



Up to 25 works on show June 15 – 30, 2007 Deloney Newkirk Fine Art 634 & 669 Canyon Road Santa Fe, NM 87501 (505) 992-2850

## **ERIC THOMPSON**



## The simple life

he word that Eric Thompson uses the most frequently to describe his new paintings is simplicity—simplicity in theme, in subject matter and in thought.

Thompson's new figurative and interior paintings take viewers on a journey within themselves, to a quiet moment hovering on remembrance.

"A painting needs to remind

someone of something in their life they have forgotten," says Thompson. "These painting invoke a beautiful, haunting memory, and I want them to summon that recollection for people."

Thompson's interior still lifes are usually composed around a minimal number of objects that stand apart through their commonality—shoes placed under a wooden bench, an empty chair next to an old glass jar, a tin cup resting on an empty shelf. Through these simple compositions, Thompson seeks to imply a narrative.

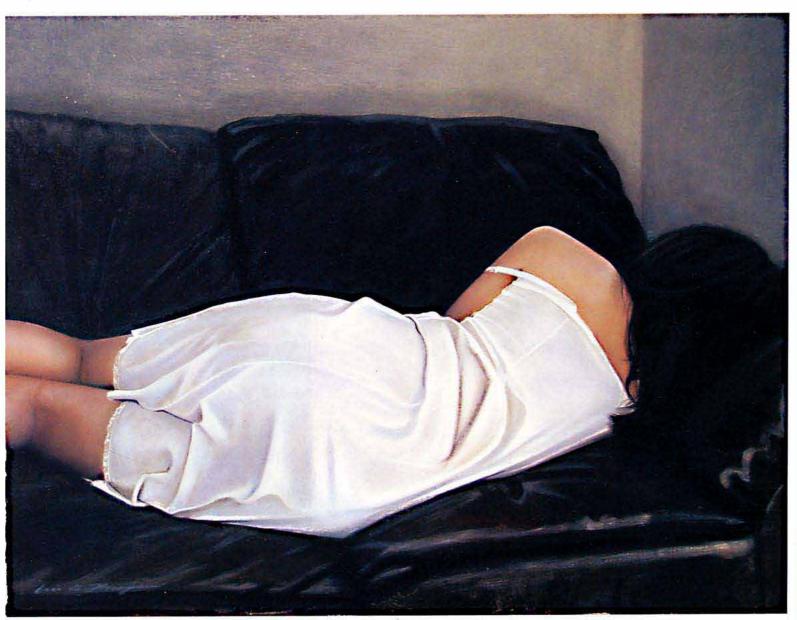
"I'm telling a story in a roundabout way," he says. "The scenes are very tight and the edge of the painting is just floating. For example, I'll paint a chair but not quite the whole chair and it will be right there, just out of the viewer's eye. I want [the objects] to create a story just outside of the picture plane. And, to me, that immediacy just opens up a whole world of possibilities."

Thompson shows in his new works a pure love and interest for the objects themselves. Simple, household things assume an iconic feel when pulled into one of Thompson's paintings. They're imbued with reverence, a quality deepened by Thompson's keen understanding of space in the painting process.

"I find objects to be very profound," says Thompson. "And when you see these objects in a different light you can almost sense the spirit or character emanating from them. I'll always pick an object over a figure because to me objects have such a powerful presence and it lets you tell a story without a person being there."



THE BEDROOM,
OIL ON CANVAS, 30 X 24"





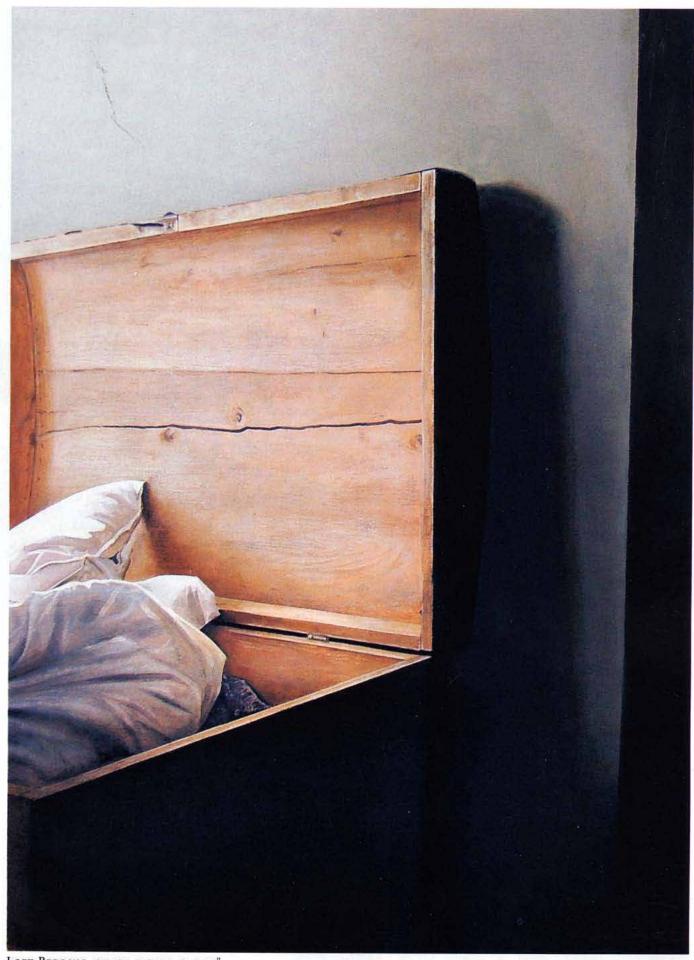
Cool Rest, oil on canvas, 30 x 40"

## The Gallery Says . . .

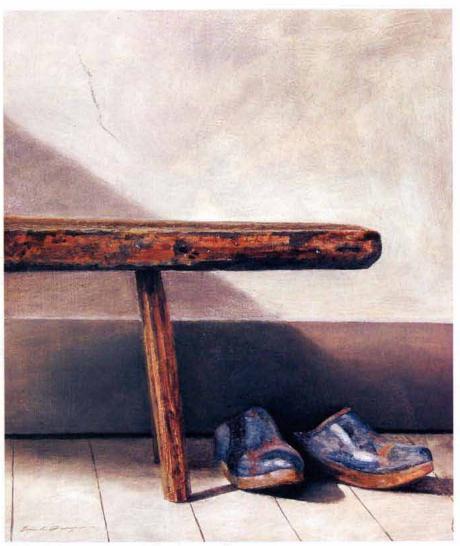
"Eric's paintings are like visual haikus — reserved yet poignant reminders of the underlying grace of everyday moments."

Lawrence Matthews,
 Managing Director,
 Deloney Newkirk Fine Art

ERIC IN HIS STUDIO WITH HIS NEW PAINTING, SWEET REPOSE



Loft Bedding, oil on canvas, 31 x 24"



COUNTRY SHOES, OIL ON CANVAS, 28 X 24"

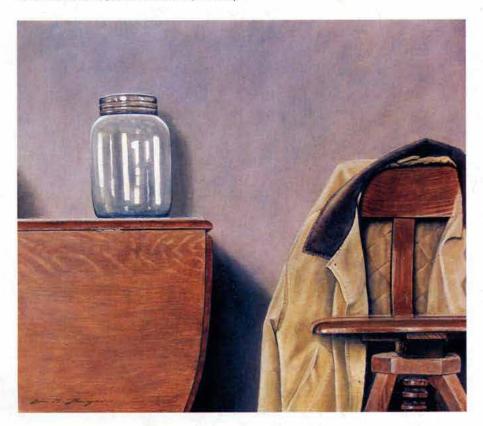
These objects also take on a whole new look and feel due to the play of light and shadows that Thompson directs through the canvas.

"As a child, I would search out a patch of light entering the room and sit there forever in total bliss," he says. "I feel that every one of my paintings is essentially a study of light or lack thereof—light coming into a room, light hitting an object, stretching a shadow, lighting an edge. All of this can be very powerful and moving in a painting."

Thompson's paintings are guided by a strong, single focus that lends them a meditative quality. He sees the paintings as a place for the viewer to exist, a place where one can let go.

"I am extremely attracted to the practice of Zen," he says, "and have practiced it for many years. I believe this practice and the discipline it requires have given me the great opportunity to be in the presence of a person or object and to absorb its essence—which can be extremely blissful and profound. Painting to me is ultimately meditation."

For a direct link to the
exhibiting gallery go to
www.americanartcollector.com



PICKLE JAR, OIL ON CANVAS, 24 X 27"

