

The Inspirations of Oz Fine Art Collection **Artist Fact Sheet**



About *The Inspirations of Oz Fine Art Collection*

In honor of the continued celebration of the 70th anniversary of *The Wizard of Oz*, Warner Bros. Consumer Products has chosen acclaimed array of artists to re-interpret the iconic film through their own unique visions and artistic mediums. Their creative works will premiere during the highly anticipated and revered Art Basel Miami Beach art fair at *Ocean Drive Magazine's* Paint the Town Green Presents: The Emerald City event on December 5, 2008.

Angelo Aversa

Title: *Dream Oz*

Medium: woodcut print drawn, carved and printed by hand using Kitakata paper from Japan and Charbonnel black and gold inks

About: Born in Pozzuoli, Italy, Angelo was trained in woodcuts art at the Academy of Fine Art in Naples. Aversa's woodcuts are transformations from an essential material into an enchanting world inhabited and imagined by the artist. Each print, inspired from what Angelo sees, from what he remembers and from what he envisions, evokes powerful images that speak to the viewer.

Romero Britto

Title(s): (1) *The Good Witch* (2) *The Wicked Witch* (3) *There's No Place, Like Home* (4) *Dorothy of The Wizard of Oz*

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

About: Romero Britto is a renowned Brazilian born neo-pop artist, painter and sculptor. He combines elements of cubism, pop art, and graffiti painting in his work. Internationally acclaimed, Britto's artwork is on exhibit in 5 continents and is currently in Exhibit at the Louvre in Paris. Romero is known for his philanthropic endeavors and has gained great popularity in his hometown of Miami, Florida and is donating his piece to the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation auction in 2009.

Gentle Giant Studios

Title(s): (1) *Wicked Witch of the West* (2) *Winged Monkey* (3) *Glinda the Good Witch* (4) *Scarecrow* (5) *Tin Man* (6) *Cowardly Lion* (7) *Dorothy Gale*

Medium: Resin busts

About: Gentle Giant Studios takes sculpture to a new level of world renowned mastery creating an exclusive line of one-of-a-kind and limited edition sculptures executed with an artistic vision. Limited edition series of seven busts on exclusive display for the Inspirations of Oz Exhibitions.

Phillip Graffham

Title: *Father Oz*

Medium: Mixed Media, beads, recycled objects

About: Phillip Graffham is a self-taught artist living and working in the Los Angeles area. For over 25 years, Graffham has studied the poetic arrangement of objects into art; creating hundreds of intricate works combining found objects, beads, buttons, bones, hair, tiny toys, charms and trinkets. Using his unique style *Father Oz* represents the artists take on the Wizards role as the father figure Dorothy longs form

Marcus Antonius Jansen

Title: *E Pluribus Unum*

Medium: Oil enamel collage on canvas

About: Marcus Antonius Jansen, artist, visionary and painter, spent his childhood in Germany and New York City, German Expressionism, American Abstract Expressionism as well as Graffiti Art had a strong influence on his development. His "lifescapes" dissect the modern urban landscape in ways unlike any other painter to date. Jansen has been said to be the inventor of "Urban Impressionism" and "the innovator of Modern Expressionism". Jansen exhibits internationally and is an award-winning painter.

Johnny Johns

Title: *Il Magio di Oz*

Medium: Acrylic paint on cotton canvas

About: Illustrator, painter, fashion and costume designer, Johns currently resides in Tuscany focusing on works inspired by Italian masters such as Michelangelo and Da Vinci. He incorporates regional colors, architecture and cultural influences in his work, as seen in his current series of vintage circus posters on canvas. The Exhibit piece, *Il Magio di Oz* could have hung in Professor Marvels wagon as he toured the world, entertaining the crown heads of Europe.

William Joyce

Title: *Where Happy Little Bluebirds Fly, Winged Monkeys Sit Nearby*

Medium: Oil on clay board

About: Known as the creator of animated series *Rolie Polie Olie* and animated film *Robots*, William Joyce is an American author, illustrator, and filmmaker. He has said that *Robots* was inspired by *The Wizard of Oz*, noting that its “part of our pop culture DNA”. *Newsweek* has called him one of the top 100 people to watch in the new millennium. His illustrations have appeared on numerous covers of the *New Yorker* and his paintings are displayed at national museums and art galleries.

Joel Nakamura

Title: *Tin Man's Dream*

Medium: Polymer and resin on metal

About: Joel Nakamura is a mythmaker; his illustrations are a significant part of the American commercial landscape and have been seen in newspapers and magazines across the United States as well as Europe and Japan. Nakamura once called his paintings “folk art with an urban edge.” But what they really are is one talented artist's musings on the infinite balances, imbalances, complements and contradictions that comprise the ‘human condition.’

Nelson De La Nuez

Title: *Ditching Dorothy*

Medium: Mixed media using acrylic paints, watercolors and oil pastels on canvas

About: Nelson De La Nuez is one of the most innovative pop artists of today. His unique blend of pop and surrealism has brought him to the forefront of the art world, which gained him worldwide recognition. The artist is known for his distinctive style called “Art on the Edge,” which is creating art on all *sides* of the canvas. De La Nuez is listed on the “Who’s Who List of the Most Collected Artists of Our Time” with the premiere auction houses and sold in galleries internationally with collectors spanning the globe.

Glen Orbik

Title: *Emerald Beauties*

Medium: Oil on Bristol board

About: Glen Orbik is an American illustrator known for his fully painted paperback and comic covers, often executed in a noir style. He is a popular teacher among fine art, comic, and video game artists and brings a unique interpretation on capturing the unadulterated joy of the Cowardly Lion at the Wash + Brush Co. before having an audience with the Wizard.

Ragnar

Title: *Girl from Kansas*

About: Brandon “Ragnar” Johnson is one of today’s hottest graphic artists and designers, simply known as Ragnar. Inspired by the unique aesthetic of the 50s and 60s, Ragnar has evolved this visual sensibility into a look that is all his own and as modern as tomorrow. Ragnar glamorizes the art of seduction in vibrantly colored, profoundly stylized limited edition fine art prints. His monochromatic voyeurism is a contemporary callback to classic film noir. His fresh take on Dorothy casting her own spell on the Winged Monkeys show the timeless charm of the “Girl from Kansas.”

Alex Ross

Title: *My Pretties*

Medium: Gouache on Bristol board

About: Alex Ross is one of the world’s most pre-eminent and well-respected comic book artists today. Finding inspiration in historical artists in a vast spectrum, from George Perez to Salvador Dali, Ross has been called “The Norman Rockwell of Comics.” His paintings expose the subjects’ soul and allow viewers to take a look “behind the curtain.” This up-close and personal view of the Wicked Witch sends chills up your spine.

Todd White

Title: *Bar Tales*

Medium: Oil on canvas

About: Todd White creates timeless scenes of diverse attraction and intimacy. His work is infectious and has caught the attention of the public (galleries cannot keep enough of Todd's work in stock) as well as celebrities and collectors. White's rat-pack-meets-Picasso style results, in part, from his desire to reveal his characters' innermost thoughts and emotions on their faces. Vibrant, saturated hues imbue the scene with richness as the artist captures a familiar moment in time.

Yakovetic

Title: *Surrender Dorothy*

Medium: Oil on canvas

About: Spanning over 30 years, Yakovetic's expertise includes book and concept illustration, set, costume and prop design. Yakovetic is an accomplished sculptor and fine art painter. His paintings capture the unseen moments of America's most beloved films; including *Mary Poppins*, *Sleeping Beauty* and now, *The Wizard of Oz*. Yakovetic's photo realistic interpretations delight collectors worldwide and encourage the viewer to linger and discover hidden messages and moments from these iconic treasures.