

**UPCOMING SHOW**

*Up to 20 works*  
 April 23-May 25, 2013  
 George Billis Gallery  
 521 W. 26<sup>th</sup> Street  
 New York, NY 10001  
 (212) 645-2621

• SHOW LOCATION NEW YORK, NY

## STEPHEN MAGSIG

### Empathy for the city



165 MERCER STREET, OIL ON CANVAS, 40 X 30"



NOLITA CORNER, OIL ON CANVAS, 30 X 24"

Stephen Magsig doesn't just see New York City, he feels it. It is something he has difficulty explaining and, instead, relies on Edward Hopper's famous quote that "If you could say it in words, there would be no reason to paint." And, like Hopper, Magsig captures the pulse of the city in his paintings, showing storefronts, streetscapes and everyday corners deep within the heart of the city.

"I've been shooting in New York since the mid-1990s and I like the earlier images I took because I feel that they've cleaned the city up a little too much for my tastes," says Magsig. "It's too slick today and doesn't interest me as much."

Magsig is not a photorealist. While his

work is detailed, he prefers to spend time in the shadows and corners of his scenes rather than the infinite details. And, in doing so, he enjoys working from photographs that he has taken throughout his artistic career.

"I work from the screen with the digital images like many artists now and I really find that it allows me to capture so much in each photo," explains Magsig. "It allows me to really hone in on the shadow areas and see into it and know what is going on in there instead of just guessing."

Shadows and the effects they have on buildings is an important aspect of Magsig's work. Magsig takes quiet city scenes—the front of a café or an ordinary nondescript

street corner—and imbues it with shadows and other lighting effects to create complex works filled with interesting compositional and design elements.

"I want to show beauty where people typically don't expect it to exist," says Magsig. "I enjoy these scenes because they allow me to close in on things and see what is truly there. In this type of work, you can't just paint like a landscape painter, you have to think and look, concentrate on what you're painting and try and recreate that light, shadow and form." •

For a direct link to the  
 exhibiting gallery go to

[www.americanartcollector.com](http://www.americanartcollector.com)





BLEECKER STREET SHADOWS, OIL ON CANVAS, 30 X 40"



DUANE STREET SHADOWS, OIL ON LINEN, 48 X 40"



RHEON CAFÉ, OIL ON CANVAS, 42 X 36"