

AMERICAN

art COLLECTOR

PREVIEWS OF WORKS FOR SALE AT
UPCOMING SHOWS COAST TO COAST

JANUARY 2011



UPCOMING SHOW

Up to 20 works

Jan. 4-Feb. 5, 2011

George Billis Gallery

521 W. 26th Street B1

New York, NY 10001

(212) 645-2621

• SHOW LOCATION NEW YORK, NY

KENNY HARRIS

Le Quesnoy

This past summer while Kenny Harris was visiting friends in Paris, a suggestion to go and paint at a relative's chateau in Normandy immediately got his attention. Without even an address, Harris and relatives of the chateau owner wandered through the wilderness before stumbling upon the sprawling home named Le Quesnoy, which had been in the family for centuries.

"Once I saw the inside of the home, I knew there was enough material there for an entire show," says Harris. "It was just this eclectic old house with a mixture of styles and furnishings from the 1700s, 1800s and 1900s. It was a beautiful old cottage that had been added on to over the years and it was just a gem to paint."

What struck Harris about the home was the sense of timelessness coming from the varying layers of styles, design and historical eras that were evident in the furnishings, the exterior and the colors used to paint the interior walls.

"When we think of chateaus, what comes to mind is some grand thing, but in Europe they think, 'grandmother's place,'" says Harris. "So, what you get is a home in varying states of renovation, strange colors, architectural structures that have been added over the years. It was just beautiful."

Harris found the paintings of Le Quesnoy to be a challenge for him because of the palette he used and the compositional elements of the home.

"I feel these paintings are more complex than the one's in the past," says Harris. "It is definitely a different palette, with burgundy, teal and pink walls. And while I was painting, I thought of Whistler's ideas of harmony and painting grays. The spaces I usually paint are empty, but in this case the eclectic nature of the space is what gives it character."

Harris also loved the location of the home, which is on the coast of Normandy overlooking the famous Mont Saint-Michel. ●

For a direct link to the exhibiting gallery go to

www.americanartcollector.com



FOYER STAIRCASE, OIL ON PANEL, 12 X 8"



PAINTING LE QUESNOY, OIL ON LINEN, 48 X 36"



BURGUNDY, TEAL AND PINK, OIL ON LINEN, 24 X 20"



The sprawling chateau, Le Quesnoy, in Normandy, France.