

J O H N W. T A F T



VIG

Vail International Gallery

JOHN W. TAFT

John Taft is a fortunate artist who does not confuse us or himself as to what he does, which is paint landscapes of the impressive Rocky Mountains. Most importantly he does this task exceedingly well without disappointing us, something that cannot be said of many other artists who attempt his subject. How he managed eighteen years into a career as an art director in New York City to uproot his family and move to Colorado where he works full-time painting, I cannot imagine. Clearly John had confidence in his ability and a focus on the landscape that drew him westward. One gets the sense from John's art he is comfortable creating contemporary work which is neither shocking nor overtly avant-garde.

Yet his work is serious work that is contemporary in its approach. Paintings by John Taft never pretend to be a hundred years old. Their color is of our time; the compositions are quietly daring and absent any nostalgia. These paintings are new and sophisticated. That's right; new, different and alive- amazingly alive.

John Taft is a gifted artist who loves his craft and loves his subject. His art is genuine, guileless, and a true reflection of himself and his feelings toward the subject. The paintings presented in this, his first one man show, are like most great works of art; easily understood and appreciated by all. Such effortless beauty is rare and deceiving, for it comes only after great effort and mastery by the artist. Enjoy the show.

MARC LEVARN, *President and Co-Owner Vail International Gallery*

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS:

American Masters Show at the Salmagundi Club NY, NY 2009-2010

Oil Painters of America National Show, 2006-2008, 2010

Salon du Musee, 2008, Denver Art Museum Benefit

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

Landscapes of Colorado, edited by Ann Scarlett Daly, Denver Art Museum Curator

Southwest Art, Artists to Watch, April 2006

This catalog represents a portion of the works available at this show.

For more information call (970) 476-2525 or visit our web site www.VailGallery.com



48" by 60"

ODESSA LAKE



4

SEPTEMBER

30" by 60"



20" by 24"

SIX DEGREES



6

FRASER STREAM

30" by 40"



30" by 40"

ADVANCING SHADOWS

VIG

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ALMOST HOME

36" by 42"