LEON OKS



DREAMSCAPE









LEON OKS



DREAMS CAPE

MORNING

2006 OIL ON LINES CONC. CONC.



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LEON OKS DREAMSCAPE

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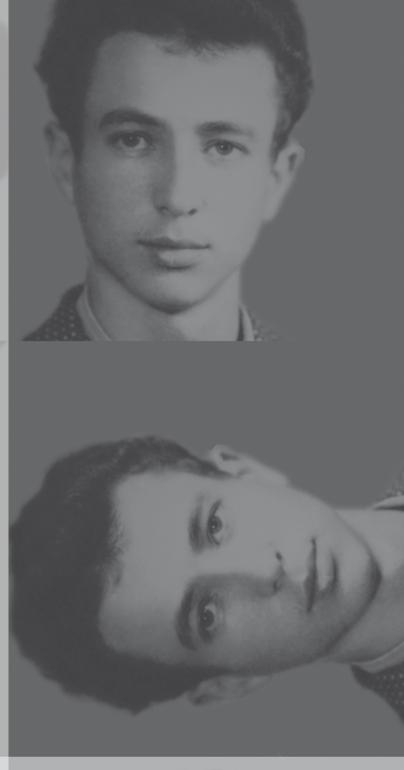
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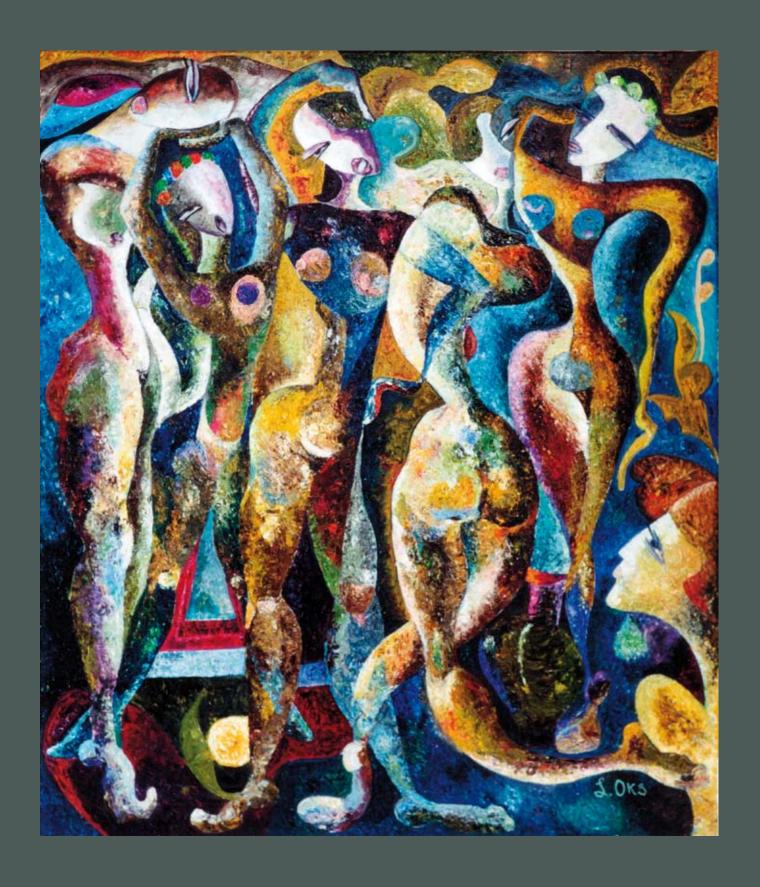
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ABOVE THE MOON

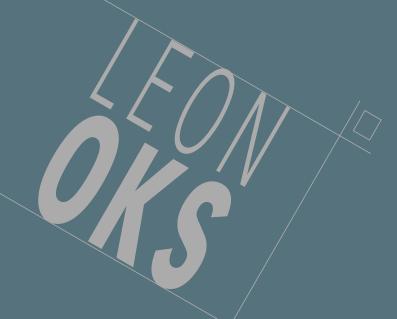
2001 OIL ON CANVAS 90X75 CM. / 36X30 IN.

LEON OKS DREAMSCAPE

BEYOND THE THOUGHTS 2000 OIL ON CANVAS 60X75 CM. / 24X30 IN.







Leon Øks' dialogue with the canvas is a surprising one. He fills the space with apparently amorphous, barely distinguishable human shapes that seem to coalesce into one another, using every inch of the surface. Other paintings, such as the country landscapes and the well organized and structured town scenes, breathe less tension than his compositions. Oks proves to be a versatile artist who masters a variety of styles. In the midst of the chronic, lingering, never-ending debate about "What is art?" we look at the art of Leon Oks and decide it is art without any controversy or question. His paintings are a beautiful, sensual, luscious force of nature that warms the eyes, the heart, and the soul. Whether it is the picturesque little Ukrainian village, forests of birch trees, sumptuous exaggerated nudes, or bouquets of elegant organic females clustered together on the campus, the composition, the color, the harmonic exuberance of his paintings touch deep and true. He abstracts the essence of his subjects in a unique, whimsical way and makes it his own.

Julie Robins Greenberg

Large compositions, rendered in wide, bold brushstrokes and pure colors, remind us of André Derain's fauvism or of Matisse. One is compelled to get closer, to immerse into this dynamic universe, fascinated by the aura of energy and the vibrant touch, to examine the buoyancy of color, and to understand more about the mastery of the artist who was able to create them. The universe which Leon Oks introduces us to is a joyful and energetic one, of luscious primary colors and shapes which coalesce to create a form which is new but in the same time strangely familiar. At a closer look, some of the paintings are almost figurative, but

the silhouettes are not the ones we are accustomed to see; they have reminisce natural forms which seem to be floating into an almost primordial movement, linked to the fundamental rhythms of life, and trigger an almost unconscious response from us, that connects us to the same movement.

Oks was born in the Ukraine, a former Soviet republic, and like

many other artists that lived in a society where the focus of official culture was not to explore the beauty of inner life and the meanders of imagination, but to create mobilizing slogans which proved to be ultimately meaningless, felt the need to express what he felt and not what he was required to feel. The result was that his first exhibition, where he presented to the public his beautiful landscapes and compositions, was quickly censored and more than half of his paintings were removed before the public was allowed in. For an artist that had dedicated his existence to beauty, this was not a deterrent. On the contrary, it was proof that he had indeed struck a sensitive a chord, which the system acknowledged as damaging to the official policy,

and that the road he had taken was not an easy one, but it was certainly one worth pursuing, because it was a pilgrimage towards unaltered beauty and towards sharing it with everyone that had enough courage to be willing to undertake the same journey. By removing his paintings, the officials acknowledged something Oks must have already known subconsciously: that beauty and especially artistic freedom represent a threat to any repressive society. Denying access to it is the quickest way to enslave a person, and the artist is a free spirit by nature. It was also a lesson about life and relationships, about the solitude and relentlessness of the creator: believing in

himself was always what gave him the strength to pursue his gift, and what enabled him to share it with others, then and today.

Just like Chagall created his mythical village, which remains in the history of art as the space where the laws of reality are suspended so that a new reality, seen through different eyes, can take shape in its own rights, so Oks re-creates for all of us to

experience his childhood town in an incredible series of dreamy paintings, whose quiet charm will never cease to fascinate us. "My Childhood Memories" is a gift that the artist selflessly shares with everyone, by offering us the opportunity to experience something we'll never be able to forget. It is a fascinating experience to see how this universe, depicted in paintings such as 'Path to My Childhood Town', about which we sometimes read in history books, can be seen simultaneously both through the eyes of the child who had to deal with the harsh realities of life, with moving from one place to another in an attempt to find a place in a country torn by war, and having to deal with the role of the man too early in life, but also through the eyes of the

adult who reminisces about the difficult times and in the same time manages to filter these experiences and to re-connect again and again to the beauty of a life and a landscape, without and hard feelings.

The reverence for nature and the landscape where he grew up, which is a recurrent theme in his paintings, is in competition only with his deep admiration for women. The female figure is another one of his ubiquitous subjects, and it is not a particular woman, but the concept of womanhood itself and the underlying connection between the female symbolism and nature, the primordial rhythms of life, that is in the focus of the artist, in paintings such as 'Sunset Dance', 'Sound of Silence', or 'Orchard'. Known for his preference to work with models, Oks represents the female not as a subject, but more as a primordial energy, who is also a catalyst for his art, resplendent in a beauty that transcends boundaries. The representation of the female form is a nexus of flowing lines and swirling color, who only serves to emphasize the fact that She is at the center of creation, and essential to our survival as a species.

Leon Oks strongly believes that the main appeal of his artwork stems mainly from the fact that it encourages the viewer to transcend reality every single time, in order to bring together in the mix valuable personal emotions, which serve to activate the hidden layers of meaning encoded in each painting: his artwork encourages the viewers to deal with their own emotions and visions and shape each painting into a personal journey, to unblock thoughts that one might not even be aware of. It is not only a viewing experience, but more likely a dynamic relationship between the artist and his public, who must be willing to work together. That means also being able to perceive and purge the inner tension which comes across, and which has been sublimated by the artist through the act

of creation. Encouraging such a deconstructivist interpretation of his artwork is proof that Oks is not afraid now, more than ever, of what the audience might tell him, but on the contrary, is looking forward to the input because it can only mean an enrichment of his own creation by allowing multiple readings.

Oks' paintings are standing proof, if one needs any, that while his life was dedicated to artwork, he also felt that it is his duty to share this vision with the ones that were fortunate enough to be able to appreciate it. The freedom the artist experienced when he moved to the US in 1980 was an unexpected chance to explore at the full extent the themes that had been of interest for him all through his lifetime, and one can feel that despite the dark moments in his past, he remained forever an optimist, and with every brushstroke, every shade of green, blue, or purple, every silhouette, every little house and every tree, every silhouette who coalesces from the vivid background, his paintings seem are an ode to the beauty of life and celebrate the freedom of the artist that transcends the boundaries of time.

More than ever, in a world which is invaded by the digitized image, by the copy of a copy of a copy, one feels the need to see painting in the tradition of the great masters, one that preserves, as Walter Benjamin explained, the aura of originality. And this is what Leon Oks generously offers us: not a digital print, or a collage, one that is just a copy of something we have seen in a hundred other places. On the contrary, it is exactly this originality which stems from every brushstroke that is so fascinating, and the pulse of an artist who is always there, ready to take the next challenge.

> Dana Mann New York, June 11, 2006

${\sf ASTONISHMENT} \to$

1999 OIL ON CANVAS 117X142 CM. / 46X56 IN.







MASTER OF TODAY

There are certain artists who possess a vision, which is original and exceptional. Russian-born artist Leon Oks is a painter whose work shows an exciting visual style that weaves form, fluid brushstrokes and vivid color into a tapestry of unique inspiration. He melds dynamic movement and multiple perspectives with romance and a level of emotion that elevates his work to new heights, revealing joy and sadness in equal measures. Painting for Oks is, more than anything else, an endeavor of passion and each piece reflects the unique vision of how the artist has tapped into the range of the human experience. To fully express the emotion within each piece, most of his subjects are not representational; when they are, facial expressions are extraordinarily meaningful and stirring.

Oks is excited and hopeful about the current direction of his art. As a painter, he captures the essence of images, so that his deep feelings intertwine with the colors

and shapes which flow in lyrical fashion on the canvas and convey a truth about our existence.

As a catalyst for his art, the female figure is resplendent with a beauty and intrigue that transcends temporal and cultural differences. The representation of the female form is filled with high respect, flowing lines and beauty. Leon Oks sees the female form as a powerful force, essential to our survival as a species. The artist strives to envelop the viewer in a dreamscape of lush bodies as they interact energetically in the paintings "Orchids" (2002), "Sound of Silence" (2000), "Touch" (2001), "Rhythm" (2002) and "Spring Break" (2005), "Irises" (2004). Leon Oks believes their appeal lies in the personal images they evoke within the viewer themselves, more than anything else. His artwork encourages the viewers to bring together their own emotion and visions to shape each painting into a personal journey.

MASTERS MASTERS

The voluptuous, swaying images of women in the artist's paintings are deliberately anonymous. His intention is to identify and capture on the canvas the universal erotic energy of all women, more than to portray a certain woman. There is great power in this inherent female energy, and the artist feels that power in Nature as well.

Oks recognizes the similar energy in both women and nature, and he increasingly unites the pair in his work. In "Love of Nature" (2003), "Friends" (2002), "Irises" (2004), "Rhapsody" (2002), "Orchids" (2002), "Spring Break", female faces are seen atop abstract, plant-like torsos and 'legs.' The 'plant women' are shooting skyward like growing trees in a tribute to the more enigmatic aspects of the feminine spirit. The stylized forms of the female figure speak about relationships and solitary emotions while exploring the reality in life. At other

times, the artist creates evocative landscapes of the mind that exist in realm between abstract expressionism and surrealism.

In his formative years, as a young artist in Russia, Leon Oks worked for the State, like all did. He was unable to fully evolve or exhibit many of his paintings until he and his family immigrated to the United States in 1980. His work became more open and emotional, because he was finally able to release his feelings without any consequences. To finally have the opportunity to focus on drawing and painting nude figures in an environment of artistic freedom was an overwhelming experience for him.

In his adoptive country, he was finally free to explore all aspects of his artistic expression and exhibit those works around the world. Even as his art evolved to focus more on semi-abstract work, the artist continued to paint landscapes also. Among his many

OF TODAY

compositions which are landscape oriented is the series "My Childhood Town", stemming from the cherished memories of his old country. In this collection of paintings of his homeland, Leon Oks revealed more than ever the child-like spirit which sometimes surfaces in his artwork. Oks continued to paint landscapes of his new country including also, "Autumn in Massachusetts" (2002), "Morning Dance" (2002) "Sunlight", "Evening Romance" (2000), "Harmony of Nature" (2000), "Sound of Bells" (2001) which represent compositions that seduce the viewer into canvas.

Leon Oks has a great respect for the power of color. He is also passionate about working with live models. "It is a great learning experience to see, feel and understand real life". He also brings his personal emotions to all of his work and he invites the viewer to learn more about existence through his art.

"We are gifted by God and I feel compelled to make art which will help viewers and students understand and appreciate real art and in the process understand that art is a powerful catalyst as international language that can have a positive influence in globe." As the Great Russian writer Dostoevsky says: "Beauty will save the world".

Oks is also a particularly dedicated teacher. He emphasizes the basic principles of drawing and painting to better enable students to have the confidence to develop their own style. He guides students toward their unique philosophical approach and, at the same time, the articulation of their individual feelings, approach and imagination. As an artist / teacher, he cares about cultivating the identity of his students and further their artistry, in a quest for their personal style.

JEALOUSY I → 2001 OIL ON CANVAS

75X90 CM. / 30X36 IN.



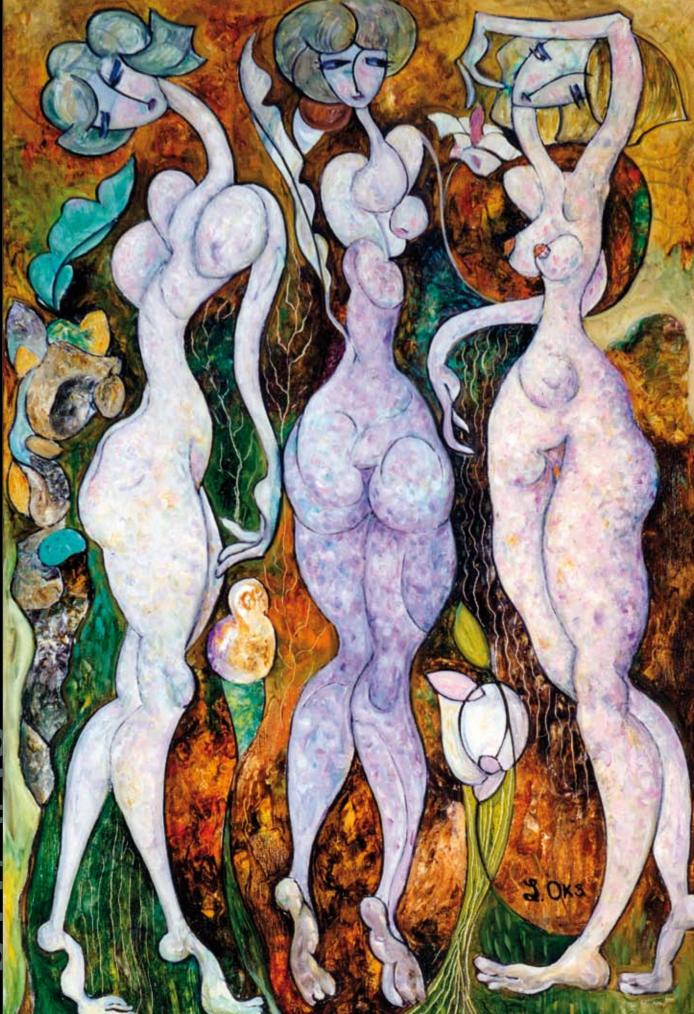




BEHIND THE STAGE → 2001 OIL ON CANVAS 50X132 CM. / 40X52 IN.







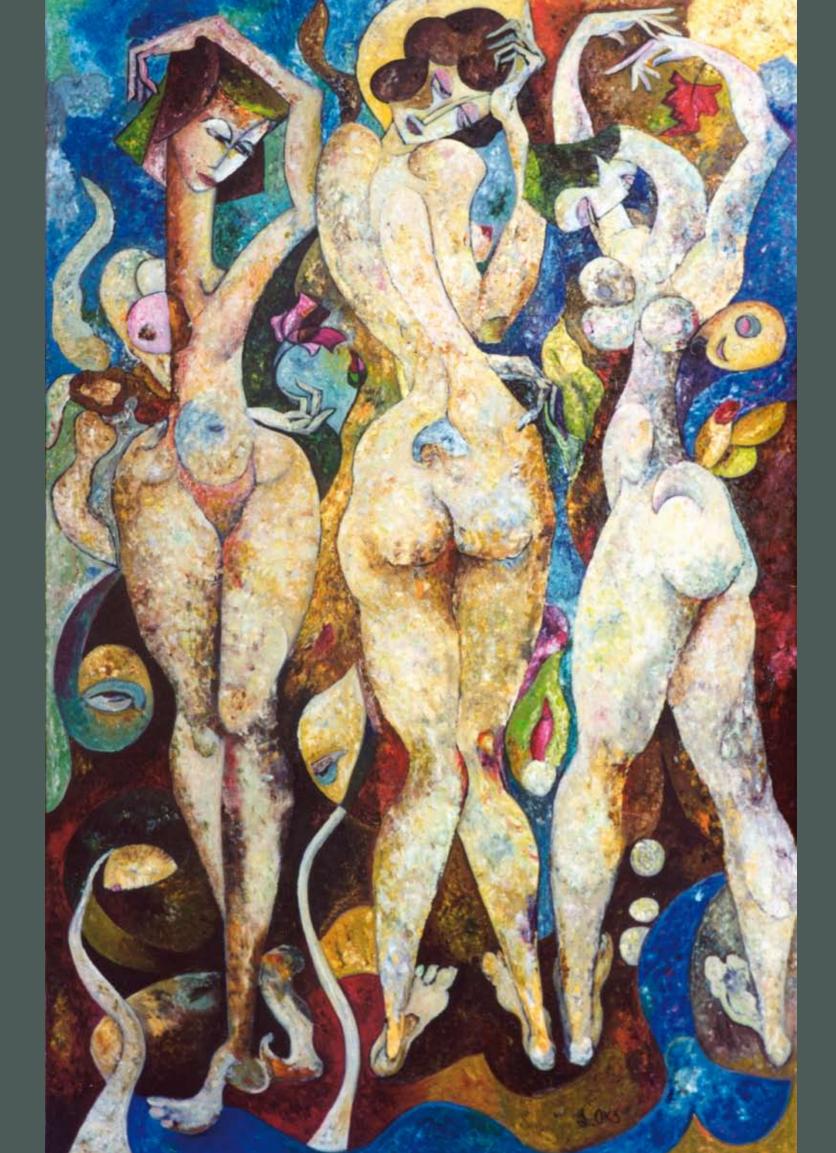
SWANS →

2003 OIL ON CANVAS 90X60 CM. /36X24 IN.

REALITY AND FANTASY \Rightarrow

2001 OIL ON CANVAS 122X75 CM. /48X30 IN.





 $COMPOSER \rightarrow$ 2002 OIL ON CANVAS 55X71 CM. / 22X28 IN.

PERMANENT COLLECTION THE MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAS

S DREAMSC/





Oks' grew up during the time of the World War II. The family had to evacuate from their home town of Zhitomir, due to the German occupation. The constant flight from location to location in the hope to find a free environment, away from the occupied zones, made the family's life miserable. In 1945, when the war was over, the family was finally able to return to their home town.



1953 Ukraine: Leon Oks (the Artist b. 1939), Maryia Magarycheva, Sister b.1937, Zisi Oks (Brother b. 1940), Pesya Oks (Mother b. 1915), Itzhak Kaminir, Grandpa, Sonya Kaminir (Grandma)

Leon was six years old at the time. Despite his young age, he somehow discovered within himself the capacity of observing

1955 Ukraine: Leon Oks 16

nature's beauty, even amongst the horrors and ravages of wartime. Being a child, Leon didn't fully understand all the hardship his family went through, but he always listened, taking quick notes in his mind, whenever his neighbors got together and shared their life experiences during this horrible time. He began to draw, slowly working his way toward watercolor. At the time, they were a family of six, living together in one room that was used both as a living room and as a bedroom, and a small kitchen, which soon became his 'studio'. Here, Leon created some of his first artworks late at night, after everyone went to bed. Leon loved to paint Ukrainian villages and people the way only a child can see and feel.

It has only been within the last few years that this artist has come to greatly appreciate those childhood feelings. One day, while



1966 Ukraine:
Lucy Oks 25 and Leon Oks 27



1982 USA: Leon Oks 4

he was painting in the studio which he uses today, Leon looked through the window, and noticed it was snowing beautifully. This helped him recall his childhood with great passion. So powerful were the memories, that when the artist started painting, the progression of compositions of his childhood town, which he knew and remembered clearly, came out in all their beauty and sadness. He called this series of paintings "MY CHILDHOOD MEMORIES", as a memento to a time long gone.



1981 USA: Diana Oks (Daughter b. 1964), Inessa Oks, Daughter b.1971, Leon Oks (the Artist b. 1939), Lucy Oks (Wife, b. 1941)

Leon had been only two years old when his father was called to military service in 1941 and then, soon after that, killed in the line of duty. As he matured, Leon had to assume the role of "man of the house", since his mother never remarried and dedicated her life to raise and educate her children. Respectful of the family bond, he performed many household duties such as cooking, cleaning and taking care of the house which was constantly on the verge of collapse. During this time, Leon also attended to his mother and two siblings, with whom he was very close.

Leon soon began copying the paintings of the great Master of the Renaissance period from books, as if this intuition had directed him to reproduce them specifically. Later, during his studies, he discovered that those were the masters most studied and respected of all times in the art world, and he had intuitively chosen the best source.

Leon considers it fortunate that Vladimir Kobilinsky, his first formal art instructor, was a great teacher, very gifted and able to appreciate real art. He successfully explained this philosophy to his students.

In a climate of great restriction, Leon often painted imaginary compositions, developing a unique style that portrayed the unity of humanity and nature. This artistic concept and the associated emotions, and his affinity for romanticism, which he managed to transfer on canvas, shaped



1973 Ukraine: the artist's daughters Inessa and Diana.

a new vision and approach to everything surrounding him; this was not accepted by the government.

When Leon was about 23 years old in his town of Zhitomir, he and a few other talented young artists had a show. Two days later, the local government closed the show, taking down more than half of Leon's paintings. Then, and only then, they allowed the exhibit to be reopened. There was absolutely nothing provocative or political in Leon's paintings - just a new style; a freer technique which the government referred to as "following Western influences." Then a newspaper article entitled, "Vigorously Modern" was printed in a local publication. At that time. Leon didn't understand that this was a victory of his art and talent. Only later did the artist realize that the emotions he transferred onto canvas were so strong and alive, that they deeply touched those who



2006 USA: Leon Oks

did not want to accept this new reality. This was a tough realization, but also a positive and powerful experience, which only made the artist stronger.



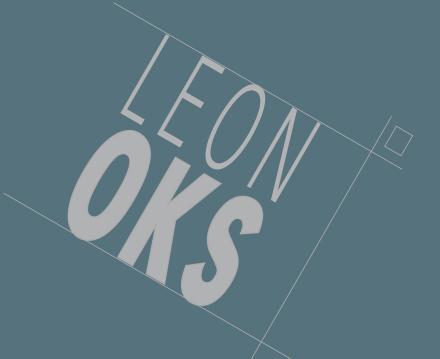
1989 USA: Dennis Zinger grandson (b. 1984)



2006 USA: Jad Daniel grandson (b. 23.08.2005)



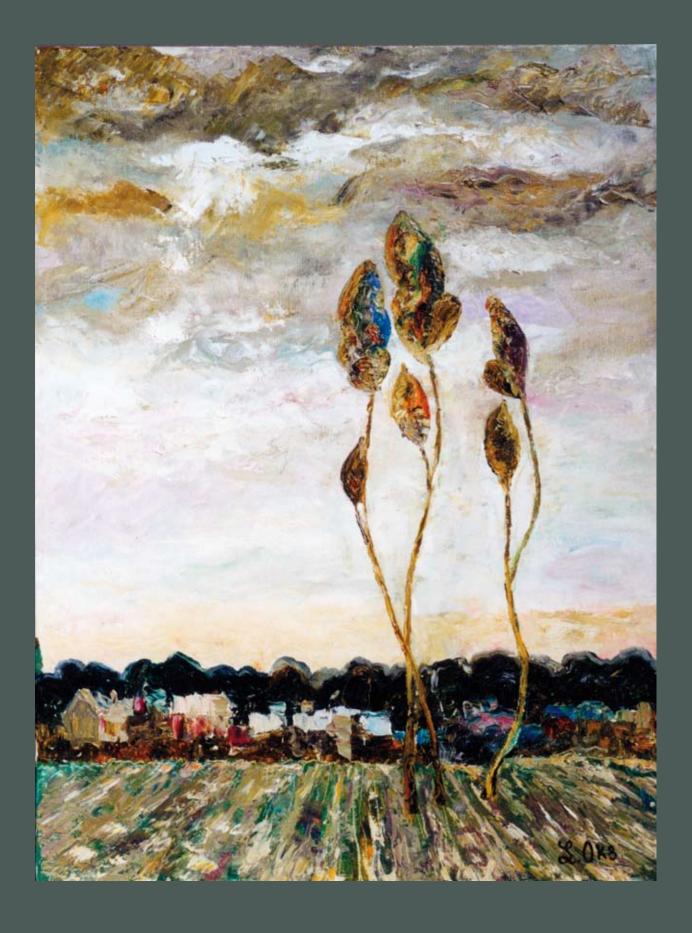




Yet no honor or award equals the satisfaction of knowing that someone is moved by his paintings. Leon Oks' work remains a bridge from his strong feelings to the outside world. He continues to walk that bridge with humility and reverence. "I like to encourage people to visually participate in my artwork and to see

the meanings and visions that are intentional, as well as subjective. Every time, this interaction with my audience encourages me to trust my artistic instincts, while it gives me permission to create without limits. My sole purpose is to communicate the passion and range of emotions I experience, as I express myself through my painting".

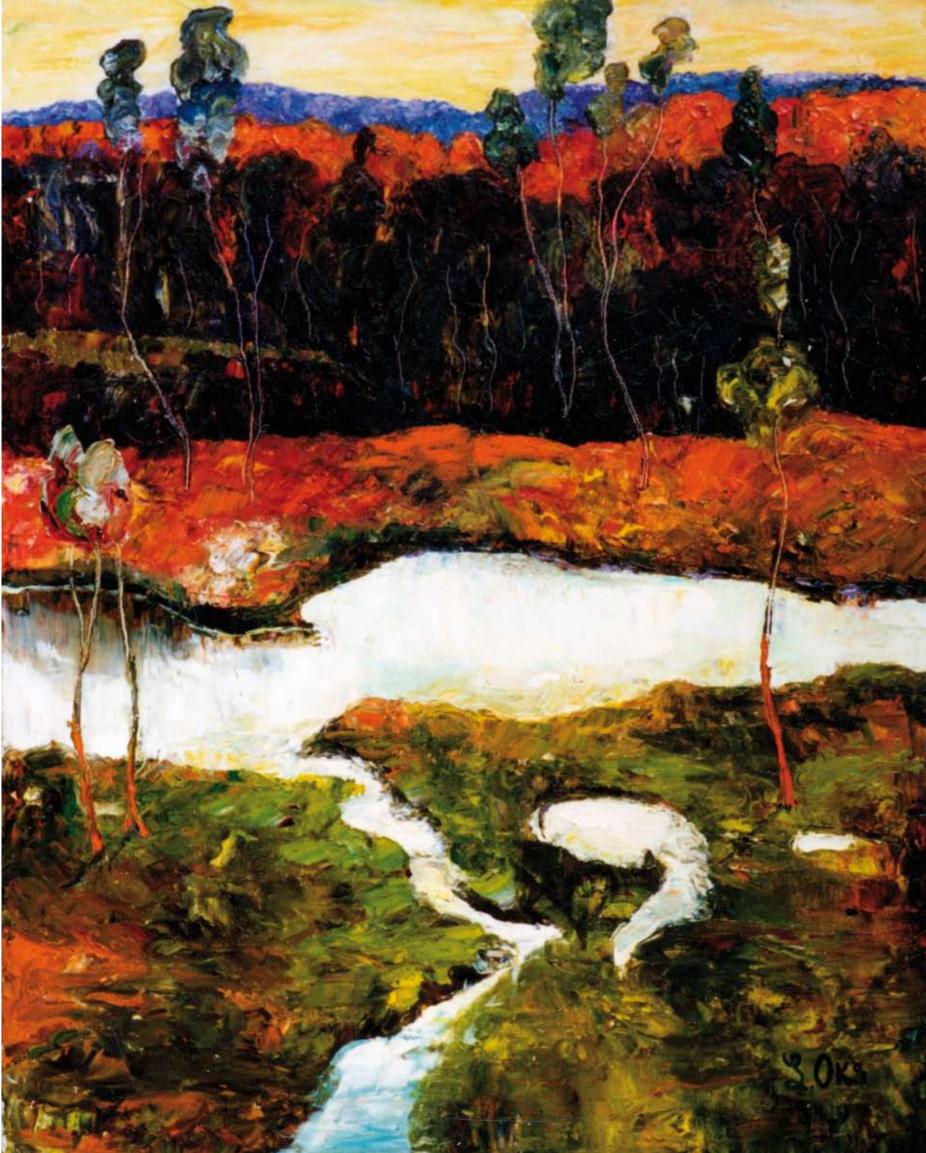




LOVE AFTER RAIN

AUTUMN IN MASSACHUSETTS →

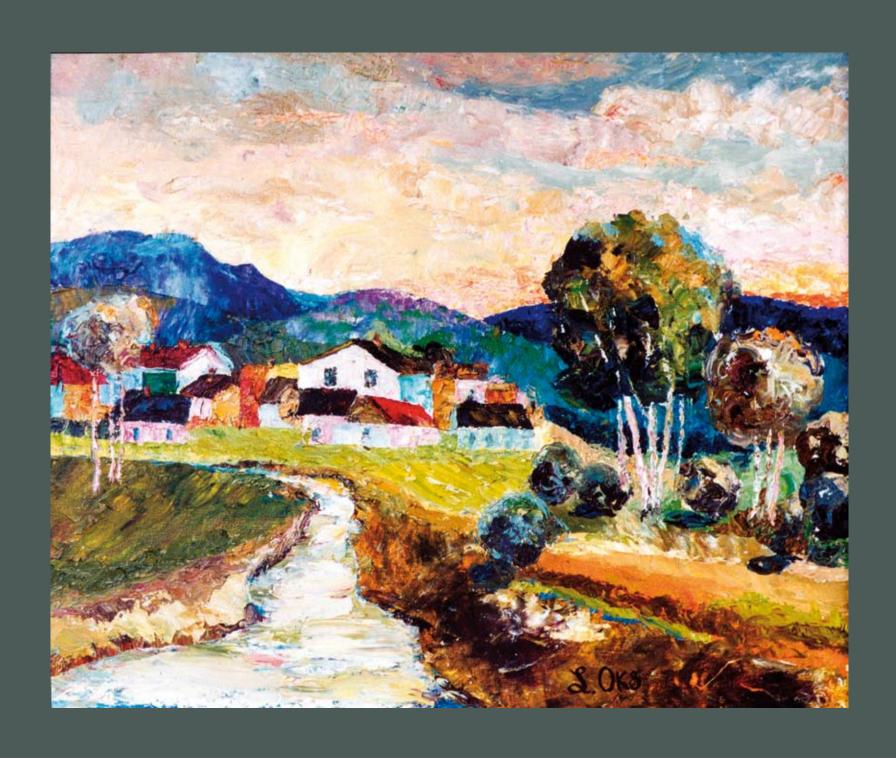
2002 OIL ON CANVAS 71X56 CM. / 28X22 IN.





Leon Oks's dream of freedom of artistic expression, which the artist so desperately sought, began when he came to United State in 1980. Since that day, the more he is able to share the gift of creativity, the deeper his gratitude grows. A sense of the artist's Russian-Ukrainian heritage, with its bittersweet memories and intense emotions, continues to frame the subject matter of many of his paintings; it is

the foundation upon which Leon Oks's love of art is built. Art is his world and was the key to changing his life. The artist has a strong belief that the same can be true for many others. This type of passion, on a grand scale, can change the focus of the world at large. Color, beauty, and nature can offer inspiration to all who open their minds and hearts to it. People are touched and uplifted by many of Oks's paintings because they stimulate imagination with their expressions of sensuality and possibility.



AFTERNOON

2001 OIL ON CANVAS 50X60 CM. / 20X24 IN.

PERMANENT COLLECTION: SCHACKNOW MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, FLORIDA, USA



APRIL IN OLD RUSSIAN TOWN
CHILDHOOD MEMORIES →

2005 OIL ON CANVAS 60X50 CM. / 24X20 IN.







† HARMONY OF NATURE

2000 OIL ON CANVAS 60X120 CM. / 24X48 IN.





To stand before a Leon Oks painting is to gain entrance into God's spiritual world filled with visions, revelation and mystery. **Each painting touches** a deeply embedded emotional cord within the viewer, as one experiences the gift of a master painter who has been given over to the hand of God. The world is yet to know the gift it is surely to receive through the artistry of Leon Oks. How honored one must

feel to meet this quiet humble man who has such powerful emotions streaming through his spirit in color and form. His dreams and visions must haunt him, tearing him emotionally until they are released upon the canvas, to be exorcised through color. One must admire the suffering Leon must endure to achieve the "call" of God through the hands of a master artist, and the result is mesmerizing, when one stands in front of Leon's finished work.

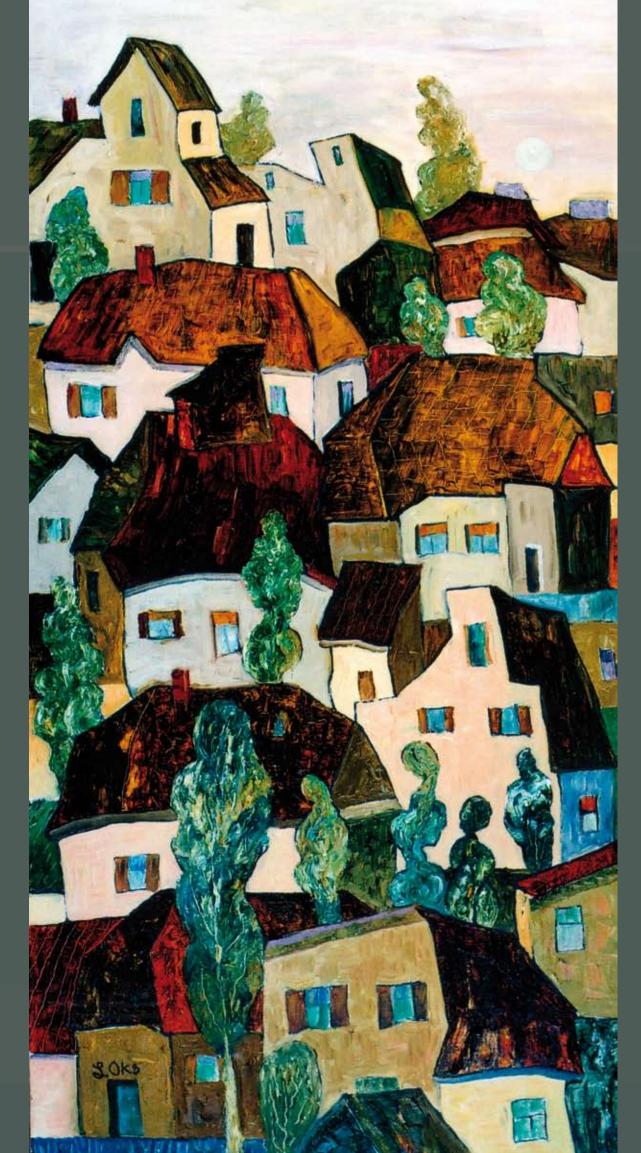
Paula C Huffman

2005 OIL ON CANVAS 91X45 CM. / 36X18 IN.

SUMMER DAY →

SUMMER EVENING ⇒
2005 OIL ON CANVAS
71X56 CM. / 28X22 IN.

SUMMER DAY







Leon Oks invites us into an imaginary world in his fanciful paintings. His subtle palette of umbers, burgundies and gold evoke a warm, earthy, and romantic mood in the bittersweet compositions inspired by memories of his Russian-**Ukrainian homeland. Oks'** imagination transforms trees into female forms; even many of the houses in his landscapes have rounded shapes, creating a soothing mood and flowing rhythms.

The female figure is a favorite theme for Oks.

Full hipped and sensuous, his women are vessels of creative power. These paintings contain many elements of nature, symbolizing themes of creativity and opposing forces. Oks exhibits technical excellence and rare talent, revealing an understanding and ability based on strong academic training and the development of a unique personal style.

Leon Oks' works communicate primarily on an emotional level, but his paintings can not be strictly categorized.

Francesca Mare Irion

TOWN OF SILENCE -

2003 OIL ON CANVAS 75X60 CM. /30X24 IN.







MELTED SNOW

2002 OIL ON CANVAS 60X120 CM. / 24X48 IN.



URBAN NIGHT

2004 OIL ON CANVAS 60X45 CM. / 24X18 IN.



OLD JEWISH NEIGHBORHOOD

2004 OIL ON LINEN 60X45 CM. / 24X18 IN.

MY CHILDHOOD TOWN



WINTER IN MY CHILDHOOD TOWN

2002 OIL ON CANVAS 56X71 CM. / 22X28 IN.



← MOON

2006 OIL ON CANVAS 60X60 CM. /24X24 IN.

$\leftarrow \ \mathsf{WET} \ \mathsf{SNOW}$

2001 OIL ON CANVAS 45X60 CM. / 18X24 IN.







Having always been intensely interested in the fine Arts as well as being a semi-serious collector, it was my good fortune to discover the artist Leon Oks at a social gathering where we meet, soon to be followed by an invitation to his studio. Looking at his beautiful, colorful, sensual paintings evoked powerful feelings in me, and I knew immediately that I had to become a collector of his work. Making choices was difficult, challenging, but fulfilling beyond words. I now own and love some of Leon's paintings and I am convinced that his work will live and inspire the world of ART into the far distant future.

Ella Zibitsker



2000 OIL ON CANVAS 100X75 CM. / 40X30 IN.





TOUCH



TOUCH

2001 OIL ON CANVAS 75X90 CM. / 30X36 IN.



1999 OIL ON CANVAS 152X116 CM. / 60X46 IN.



2001 OIL ON CANVAS 90X75 CM. / 36X30 IN.



2002 OIL ON CANVAS 75X75 CM. / 30X30 IN.

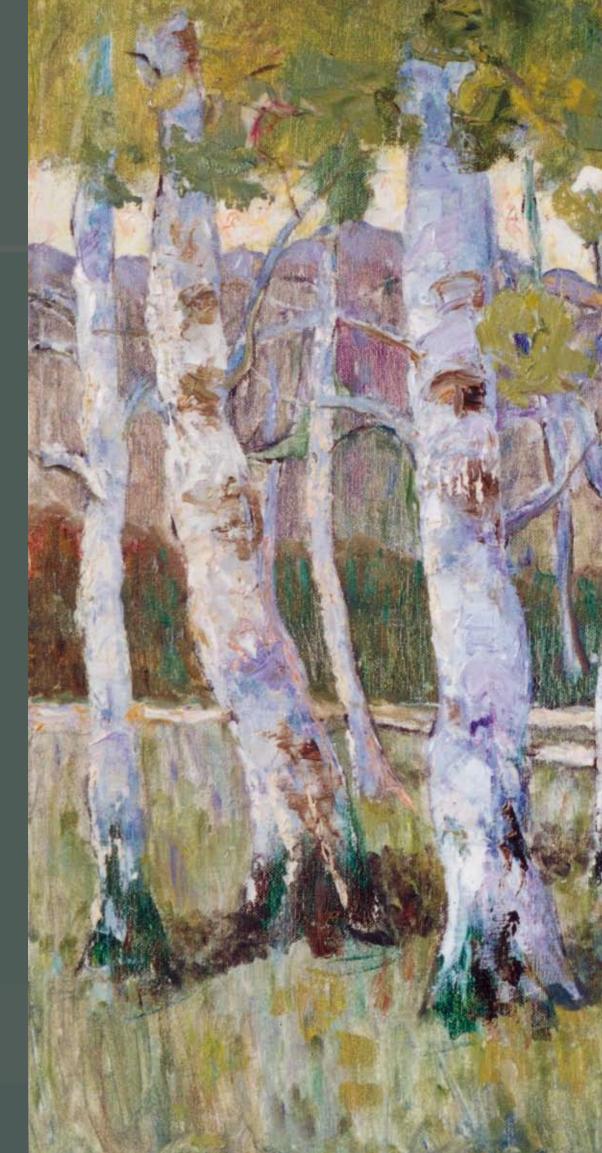
DREAMSCAPE LEON OKS



2002 OIL ON CANVAS 75X75 CM. / 30X30 IN.

MORNING LOVE →

2002 OIL ON CANVAS 56X71 CM. / 22X28 IN.









FOLK DANCE →
2000 OIL ON CANVAS
60X90 CM. / 24X36 IN.

OCTOBER MONTH → 2006 OIL ON CANVAS

2006 OIL ON CANVAS 75X100 CM. / 30X40 IN.



RHYTHM



RHYTHM

2002 OIL ON CANVAS 75X100 CM. / 30X40 IN.

WHITE FLAMINGOS \rightarrow

2004 OIL ON CANVAS 90X60 CM. /36X24 IN

2004 OIL ON CANVAS 90X60 CM. /36X24 IN.









CHILDHOOD

2000 OIL ON CANVAS 61X76 CM. / 24X30 IN.



THOUGHTS II

2005 OIL ON CANVAS 60X60 CM. / 24X24 IN.

ORCHARD



ORCHARD

2000 OIL ON CANVAS 60X75 CM. / 24X30 IN.

SOUND OF SILENCE →

2000 OIL ON CANVAS 100X75 CM. / 40X30 IN.

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LEON OKS

DREAMSCAPE





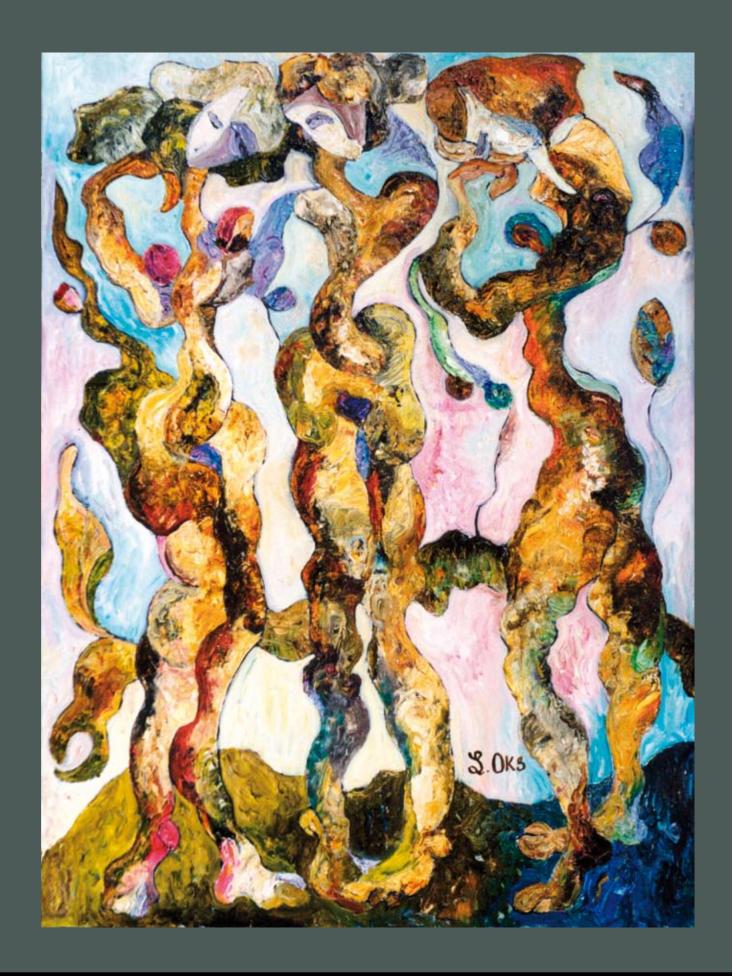
RHAPSODY

2002 OIL ON CANVAS 75X90 CM. / 30X36 IN

GOLDEN AGE →

2002 OIL ON CANVAS 75X60 CM. / 30X24 IN.





THREE GRACES

2002 OIL ON CANVAS 60X45 CM. / 24X18 IN.



TOUCH OF SPRING

2002 OIL ON CANVAS 50X60 CM. / 20X24 IN.





DREAM II

2005 OIL ON CANVAS 90X60 CM. / 36X24 IN.





NATURE OF ORCHIDS

2003 OIL ON CANVAS 90X90 CM. / 36X36 IN.

← FRIENDS

2002 OIL ON CANVAS 50X40 CM. / 20X16 IN.

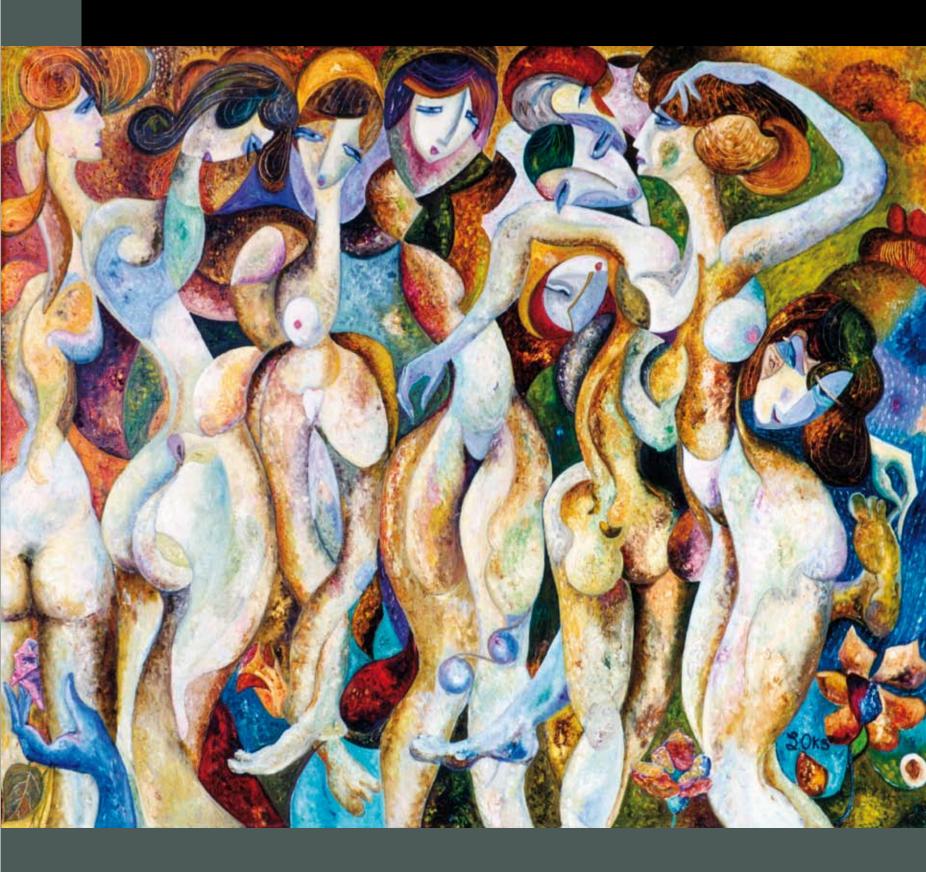


POWER OF NATURE

2001 OIL ON CANVAS 90X122 CM. / 36X48 IN.







ORCHIDS

2002 OIL ON CANVAS 75X90 CM. / 30X36 IN.

← TOUCH OF SUMMER

2003 OIL ON CANVAS 60X45 CM. / 24X18 IN.



LOVE OF NATURE

2003 OIL ON CANVAS 75X75 CM. / 30X30 IN.



NATURE

2003 OIL ON CANVAS 75X75 CM. / 30X30 IN.





AWAKENING OF THE EARTH

2003 OIL ON CANVAS 75X100 CM. / 30X40 IN.

87





INDIAN SUMMER

2003 OIL ON CANVAS 90X60 CM. / 36X24 IN.

← SPRING ORCHIDS

2003 OIL ON CANVAS 100X75 CM. / 40X30 IN.



SHADOW OF THE TREE

2002 OIL ON CANVAS 75X100 CM. / 30X40 IN.

SPRING LEAVES →

2003 OIL ON CANVAS 75X60 CM. / 30X24 IN.





MIDNIGHT

92

2005 OIL ON CANVAS 66X81 CM. / 26X32 IN.

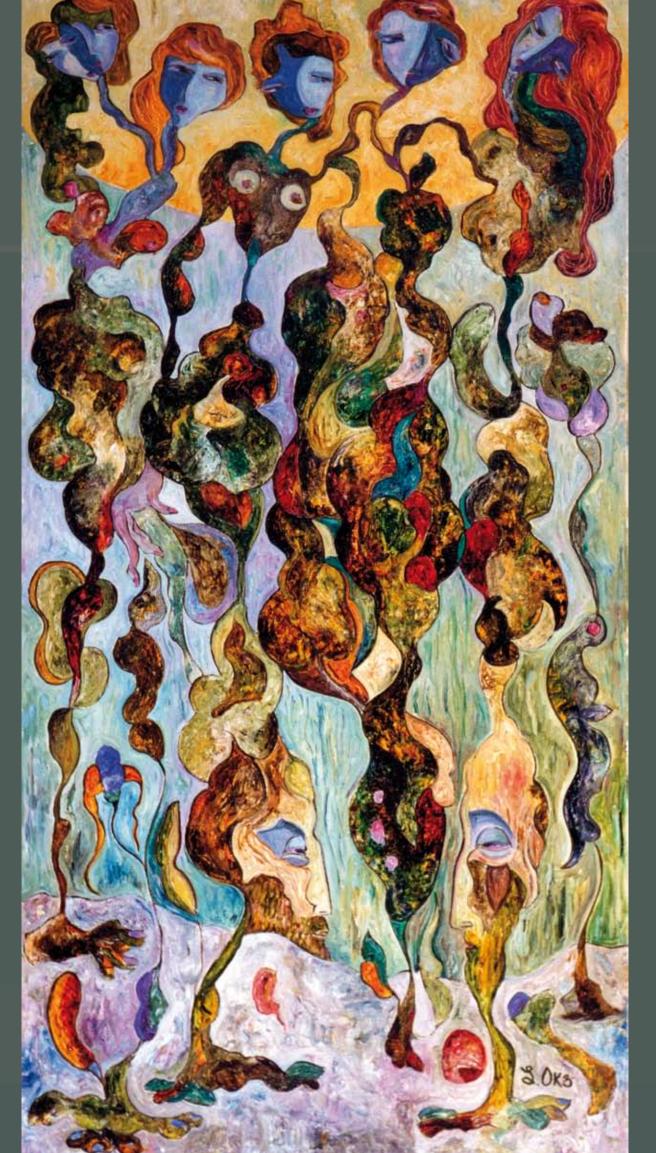


UNTITLED

2004 OIL ON CANVAS 90X60 CM. / 36X24 IN.







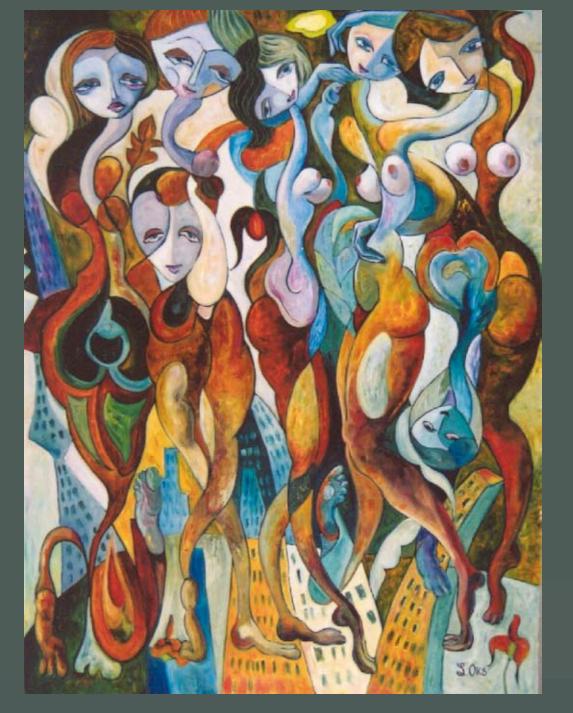


\leftarrow BLOOMING

2002 OIL ON CANVAS 60X90 CM. / 24X36 IN.

←CITY GIRLS

2006 OIL ON CANVAS 100X75 CM. / 40X30 IN.

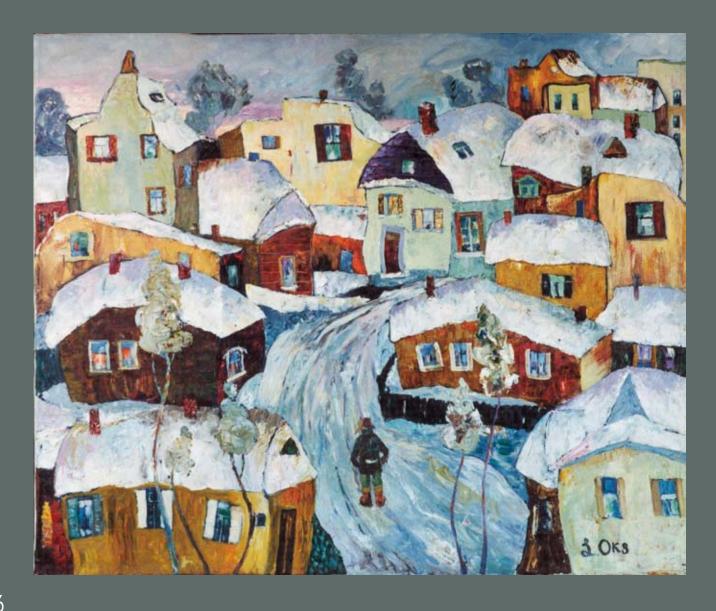


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Leon Okswasborn March 16, 1939 in City of Zhitomir, Ukraine. **EDUCATION**: College of construction and architect, 1954-1958, Ukraine. Fine art 1960-1964, Ukraine. **EXHIBITS** (**selected**): ArtExpo New York. March 1-5, 2007, Javits Convention Center, New York. Solo show "DREAMSCAPE" American Legion Memorial Civic Center, October 2006. "INTERNATIONAL SUMMER EXHIBITION 2006" Museum of the Americas, Miami, August 11 through September 2, 2006. "INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS EXHIBITION" Latino Art Museum and Museum of Americas, Pomona, California. "LINEART 2005" GENT, INTERNATIONAL ART FAIR Belgium, December 2-6, 2005. International Art Show "HISPANIC MONTH" Barcelona, Spain October, 2005. International Art Show "MAY SALON" May, 2005, Museum of the Americas,

825 SW 8th, Court, Miami, FL. "International Artists in Copenhagen" Exhibition Copenhagen, Denmark, May 10-25, 2005. "International Art Show", AAI GALLERY, Jackie Mauersberger-Arce Gallery, Vienna, Austria, November 4-27, 2004. "International Exhibition Centennial Don Quixote De La Mancha" Cricolart Galleries in Barcelona, Spain January 14 through February 3, 2005. International Art Show "ENCOUNTERS" September 10 through October 2, 2004. Museum of the Americas, 825 SW 8th, Miami, FL 33130. International Art Show Copenhagen (Denmark) Crisolart Galleries August 20 through September 10, 2004. International Summer Art Show Latin American Art Museum, 2206 SW 8th Street, Miami, FL, June 11-31, 2004. International Art Show "TRIBUTE TO SALVADOR DALI" (Dali

PATH TO MY CHILDHOOD TOWN 2002 OIL ON CANVAS 75X90 CM / 30X36 IN

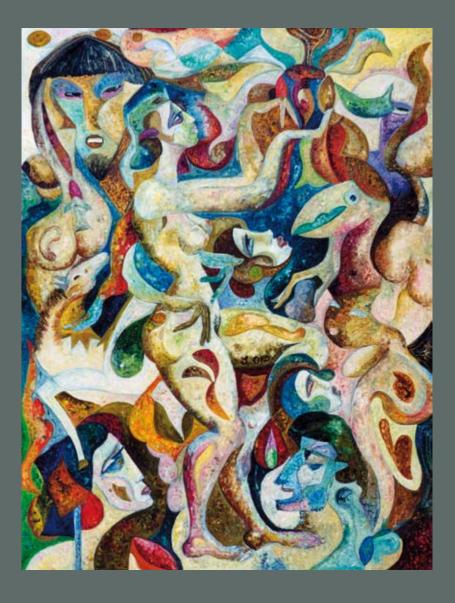


Centennial 2004) CRISOLART GALLERIES, Barcelona, Spain June 18-July 1, 2004. International Art Show "TRIBUTE TO FRANCISCO DE GOYA", FUENDETODOS Aragon, Spain), April 3-24, 2004. TZ Studio and Gallery 1834 West North Ave. Chicago, IL, Solo Show "MY World" April 5th -May 1st, 2004. Latin American Art Museum, 2206 SW 8th Street. Miami, FL, Solo Show January 9-31, 2004 International Art Show "Biennale Internazionale dell'Arte Contemporanea" Florence, Italy, December 6-14, 2003. Limner Gallery, 870 Avenues of the Americas, New York, NY, December 3-20, 2003. Amsterdam Whitney International Fine Art Gallery, 511 West 25th Street, Chelsea, New York, NY October 10 – November 4, 2003. Willa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum, 2220 N. Terrace Ave Milwaukee, WI. Solo

Show August 6-September 14, 2003. Gallery Mornea 624 Davis Street, Evanston, IL "Visualizing Expression" Three Persons Show May 29-July 28, 2003. Light of the Word Mission Gallery, Techny IL, Solo Show December 3, 2002 through February 28, 2003. Schacknow Museum of Fine Arts, Florida, October 12 through December 7, 2002. Limner Gallery, 870 Avenues of the Americas, New York, NY, August 7-24, 2002. Limner Gallery, 870 Avenues of the Americas, New York, NY, March 13-30, 2002. University Club of Chicago TWELFTH FLOOR GALLERY, 76 East Monroe Street, Chicago, IL, Solo Show April 11 through May 6, 2002. Skokie Heritage Museum, Annual Juried Art Show, Years 1995-2002. Arlington Gallery, 18 S. Evergreen, Arlington Heights, IL, February-April 2002. Maple Avenue

BIRD OF LOVE 2002 OIL ON CANVAS 100X75 CM. / 40X30 IN

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Gallery, 1745 Maple Ave., Evanston, IL, January, 2002. Annual Skokie Chicagoland Juried Art Show – Sponsored by the Skokie Fine Arts Commission, 1997 – 2001 Artistic Expressions Fine Art Gallery 971 N. Milwaukee Ave., Wheeling, IL. Solo Show November 3 - December 3, 2000, January, February 2001. Chicago Art Open 1999 and 2000 sponsored by Chicago Artists Coalition in cooperation with the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and the School of the Ar Institute of Chicago, 3rd Floor Gallery, 847 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL. An International Juried Art Competition "VISION 1999" and "VISION 2000", Zarem/Golde ORT Institute, 3050 W. Touhy Ave., Chicago, IL. The Palette & Chisel Gallery, 103 South Main Street, Galena, IL August 2000 to May 2001. Sherman Gallery, 740

N. Franklin, Chicago, Illinois "Two Person Show" March 24 through April 29, 2000. Gold Fish Gallery, 1451 Main St. Sarasota, Florida, December 1999 May, 2000. Maniscalco Studio Gallery, 'Imaginary Expressionism' Mack Ave., Detroit, MI, November 1999 to January 8, 2000. Sherman Gallery, 740 N. Franklin St., Chicago, IL, 'Freedom of Expression' Solo Show, June, 1999. Sherman Gallery, 740 N. Franklin St., Chicago, IL, 'Art From the Heart' Group Show, February, 1999. Sherman Gallery, Chicago, IL. Group Exhibit, December, 1998. National, Republic and Local Fine Art Exhibits, Juried Art Shows, Russia, 1962 through 1978. **AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS:** 2007: WORLD'S MOST RESPECTED EXPERTS in the field of International Contemporary Art Expertise awarded by the Governing

MEMORY OF PAST 2000 OIL ON CANVAS 75X875 CM. / 30X30 IN.



Board of Editors of the AMERICAN BIOGRAPHICAL INSTITUTE. 2007: First Place Award, Best in Show on International Show "May Salon", Museum of the Americas, Miami. 2006: EXPERT in International Contemporary Art with Specialized Certification of Expertise awarded by the Governing Board of Editors of the AMERICAN BIOGRAPHICAL INSTITUTE. 2005: Master Diploma for specialty honors in International Contemporary Art given by the World Academy of Letters United State of America. 2005: Diploma of Excellence, Global Art Annual Competition "Art Now", London, England. 2005: First Place Award, International Art Competition "JUST PAINT 2005", Artrom Gallery, Rome Italy. 2005: The Best in Art and Creativity, The World of Art Award, England. 2005: Diploma De Merito, Galleria D'arte

Moderna "ALBA", Italy. 2005: Selected as one of the Top 100 Contemporary Artists, The International Biographical Centre of Cambridge, England. 2004: First Place Award Best of the Show on "International Summer Show" Latin American Art Museum, Florida. 2004: International Visual Artist of the year, International Biographical Centre of Cambridge, England. 2004: "Professional Associated Academician of Art", "GRECI-MARINO" International Academy, Italy. 2004: First Place Award, International Show "Encounters", Museum of the Americas, Miami. 2000: Silver Brush Award and Award of Excellence, International juried Art Competition, ORT Institute, Chicago. **BOOKS:** 2008: "Masters of Today", Selected contemporary artists by World of Art, London, England.

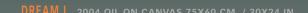
DAY DREAM 1998 OIL ON CANVAS 60X40 CM / 24X16 IN

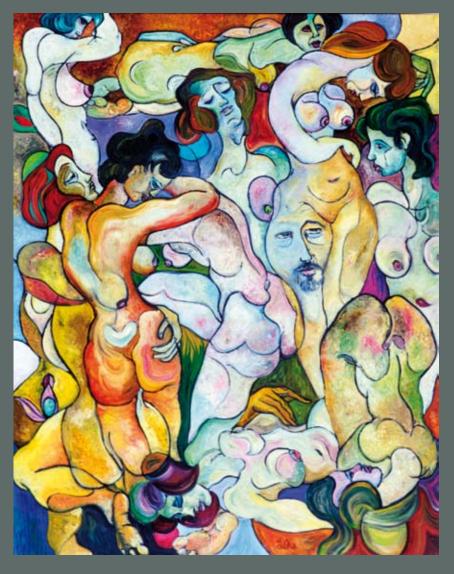


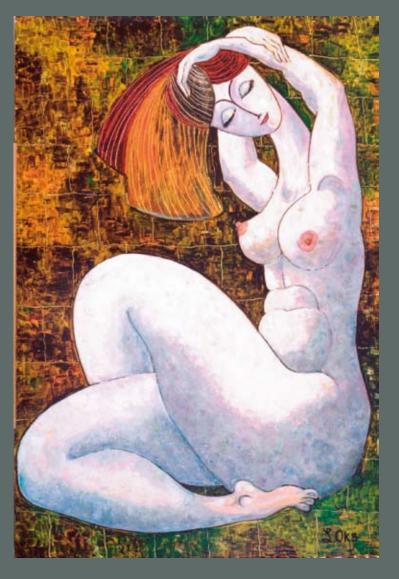
Q_ Artoteque's "Art Bank for Collectors", Selected contemporary artists edited by Artoteque.com, published World of Art, London England. 2007: "Dreamscape", limited edition collectible individual art book about Leon Oks and his work publication pending by WOA, England. 2007: "Famous", 121 Contemporary Artists by World of Art, London England. 2007: "Art of Excellence" Collective Art Book, Contemporary Global Art by World of Art, London England. 2006: Art, Painters and Sculptures from XV to XXI century published by REGARDS, France. 2006: New Art International, Established contemporary artists, Book Art Press, New York USA. 2006: International artists yearbook 2006 published by European Communities Artists Library, Barcelona, Spain. 2005: New Art International, Established

contemporary artists, Book Art Press, New York USA. 2005: 20 International artists 2005 published by European Communities Artists Library, Barcelona, Spain. 2005/2006: "International Encyclopedia Dictionary of Modern and Contemporary ART", published in Italy. 2005: Living artists 14 Edition 2005 published by ArtNetwork Press. 2004: 21 Contemporary Artists for the 21st Century, published by European Communities Artists Library, Barcelona, Spain. 2003: Living artists 13 Edition 2003 published by ArtNetwork Press. 2003/2004: "International Encyclopedia Dictionary of Modern and Contemporary ART", published in Italy. **PUBLICATION** (SELECTED): "Oks takes part in 'Art From the Heart;" PIONEER PRESS, Newspaper February 25, 1999, By Myrna Petlicki, Independent Writer. "A Moment

PASSIONS 1999 OIL ON CANVAS 140X110 CM / 56X44 IN







with Leon Oks;" Skokie Art Guild Newsletter, March 1999. By Marry Sass, Writer. From Reality to Fantasy;" REKLAMA Newspaper, July 1999. Chicago, By Vankarem Nikiforovich, Staff Writer. "Twenty Years Later;" SEVEN DAYS Newspaper, February 14, 2000 Chicago By Viktor Rochlin, Staff Writer. "Soviet émigré finds joy in work here;" Pioneer Press, LERNER COMMUNITY Newspaper, March 23, 2000, By Sara Burrows, Staff Writer. "In theaters and Galleries;" REKLAMA Newspaper, April, 2000, Chicago By Vankarem Nikiforovich, Staff Writer. WAIT (850) Radio Station; Interview with Renowned. Chicagoland Radio Personality Clark Weber – April 21, 2000 "Conversation with Artist," REKLAMA Magazine, December 2000 Issue, Chicago By Vankarem Nikiforovich, Staff Writer. "Ukrainian Artist's

Work on Display;" Galena Gazette, September, 2000. "Artist to Artist;" TV Show Interview, February, 2001. "Aura of Creation;" SEVEN DAYS Newspaper, April 12, 2002. Chicago. By Viktor Rochlin, Staff Writer. "Color in Painting is Most Important" REKLAMA Newspaper, April 17, 2002, Chicago. By Vankarem Nikiforovich, Staff Writer. "Painting from Life" PIONEER PRESS Newspaper, January 2, 2003 by Ellen Pritsker Staff Writer. "Elements of Fillings, Rhythms and Colors" REKLAMA. Newspaper, January 1, 2003. Chicago by Vankarem Nikiforovich, Staff Writer. Magazine: "ART ACQUISITOR" Published by Amsterdam Whitney Gallery, winter 2004, Annual issue. Images of artwork published in magazines: ART news, ART & ANTIQUES Magazine:, Art World News Magazine, Southwest Art Magazine.

WILD HORSE 2000 OIL ON CANVAS 125X155 CM / 50X62 IN





AWAKENING OF THE SEA

2005 OIL ON CANVAS 75X100 CM. / 30X40 IN.

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LEON OKS

DREAMSCAPE



MOON SERENADE

2006 OIL ON CANVAS 75X100 CM. / 30X40 IN.



SELF PORTRAIT→

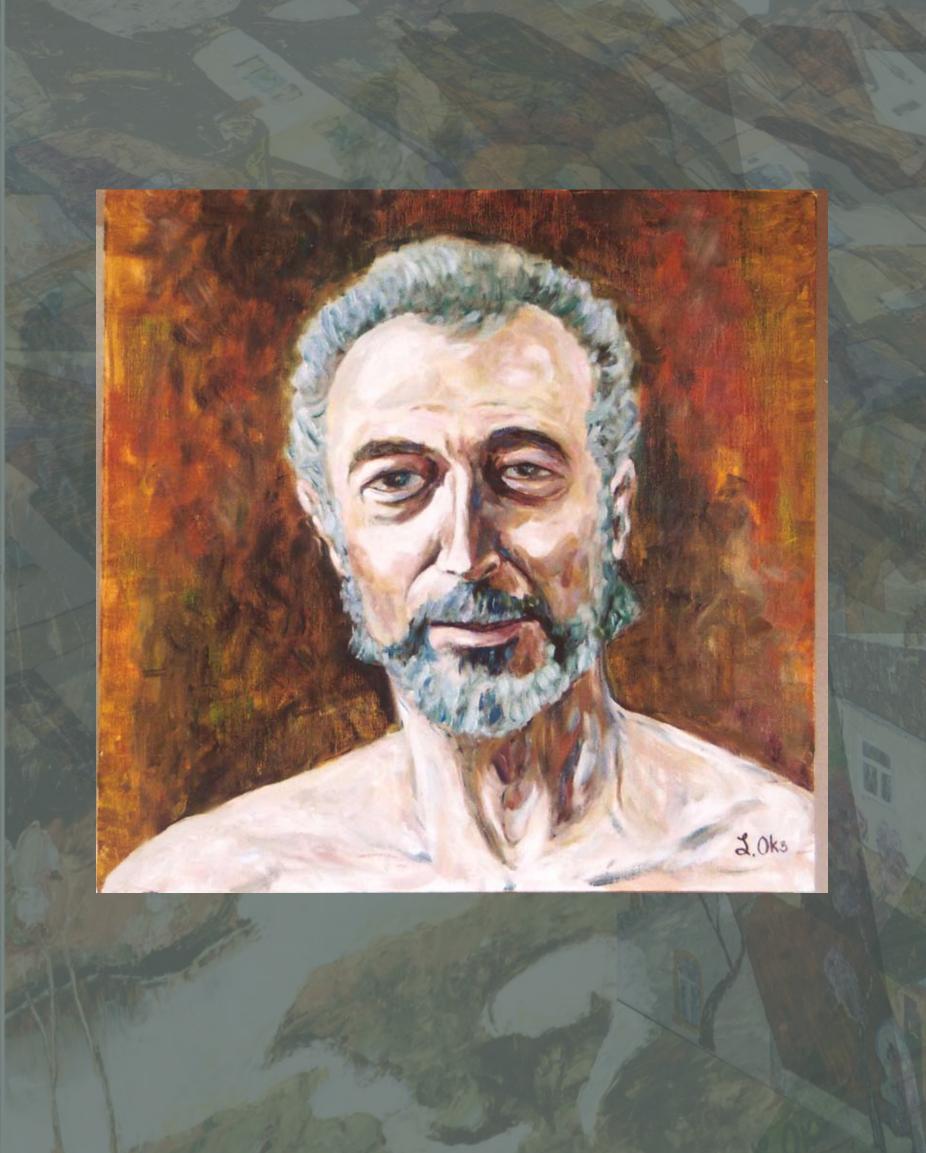
2006 OIL ON LINEN 60X60 CM. / 24X24 IN.

SARAH 2006 OIL ON LINEN 75X90 CM. / 30X36 IN.

104

LEON OKS

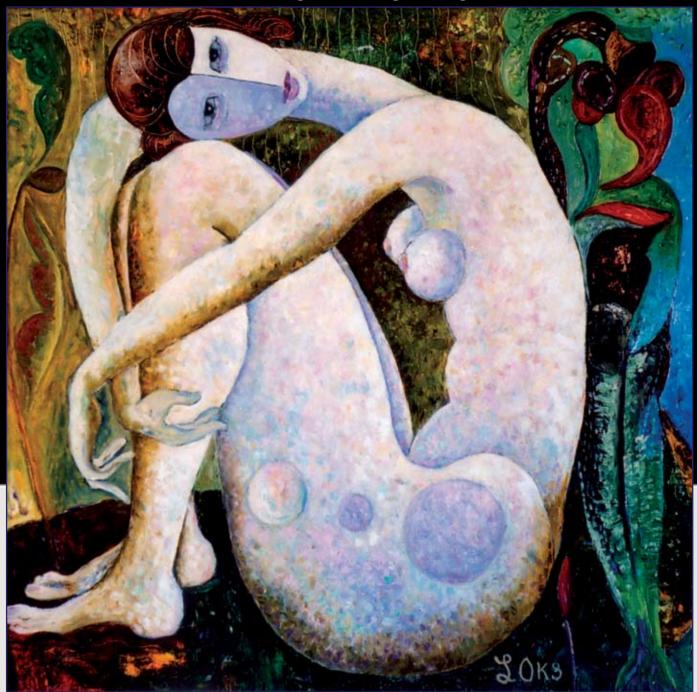
DREAMSCAPE







LEON OKS



DREAMSCAPE

To come face to face with one of Leon Oks' paintings is to become mesmerized by a virtual wall of pure colors. Whether painting a landscape or a figurative study, he demonstrates how he is

seduced by color, and how he in turn seduces the viewer. The way he paints with color, the way he uses light and lush texture of his brush strokes, give an allure to the mystery of the human body.

Dennis Benda, Art a la Carte International



