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For Immediate Release

GEORGE BILLIS GALLERY

TOM GREGG

DECEMBER 6, 2016 - JANUARY 7, 2017

George Billis Gallery is pleased to announce Tom Gregg and his new still-lives at the New York location. This exhibition will run from **December 6, 2016 - January 7, 2017**. The opening reception will be held at the George Billis Gallery located at 525 West 26th Street between 10th and 11th avenues on **Thursday, December 8** from 6-8 pm. Gallery hours are **Tuesday through Saturday, 10 – 6pm**.

“Objects, things that I could hold in my hand or put in my pocket, have always had a life of their own in my imagination and a powerful resonance in my world. The small toy that my cousin played with when she visited, the hat that my Father wore, the rock I always tripped on in the path to the mailbox, the coffee cup my girlfriend drank from; all these things, these inanimate, mute objects, acquired and then carried in them a force and an energy through their association with the peopled world. But it is the existence that they possess of their own, their own life in the universe of objects and the world itself, that is even more mysterious and beguiling. I know their world has a very different sense of time, a patience and a calm that is unknown in the world of people. Objects exhibit a harmony, a peace and a co-existence with the world that makes the world I inhabit seem frantic and a bit absurd by comparison.



Bread and wine, oil on panel, 27.5 x 27.5" 13 x 16



Martini and 8 ball, oil on panel, 36 x 37" x 8"

It is this respect for objects and a fascination with their physical presence that underlies my pursuits as a still life painter. At the same time, the things in the paintings are there to meet the demands of the painting itself, much the way actors are on the stage to meet the demands of the script. My hope is to construct a set of relationships that are harmonious, while at the same time imbued with a hint of tension, and in so doing, strike a very particular visual note. Each painting is an attempt to weave together a clear and convincing realism and a clear and charged formal construction, and thereby create a remarkable event out of the most ordinary of circumstances.”

The George Billis Gallery marks its 20th year in the Chelsea Art district and its sister gallery is located in the burgeoning gallery district of Culver City in Los Angeles. For more information, please contact the gallery via e-mail at galler@georgebillis.com or visit our website at www.georgebillis.com.

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