

elena zolotnitsky SCAPES



ELENA ZOLOTNITSKY: A CLOSE-UP

To pause amidst the chaotic tedium of daily routines and see the depths of meaning in the familiar, we need a “freeze-frame.” To look closely, we have to zoom in, to enter a special space, where we can contemplate our existence, the connection between the internal and the external, tension and serenity, the whole and its parts.

Artist Elena Zolotnitsky is not fond of unnecessary details and particularities. She prefers to cease the moment and to take a close-up. Yet she doesn't simply stop the dynamic flow of reality. Her vision turns it into something monumental, revealing the significance of objects and situations, regardless of their narrative. She has two favorite genres: man and nature, the living pulse of which she records in frames of measured and simple forms. Her portraits and still-lives are taken out of context, time, and space. She is not interested in the individual, but rather in the archetype; not in the specific, but in the essential. Thus, in her paintings, we sense the character of an antique sculpture in a face of a familiar contemporary woman, and a pear represents the constancy of form, instead of succulent ripeness.

Zolotnitsky deconstructs images: peeling off the visual data layer by layer, in order to reach the emotional core of the portrayed.

She formulates them by readjusting color, rhythm, texture, and composition. That is why she doesn't seek out new themes, but methodically studies the same subjects. At times, she comes closer; at others, distances herself from them; sometimes she strives to depict with the utmost precision, at others, drops the focus of concentration, smudging the contours.

The artist never stops experimenting, placing the same subject in different combinations of color and structure. This constancy of experimentation becomes the very essence of her creative endeavor.

Beneath Zolotnitsky's seemingly static works lay powerful hidden emotions conveyed through saturated contrasts of color. The depth and volume of her vivid constructions are the *leitmotif* of her paintings and the very foundation of her artistic world where loneliness and fragility of beauty are not reasons for melancholy. Just the opposite, the structure of life forms and the steadiness of their inner core, yield the feeling of an everlasting and ever-advancing being... One can hear the music of a High Mass and sense the perfection of the Universe revealing itself in a single flower.

GALINA TULUZAKOVA, PH.D., ART HISTORY
EXPERT IN NICOLAI FESHIN AND CONTEMPORARY RUSSIAN ART
FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR, 2003
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, THE STATE FINE ARTS MUSEUM OF THE REPUBLIC OF TATARSTAN, KAZAN, RUSSIA

COVER **Le Petit Prince** 10” X 10” OIL ON PAPER 2010

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Rose Thief Series 17" X 16" OIL ON PAPER 2009

Dorian Gray Series 6" X 6" OIL, GOLD LEAF ON CANVAS 2008





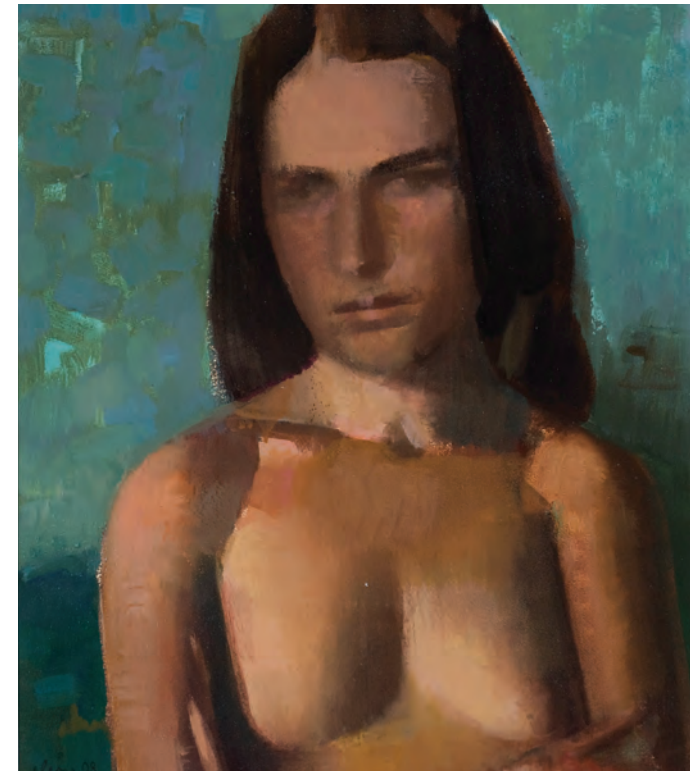
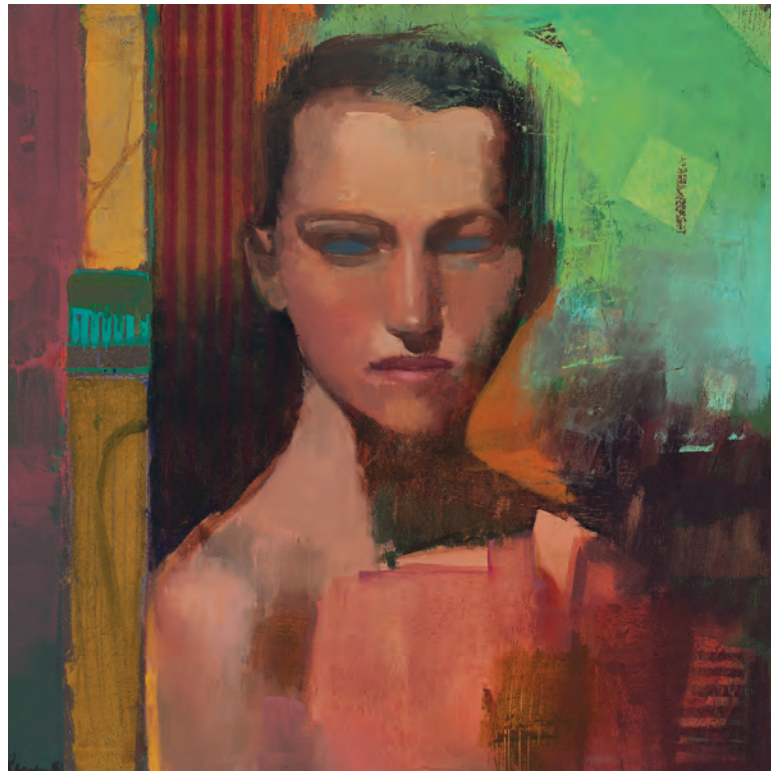
Girl In The Yellow Turban (study) 13.5" X 14.5" OIL ON PAPER 2009
In the Bedroom 19.5" X 16.5" OIL, GOLD LEAF ON PAPER 2010



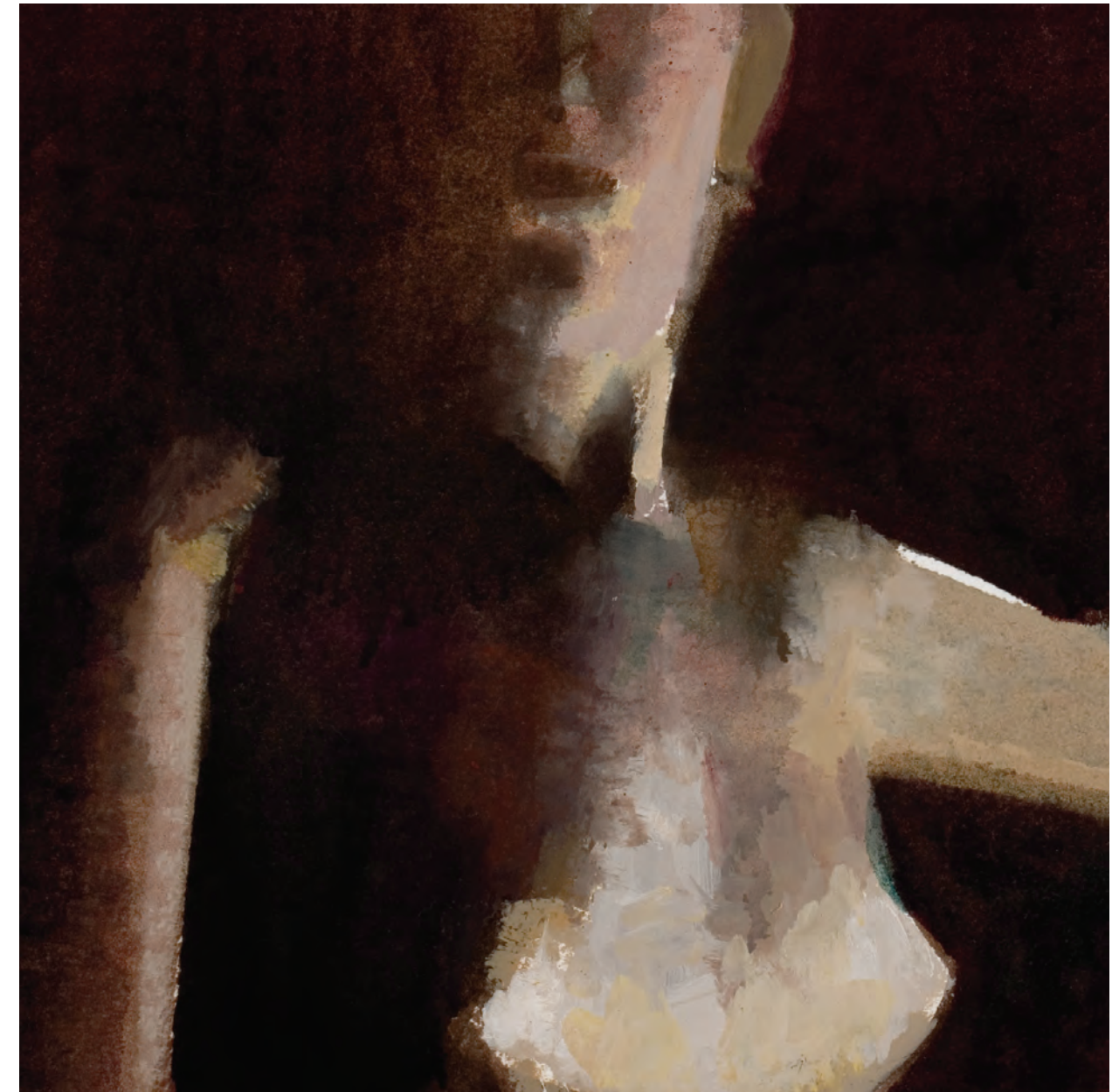
Untitled 10" X 10" OIL ON PAPER 2010
Odd Pair 9" X 12" OIL ON PAPER 2010



A Boy 20" X 20" OIL, GOLD LEAF ON CANVAS 2008
Grounded 20" X 20" OIL, GOLD LEAF ON CANVAS 2008
Red Rose 11" X 11" OIL ON PAPER 2008
1/2 Nude 19" X 16" OIL ON PAPER 2008



First Impression 12" X 12" OIL ON LINEN 2010
Raw 10" X 10" OIL ON PAPER 2005





Wilted Valentines 19" x 17" OIL ON PAPER 2009

ELENA ZOLOTNITSKY

Born in Moscow, Russia, 1961
MFA, Moscow Cinema Academy, 1987

AWARDS, GRANTS, RESIDENCIES

- 2008 Visual Aid's Jerome Caja Terrible Beauty Award, San Francisco, CA
- 2007 Award of Excellence, Northern National Art Competition, Nicolett College, WI
Best in the Show, Loyola National Works on Paper, Loyola University of Chicago, IL
- 2005 Award of Excellence, 48th *Communication Arts* Annual Illustration Exhibition, CA
Full Fellowship, Helene Wurlitzer Foundation, Taos, NM
Best in the Show "Dimensions 2005," 40th National Exhibition, Winston-Salem, NC
- 2004 Award of Excellence, SDAI 46th International Exhibition, San Diego, CA
- 2003 Full Fellowship, Vermont Studio Center, Johnson, VT
- 1997 Grant, The Paul Beckett Foundation, Denmark/Spain
- 1993 Gold Medal, Mid-Atlantic Watercolor Exhibition, Baltimore, MD

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 2010 Nieto Fine Art, "Cimmerian Muse: Exploring The Gestures Of The Mind," San Francisco, CA
Fontbonne University Fine Arts Gallery, "The Figure Now," St. Louis, MO
- 2009 Paul Mahder Gallery, "Basic," San Francisco, CA
- 2008 Paule Anglim Gallery, Two-artist show, San Francisco, CA
- 2007 Micaela Gallery, "Salon d'Ete 2007," San Francisco, CA
Rotunda Gallery, USF School of Law, San Francisco, CA
- 2006 Franklin Bowles Gallery, San Francisco, CA
SFMOMA Artists Gallery, "Finding the Figure," San Francisco, CA
Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, "Visual Aid at Sixteen," San Francisco, CA
San Diego Art Institute, 48th International Exhibition (juried by Derrick C. Cartwright,
Director of the San Diego Museum of Art), San Diego, CA
- 2005 Barbara Anderson Gallery, "Closer," Berkeley, CA
- 2002 Vorpal Gallery, "Beaux & Eros," San Francisco, CA
- 2001 SFMOMA Artists Gallery, Four-artist show, San Francisco, CA
- 1999 Museum of American Illustration, SPD Gala Annual, New York, NY
James E. Lewis Museum of Art, Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD
Sloane Gallery, Denver, CO
- 1997 Springfield Art Museum, Watercolor USA Honor Society, 6th Biennial, Springfield, MO
Lancaster Museum of Art, "Creating Women," Lancaster, PA
Russian Embassy (curated by Diane Beal), Washington, D.C.
- 1996 Hodson Gallery, "Made in the USA," Hood College, Frederick, MD
- 1993 Galerie Francoise, Green Spring, MD
- 1992 Zimmerli Art Museum, Norton Dodge's Collection of Soviet Art, Rutgers University, NJ

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- Etnosfera Magazine*: "Elena Zolotnitsky: Creativity-Is a Personal Affair" by Yulia Goryacheva,
Moscow, Russia, December 2009
- 7x7 San Francisco Magazine*: "Watch This Space" by Christine Ryan, November 2008
- 46th Annual Communication Arts*, 2005
- Baltimore Magazine*: "A Selection of Contemporary Russian Artwork" by John Lewis, February 2003
- NY Times Book Review Cover*: "Thus Spake Beowulf," February 2000
- Intelligencer Journal "Happenings"*: "Bold or Fractured, Images From Women's Selves" by Jennifer Knopf,
Lancaster, PA, March 1997
- Frederick Gazette*: "Six Very Good Reasons To See 'Made in the USA'" by Richard Lebbers, June 1996
- The Artist's Magazine*: "Rising Watercolor Stars" by Bebe Raupe, October 1995
- The Baltimore Sun*: "Zolotnitskys Blend Humor and Grimness, Go Figure" by John Dorsey, March 1993