

INSIDE Collecting Still Life • Art Lover's Guide to Scottsdale • Putney Painters

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AMERICAN

art COLLECTOR

PREVIEWS OF WORKS FOR SALE AT
UPCOMING SHOWS COAST TO COAST

JANUARY 2012



DISPLAY UNTIL 1/24/12

\$6.95



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UPCOMING SHOW

Up to 15 works

Nov. 15-Dec. 23, 2011

George Billis Gallery
521 W. 26th Street, B1
New York, NY 10001
(212) 645-2621

• SHOW LOCATION NEW YORK, NY

STEVEN KATZ

New York appeal



BEST BUY, OIL ON CANVAS, 30 X 55"

Thirty years ago Steven Katz left his native Los Angeles for the cityscapes of New York City. Although he still paints the former using black-and-white conté crayons, it is his impressions of daily life in "The Big Apple" that most capture his attention.

Katz's latest New York cityscapes are currently on show at George Billis Gallery. The artist, who trained privately with Aaron Rappaport, has been pursuing this genre for more than 30 years. His realist work embodies a feeling of impressionism.

"Rather than just realism I try to make it more active, more emotional. It's real yet more expressive. You see a style in the movement, design of it, the lighting," explains Katz. "The scene isn't as important as all the elements like good drawing, lighting, movement, perspective.

My intention is to make a good painting with the classic elements."

In this grouping, Katz says the work has "become more complicated and expressive. My colors are more mature, more subdued than I did in the 1980s...there's delicacy in drawing. I feel the work is more mature."

Adept at using perspective and angles to engage the viewer, in each painting Katz aims "to capture something unexpected." These fresh, complicated New York cityscapes read almost like a biography. "The cityscape is almost like a self-portrait, in an abstract sense," he says. "There's always something personal involved in the title and the location."

Among the newest oils is *Near the Garden*, an expansive scene alluding to his love of basketball while conveying the unexpected.

"The people on the left are purchasing magazines...and the opening of a taxicab is a painting in itself," remarks Katz.

Best Buy, another complicated piece, denotes our daily lives; the name is synonymous with our 21st-century culture. Instead of creating an exact representation of the intersection, Katz redesigned the area to incorporate the buildings, positioning them closer together than in reality.

"The title gives it some significance," says Katz, "but the piece isn't about the big-box store, rather it's about lighting and movement, and the cars are put in place to create balance." •

For a direct link to the exhibiting gallery go to

www.americanartcollector.com





NEAR THE GARDEN, OIL ON CANVAS, 38 x 48"



COFFEE BREAK, OIL ON CANVAS, 32 x 50"