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For Immediate Release

GEORGE BILLIS GALLERY

SARAH WILLIAMS

FEBRUARY 7 - MARCH 4, 2017

George Billis Gallery is pleased to announce Sarah Williams and her new paintings at the New York location. This exhibition will run from February 7 - March 4, 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, February 9 from 6-8 pm. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 - 6pm.

Strong emotions can be prompted by a place. Over time, ways of life shape and define the people and the spaces in which they live. Williams is drawn to areas and structures that show character acquired from the history and memory of the people that formed that environment. Aesthetically she is interested in light sources and the play of light on surfaces. This led her to paint nightscapes of familiar yet isolated and



Television 18, oil on panel, 12x16"

unremarkable buildings, rooms and scenes located in rural areas close to her home. She uses darkness to edit out extraneous information and provide the viewer with the essence of the place. Portraying these settings as nightscapes allows Williams to convey the emotional tone of the painting. The viewer's location is not specifically implied because of the light source within the paintings. They must find their own way and decide their own approach when out in the rural night depicted in these works.

While Williams renders her subject in a representational manner, she likes to fracture the form and accentuate the light through brushwork. This approach makes these settings visually captivating and eerily mysterious at the same time. The viewer starts to unravel the mood of the painting not only with the primary area of focus, but through the combination of the secondary and even tertiary areas of focus. A viewer's eyes must adjust so they will be able to see these subtle nuances that complete the character of the place. The artistic language applied to slightly familiar yet hauntingly isolated areas permits her to transform the common place and make the insignificant significant.

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 gALLERY@GEORGEBILLIS.COM or visit our website at WWW.GEORGEBILLIS.COM.



Linneus Post Office, oil on panel, 30x18"

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