for the Arts and Coastal Bend College invite you to a Live Auction of 57 original works by Simon Michael, donated by Zona Chilcoat, from the late artist's estate.

Auction proceeds benefit Rockport Center for the Arts' New Building Fund and the Coastal Bend College Simon Michael Art Gallery

Thursday, October 17, 2019
Auction preview 5 PM, Auction begins 6 PM
Estelle Stair Gallery | 406 S. Austin Street, Rockport TX
Selections from the auction are also on display
at Coastal Bend College through October 10, 2019
Auctioneer: Mark Prendergast
Director of Consignments & Marketing
Simpson Galleries, Houston TX

ROCKPORT CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Coastal Bend COLLEGE

Simon Michael

Simon Michael is considered the Grandfather of the Art Community in Rockport, Texas, and many consider his influence to have spread throughout South Texas as an artist, teacher and philosopher. Extremely well-traveled, Michael settled in Rockport in 1948, starting the Simon Michael School of Fine Art. He spent his time teaching and mentoring young artists all over the Coastal Bend and as far north as Fredericksburg. Michael taught at Coastal Bend College in Beeville, TX, until his retirement in 1984. After retirement, he continued to teach students at his studio in Rockport until his death in 2002. His work documents both the coastal life in Rockport and scenes from his many travels.

About the Auctioneer

Mark Prendergast, AAA, earned his degree in Art History from Vanderbilt University and began his career in the arts working with a national dealer of American Art. Joining Christie's in 1998 and advancing during a decade tenure to the position of Vice President, he was instrumental in record setting sales of numerous works of art, collections and estates. Mark became Director of Trusts & Estates for Heritage Auctions in 2009, providing assistance to fiduciary professionals in all aspects of appraising and monetizing their clients' tangible assets. In early 2019, Mark brought his 20+ years of auction house experience to Simpson Galleries, Houston’s oldest and most trusted fine arts auctioneers, as their new Director. A licensed auctioneer and Certified Appraiser with the Appraisers Association of America, Mark also co-authored "The Collector's Handbook" - a guide to tax planning, strategy and estate advice for collectors and their heirs.

About the Exhibit at Coastal Bend College

I am delighted to have the opportunity to exhibit the last available works of Simon Michael in the Simon Michael Gallery at Coastal Bend College. The exhibition consists of 25 paintings and drawings which are a sampling of the many works that will be available for purchase during the one-night auction event on October 17th in Rockport Texas. Simon Michael will also be included in the "*Rockport Art Colony"*, a new book coming out next year documenting the Arts in Rockport. This is a much needed documentation and inspiration for the future artists of South Texas.

Simon Michael had been teaching for many years when I arrived at then, Bee County College, in 1981. Simon Michael was an exceptionally kind and friendly man. He would stroll down the hallway of the Frank Jostes Visual Arts Building and occasionally stop by my office for a visit. We would talk of many things where many were close to my heart in the sense of creativity and expression. We were kindred spirits of which I was unaware until in the later years of our friendship.

During his early years, his travels for teaching took him to many locations in South Texas. Later, he held painting classes at Bee County College and in his Simon Michael Studio in Rockport for many years to follow. Classes were bustling with students from the South Texas area, always eager to see him and with anticipation of what that day would bring. The new Frank Jostes Visual Arts Building opened in 1982 where Simon Michael was honored with the gallery in his name, The Simon Michael Art Gallery. Michael taught for an additional two years, retiring at the age of 79. There was a wonderful exhibition of his private art collection and a grand

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celebration of his many years at the college. I continued in his spirit to teach painting with additional art courses, Chaired the Visual Arts Department for the next 25 years, 1988-2013 and continue today as Professor of Art and Director of the Simon Michael Art Gallery.

Each spring, I would travel with my painting students to Rockport for a visit with Simon, Zona and the original Simon Michael Gallery. It was a yearly pilgrimage where all looked forward with anticipation and excitement. Simon Michael would graciously greet us with open arms, tour his private collection in the gallery and soon move to discussion on the content of his work with anticipation. Students would attentively listen to his every word. It was quite a full, day event.

Simon was truly a "painter, teacher and philosopher" as stated on the plaque that is displayed on the gallery in his name at the Frank Jostes Visual Arts Building, Coastal Bend College.

He was an excellent colorist, meticulously using color theory and light quality throughout his paintings. His knowledge of light and the quality of light can be seen in his work with a "flick" of the brush, as fleeting as light can be, abstract in its sensibilities. I can see the 'hand, as brush stroke, of Simon Michael on many paintings of his students that I have come across over the years. The expression of light on the canvas is very personal and particular in stroke, like no other.

Simon Michaels' gracious spirit lingers in the hallway of the Frank Jostes Visual Arts Building still today where the gallery bears his name. Thank you, Simon, for your friendship.

Jayne Duryea
2019

Foreword

I became acquainted with Simon Michael through the stories of those who loved him, photographs of his studio on King Street, work in local collections, and two publications by Dorothy Cosper Kucera. It is easy to find examples of the late artist's human sensibility. He dedicated a great portion of his life to teaching others what he did best- succumb to the creative process and separate fear from art. His message: paint with your heart not with your eyes. For decades he created the bold, colorful marks that became his unique and indelible signature. Michael's style spawned a movement and coastal aesthetic that has become synonymous with Rockport and the Texas Coast. The works in this auction, donated by Zona Chilcoat from the late artist's estate, are reflective of this aesthetic.

Many thanks to Lisa Baer Frederick and John Paul Frederick for providing Estelle Stair Gallery for this auction.

Luis Purón

Executive Director
Rockport Center for the Arts
Rockport, Texas

Curator's Statement

This collection of work by Simon Michael is a great representation of his artistic prowess in both subject matter and media. His facility with brush and pen is evident in the way the tonality and mark-making captures the feeling and atmosphere of the landscape. The viewer feels taken in by the work and transported back to the time and place where the artist first captured the fleeting scene. Although Simon Michael had travelled and studied in spaces across the globe, the fact that he settled in Rockport speaks to the magnetic draw of the South Texas region. Simon Michael was a pioneer, much like Johnny Appleseed or Paul Bunyon, and Rockport Center for the Arts hopes to continue his artistic legacy and mission.

Elena Rodriguez

Curator of Exhibitions
Rockport Center for the Arts
Rockport, Texas

How to Buy

To attend the auction and bid in person you will need to register in advance at Rockport Center for the Arts no later than noon the day of the auction. Auction seating will be limited to those registered plus one guest only. To register, please call 361-729-5519 or register in person at 106 S. Austin Street, Rockport, TX. 78382.

To bid absentee or by telephone you will need to register at least 24 hours in advance at Rockport Center for the Arts.

For absentee bids, we will bid on your behalf and attempt to purchase the lot for you at the lowest price, allowing for other bids and reserves, up to your pre-submitted maximum bid.

For telephone bids, we will contact you by phone during the auction.

The auction will proceed in lot sequence.

List of Artworks

1 The Most Remarkable Arch in Arches Nat'l Park - signed, Lot no. 1
2 Nude in the Surf – unsigned – signed on back of stretcher, Lot no. 2
3 Nude Back - signed, Lot no. 3
4 Blue-Backed Fairy Bluebird – range India, China, & Malaysia (damage) - signed, Lot no. 4
5 Nomads on the Move - signed, Lot no. 5
6 Surf and Rocks – unsigned – signed on back of stretcher, Lot no. 6
7 Strolling Weather - signed, Lot no. 7
8 Hitchin' a Ride - unsigned, Lot no. 8
9 Memories (Collage – Old Man, Owl, etc) - signed, Lot no. 9
10 Billy Goat #2 - signed, Lot no. 10
11 Resting Camel - signed, Lot no. 11
12 Heading Out - unsigned, Lot no. 12
13 Over the Desert - signed, Lot no. 13
14 Primrose in a Field - signed, Lot no. 14
15 Greece Fishermen - unsigned, Lot no. 15
16 Launching - unsigned, Lot no. 16
17 Fishermen Beginning The Day - signed, Lot no. 17
18 Family on a Camel - signed, Lot no. 18
19 Enjoying the View – unsigned – signed on back stretcher, Lot no. 19
20 B&W Boat Sketch #3 - signed, Lot no. 20
21 Pastel of Flying Ducks – signed hard to see, Lot no. 19
22 Green Sketch of Cow - signed, Lot no. 24
23 Ducks / Colored Mtn – signed in ink, Lot no. 19
24 B&W Anchor, Ship, & Shoreline - signed, Lot no. 20
25 B&W Anthony's Ship Sketch - signed, Lot no. 20
26 Sepia Tugboat Sketch - signed, Lot no. 21
27 Colored Marion & Ship Sketch – signed/hard to see, Lot no. 22
28 Sepia Ship on Rollers - signed, Lot no. 21
29 B&W Ship and Nets - signed, Lot no. 20
30 Color Fishermen in the Surf - signed, Lot no. 22
31 B&W Sketch of Trash Cans - signed, Lot no. 21
32 B&W Nets W/Ships - signed, Lot no. 20
33 Purple Mountain W/Frame - signed, Lot no. 30
34 River Bank W/Frame - signed, Lot no. 32
35 Majestic Purple Mountain W/Frame - signed, Lot no. 31
36 Mountain and Water View W/Frame - signed, Lot no. 28

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37 Water Meets The Land W/Frame - signed, Lot no. 29
38 Boat on Trailer (Man and Rope on High replacement), Lot no. 22
39 All But Skilled Mountaineers Can Climb the Summits in Southern Chile - signed, Lot no. 25
40 Somewhere in France - signed, Lot no. 25
41 Wonder Lake in Mount McKinley, Alaska - signed, Lot no. 27
42 Snowed in – Man and Dog - signed, Lot no. 27
43 Bighorn Flats and Sprague Glacier - signed, Lot no. 27
44 A South American Legacy of Outstanding Beauty – signed/hard to see, Lot no. 26
45 A Mountain Goat and Her Kid – signed/hard to see, Lot no. 24
46 Rock Formation - unsigned, Lot no. 23
47 Sunset Over a Mountain - signed, Lot no. 23
48 DeSoto Falls, Alaska State Park - signed, Lot no. 26
49 A View from the Peak of Snowdon Mountain, the Highest in England and Wales - signed, Lot no. 27
50 A Swift Current - signed, Lot no. 26
51 Peak in the Sky - signed, Lot no. 27
52 Patagonia – unsigned – signed on back stretcher, Lot no. 26
53 Trek to the Top - signed, Lot no. 25
54 Canadian Rockies – signed/hard to see, Lot no. 25
55 Mountain with Waterfall in Front - signed, Lot no. 26
56 Land of the Mountain Goat - signed, Lot no. 24
57 Beautiful Surroundings - signed, Lot no. 23
58 Pencil Sketch by TR Garcia of Simon Michael, Lot no. 33

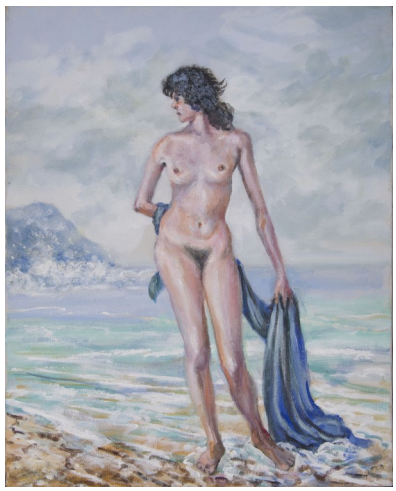
LOT NO. 1

The Most Remarkable Arch in Arches Nat'l Park - signed

SM-033
16 x 20
FMV $1,000
FMV = Fair Market Value

LOT NO. 2

Nude in the Surf – unsigned – signed on back of stretcher



SM-064
20 x 16
FMV $1,000

LOT NO. 3

Nude Back - signed

SM-072
24 x 18
FMV $300

LOT NO. 4

Blue-Backed Fairy Bluebird – range India, China, & Malaysia (damage) - signed

SM-084
18 x 24
FMV $300

LOT NO. 5
Nomads on the Move - signed

SM-098
20 x 24
FMV $1,200

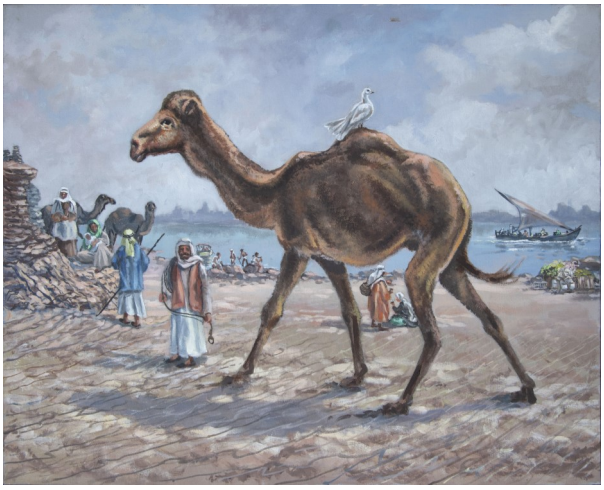
LOT NO. 6
Surf and Rocks – unsigned – signed on back of stretcher

SM-104
24 x 20
FMV $1,000

LOT NO. 7
Strolling Weather - signed

SM-138
24 x 36
FMV $1,000

LOT NO. 8
Hitchin' a Ride- unsigned



SM-148
24 x 36
FMV $1,500

LOT NO. 9

Memories (Collage – Old Man, Owl, etc) - signed

SM-167
30 x 36
FMV $2,500

LOT NO. 10

Billy Goat #2 - signed

SM-172
36 x 36
FMV $3,000

LOT NO. 11

Resting Camel - signed

SM-182
48 x 24
FMV $2,500

LOT NO. 12

Heading Out - unsigned

SM-186
24 x 48
FMV $1,000

LOT NO. 13
Over the Desert - signed

SM-205
30 x 48
FMV $2,500

LOT NO. 14
Primrose in a Field - signed

SM-210
36 x 48
FMV $1,000

LOT NO. 15
Greece Fishermen - unsigned

SM-237
30 x 24
FMV $400

LOT NO. 16
Launching - unsigned

SM-240
24 x 30
FMV $400

LOT NO. 17

Fishermen Beginning The Day - signed

SM-276
23 x 30
FMV $1,000

LOT NO. 18

Family on a Camel - signed

SM-286
23 x 30
FMV $1,000

LOT NO. 19

Enjoying the View – unsigned – signed on back stretcher

SM-312
13 x 16.25
FMV $100

Pastel of Flying Ducks – signed hard to see

SM-335
14 x 22
FMV $200

Ducks / Colored Mtn – signed in ink

SM-339
8 x 10
FMV $35

LOT NO. 20

B&W Nets W/Ships - signed

SM-393
18 x 24
FMV $100

B&W Anthony's Ship Sketch - signed

SM-352
12 x 18
FMV $75

B&W Boat Sketch #3 - signed

SM-327
18 x 23.75
FMV $50

B&W Anchor, Ship, & Shoreline - signed

SM-347
15 x 18
FMV $85

B&W Ship and Nets - signed

SM-376
18 x 12
FMV $75

LOT NO. 21

Sepia Tugboat Sketch - signed

SM-358
12.5 x 16
FMV $50

B&W Sketch of Trash Cans - signed

SM-391
18 x 24
FMV $100

Sepia Ship on Rollers - signed

SM-372
18 x 24
FMV $100

LOT NO. 22

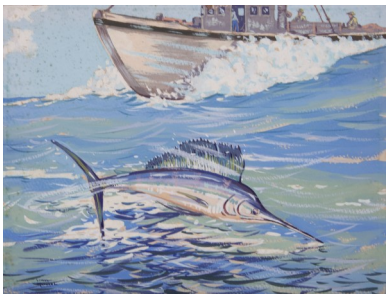
Color Fishermen in the Surf - signed

SM-386
12 x 19
FMV $75

Boat on Trailer (Man and Rope on High re-placement)

SM-475
11 x 15
FMV $25

Colored Marion & Ship Sketch – signed/hard to see



SM-363
9 x 12
FMV $50

LOT NO. 23

Beautiful Surroundings - signed

SM-614
24 x 30
FMV $150

Sunset Over a Mountain -

SM-521
8 x 10
FMV $15

Rock Formation - unsigned

SM-518
12 x 8
FMV $15

LOT NO. 24

A Mountain Goat and Her Kid – signed/hard

SM-517
8 x 10.75
FMV $15

Green Sketch of Cow - signed

SM-337
12 x 9
FMV $45

Land of the Mountain Goat - signed

SM-586
13 x 21
FMV $75

LOT NO. 25

Trek to the Top - signed

SM-553
12 x 29.5
FMV $100

Somewhere in France - signed

SM-479
8 x 11
FMV $25

Canadian Rockies – signed/hard to see

SM-554
12.25 x 27
FMV $30

All But Skilled Mountaineers Can Climb the Summits in Southern Chile - signed

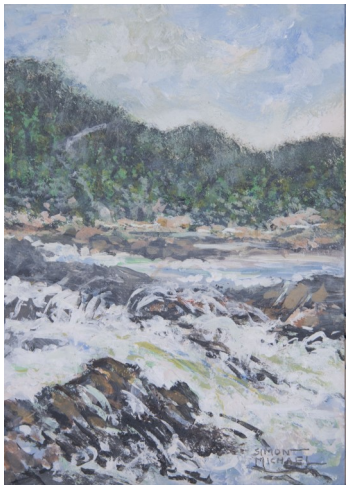
SM-476
11 x 17.5
FMV $20

LOT NO. 26

A South American Legacy of Outstanding Beauty – signed/ hard to see

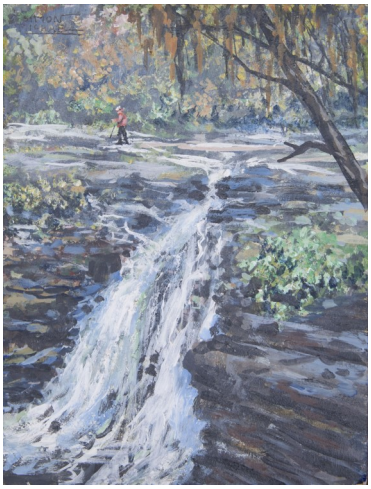
SM-503
12.5 x 9.5
FMV $40

A Swift Current - signed



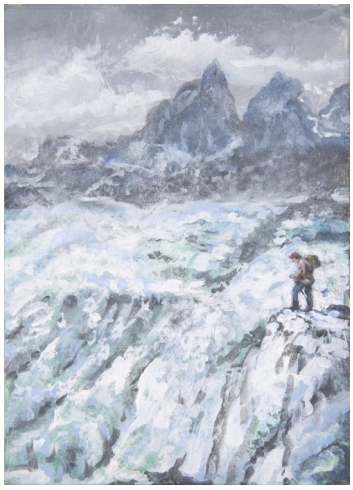
SM-544
8.5 x 6
FMV $20

DeSoto Falls, Alaska State Park - signed



SM-522
10.5 x 8
FMV $20

Patagonia – unsigned – signed on back stretcher



SM-551
12.5 x 9
FMV $15

Mountain with Waterfall in Front - signed

SM-578
17 x 24
FMV $30

LOT NO. 27

Wonder Lake in Mount McKinley, Alaska - signed

SM-494
12.5 x 18.25
FMV $75

Snowed in – Man and Dog - signed

SM-498
8.25 x 13
FMV $30

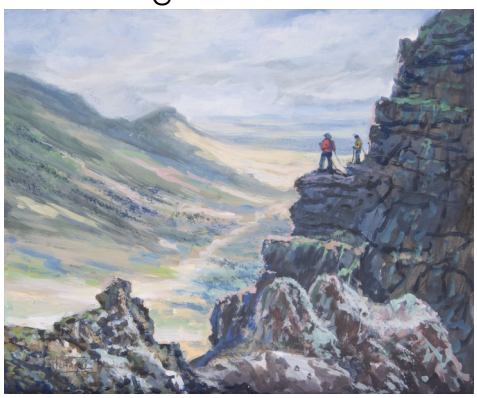
Bighorn Flats and Sprague Glacier - signed

SM-500
8.5 x 10.25
FMV $30

Peak in the Sky - signed

SM-547
9 x 7
FMV $25

A View from the Peak of Snowdon Mountain, the Highest in England and Wales - signed



SM-527
12.5 x 15
FMV $40

LOT NO. 28

Mountain and Water View W/ Frame - signed

SM-442
19.5 x 21.5
FMV $1,000

LOT NO. 29

Water Meets The Land W/ Frame - signed

SM-456
19.5 x 21.5
FMV $1,000

LOT NO. 30

Purple Mountain W/Frame - signed

SM-433
26.75 x 32.5
FMV $1,200

LOT NO. 31

Majestic Purple Mountain W/ Frame - signed

SM-435
26.75 x 32.5
FMV $1,200

LOT NO. 32

River Bank W/Frame - signed

SM-434
26.75 x 32.5
FMV $1,200

LOT NO. 33

Pencil Sketch by TR Garcia of Simon Michael

18 x 30
FMV $25

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