

## UPCOMING GROUP SHOW

*Up to 30 works on show*

April 10-30, 2008

Leslie Levy Fine Art

7137 Main Street

Scottsdale, AZ 85251

(480) 947-2925

• SHOW LOCATION SCOTTSDALE, AZ

# ROBERT LADUKE AND TED POLOMIS

## Toying with time

The whimsical works of Robert LaDuke and Ted Polomis take viewers back to a simpler time, a time when life's small joys meant great things and when innocence was not yet lost.

The subject matter Polomis explores in these new works deals exclusively with toys and vintage objects, including a mix of pressed metal antiques, toy wagons, cars of the 1930s and '40s, and a worn teddy bear.

"There are wonderful, simple shapes in all of these toys, which have a very Americana feel to them. I just love painting them, and when it takes weeks or months, the objects need to be something I'm fascinated by and fun to work on," says Polomis. "Toys are a lot of fun, but there is a long lasting wisdom combined with their innocence and durability."

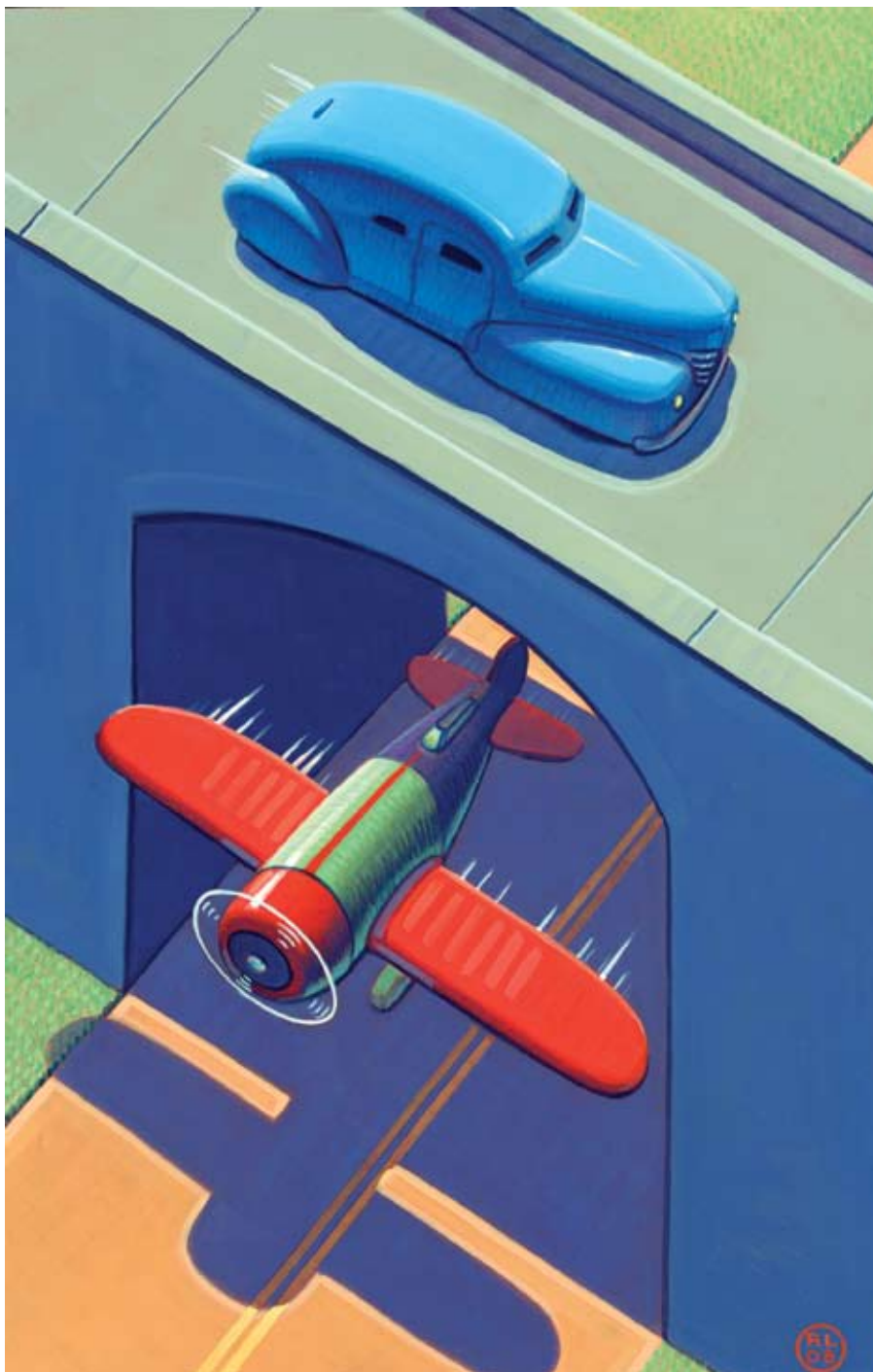
Polomis uses white paint in these works to help reveal the underlying story of these aged objects.

"I love white at some capacity in painting, whether it's the base of an old white shelf, cabinet or mantel piece, it sets off the objects so well," says Polomis. "These are always distressed—an old nice veneer of white, but with real life underneath it."

The toys in Polomis' work act as vessels of history, commentaries of American culture past and present.

"They are like little time capsules," says Polomis. "Here are these toys, 80 years later, scratched and dinged up, but still with that lovely innocent quality. They take me back to when America was a simpler place."

LaDuke says his paintings for this show, all acrylic on birch panel, are done in a realist style with an open-ended narrative. He enjoys painting long, narrow, panoramic paintings, and



ROBERT LADUKE, SQUEEZE, ACRYLIC ON PANEL, 20 X 12½"



TED POLOMIS, END OF THE LINE, OIL ON PANEL, 9 X 25"



TED POLOMIS, THREAD BEAR, OIL ON PANEL, 12 X 12"



TED POLOMIS, LETTER CARRIER, OIL ON PANEL, 9 X 12"



ROBERT LADUKE, PONYTAIL, ACRYLIC ON PANEL, 9½ X 33"

### *The Collector Says . . .*

"I love the retro humor, the irony and the primary colors of Robert LaDuke's pieces. I love the almost menacing affect of technology embedded in them. You'll see a train, a plane and a car converging. It's like optimism combined with a loss of control!"

— Ed Gregory



TED POLOMIS, MATCH RACE, OIL ON PANEL, 14 X 18”


in these latest works, explores a variety of canvas sizes, including several square and vertical pieces.

As always, LaDuke is inspired by his own experiences, dreams, and whatever else grabs his attention at the time. His use of vibrant colors and seemingly nostalgic subject matter draw viewers in while inviting them to find their own connection to the work.

“I’d like my collectors to be able to view my paintings on multiple levels and arrive at their own conclusions as to their meaning,” says LaDuke. “Some are drawn to the nostalgia of the paintings and some like that the paintings convey a darker undertone.”

Though left open to viewers’ interpretation, his pieces are infused with personal iconography and subjects that are meaningful to him.

“I’ve heard the collectors often see humor in my paintings and recognize there are multiple meanings in my work,” says LaDuke. “For others, the paintings evoke a sentimental response, usually related to a memory or significant childhood event. I want collectors to be happy with the paintings they choose.” ●

*For a direct link to the  
exhibiting gallery go to* 

[www.americanartcollector.com](http://www.americanartcollector.com)