

Art & Antiques

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Asian textiles are fascinating but often overlooked.



Tom Christopher's work epitomizes the spirit of Manhattan. "Orange Poles," 54" x 64", courtesy David Findlay Galleries.

of all descriptions, I might miss the painting during evenings and on weekends if it isn't hanging close to my dining table or above the living room sofa.

People often describe where and how they found a work of art as much as they do the actual work itself. An unplanned walking detour in a foreign city that leads to an outdoor art exhibit, a sudden decision to stop at a suburban garage sale, the sighting of a canvas at a gallery opening: These are the scenarios you hear people relate about a work of art they found. It's as if their discovery was also a creative act about which they are proud. A good work of art can do that—make the owner also feel creative and visionary.

Given the numbers of galleries and museums in New York, encounters with art are part of daily life. So, once again in the following pages, join the people that define the city as a center of creative life.

David Maxwell

New York Editor, *Art & Antiques*

Art Rescue

On a Sunday afternoon walk up Third Avenue with a friend, we stopped to shop. He went immediately to a stack of LPs from the 1960s, which he has begun to collect, and I to a bin of paintings. While flipping through portraits and still lifes, I came to a small night scene of a rustic wooden house beside a turbulent bay. The starless sky is a dark azure. For \$5, an original work of art!

The style of most of the paintings in the bin indicated that they were by the same amateur painter—someone who had probably died. Whoever

had cleared out his or her apartment had not wanted the paintings. A close relative would certainly have kept them—personal creations by a kin. What do thrift shops do with merchandise they cannot sell? Do they perform a kind of painless euthanasia on color-by-number paintings and manual typewriters, chipped ginger-jar lamps and Mediterranean-style entertainment centers? If so, I am glad to have rescued my painting.

The work is still unframed, and I haven't decided whether it will occupy a place on a wall in my apartment or in my office. Although my office walls are bare, unlike those in my home which are filled with art