

July 4, 2008 Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Philip Morton Gallery Welcomes Renowned Vermont Artist John Whitney.**

The Philip Morton Gallery proudly announces an exhibit of renowned Vermont artist John Whitney.

John Whitney is a graphics artist, painter of oil and watercolor. His current work is original art on paper and canvas inspired by the form, emotions, and expression of the figure. Growing up in a family of noted artists, he became an accomplished sculptor in his own right before switching to two-dimensional fine art.

John's childhood was considerably different than most. His aunt, Marjorie Whitney, was Chairman of the Design Department of the University of Kansas, muralist, and illustrator of numerous books and publications. His father, William R. Whitney Jr., was Supervisor of The Arts and Crafts Division of WPA in Kansas, exhibited at the 1939 New York World's Fair, and worked with Eleanor Roosevelt as an advisor for a WPA arts project in Arthurville, WV. Growing up in a family of artists, he spent much of his youth on painting excursions traveling to river banks, road cuts, and lakes, looking for roots and boulders that through erosion had exposed the understructure that formed the vast prairies of Kansas and Oklahoma. They gathered creek water and mixed it with the prepared watercolors, which were carefully applied to paper. John would be lectured on composition, pigment grinds, and the minimalism and meaning of each paint stroke.

He began his career in 1960 as a stage designer and muralist. After studying at the University of Kansas, he became an accomplished sculptor in New Mexico, exhibiting his work at Jamison Gallery and Collectors' Gallery in Santa Fe, and Gallery A in Taos, New Mexico.

John maintains two studios, one of which is a print studio where he creates his signature figurative monotype prints. His work also includes drypoint and etching prints hand-pulled from the same press. John's

second studio is devoted entirely to painting where he creates both his large-scale oil paintings and intimate watercolors.

John's wife, Linda, is also a very accomplished artist. For over 35 years, she, in collaboration with John, has created wearable art jewelry, fabricated from brass, copper, nickel silver, polymer clay, stones, and beads to build polychromatic landscapes that tell complex stories, and excite the eye with juxtapositions of interesting textures and colors.

A selection of many of John's original oil paintings, mono-prints and etchings will be on display at the gallery July 11 through July 25, with a wine and hors d'oeuvres opening reception Friday, July 11 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm to meet John and Linda. The reception is open to everyone.

John and Linda will also be on hand Saturday evening, July 12 during the Gallery Collective MOSAIC "Second Saturdays" Destination Art Walk from 6pm to 9pm.

For a preview of John's work, please visit [www.philipmortongallery.com](http://www.philipmortongallery.com).

The Philip Morton Gallery is located at 47 Baltimore Avenue in Rehoboth Beach, between Aqua and The Blue Moon. The gallery is open daily at 10:00am. Please contact Eric Davison, Director, at 302.727.0905 or email [eric@philipmortongallery.com](mailto:eric@philipmortongallery.com) for more information.

PHOTO: "Kreutzer No. 2" 42x30 Original Oil on Canvas  
PHOTO: John Whitney in his studio