



# TOMASZ RUT

Tomasz Rut is currently residing in Hollywood, Florida. Where maintains his home and a spacious studio.

"Rut's mural size paintings are contemporary conversions of the classical vocabulary variously continued by Michelangelo, Raphael, Titian, and Rubens," explains Dorothy Keane-White, Art Curator and Director for Northwood University. "In making them he returns us to antiquity by a double detour. First, he sets in motion the charming unreal apparatus of the Quattro cento mise-en-scene, and more importantly its heroic nudity, vigorous modeling, expressive anatomic structure, powerful movement and fascinating physiogamy. Tinged with sadness, his super-human youths play once more on Arcadian pipes - a motif also reprised by Matisse. Alternatively, he offers us impossible delicate, gracile females —"still unravished bride(s) of quietness" - delimiting them with sylvan togas and braided tresses. Nor does he leave out rearing steeds, which in the grand manner represent humanity's turbulent passions."

Encouraged by his mother, a painter herself, young Tomasz Rut was introduced to the Pompeian Frescos and the magnificence of the Renaissance and the Baroque periods. Today these influences continue to inspire his stunning oil canvases and sweeping murals. Tomasz Rut's masterful illusionary works, both in scale and splendor, evoke the harmony and form of the master painters, including the flamboyance of Rubens, the finesse of Caravaggio and the emotion of Michelangelo. Rut's imaginary figures - centaurs, fauns, muses, and winged creatures - colorfully burst from the canvas with the grandiosity of Olympian Gods in active and dramatic poses.

Trained in Art Conservation at the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw, Rut continued his education in New York City at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn and at Columbia University in Manhattan. He eventually took a position in art conservation for the Biltmore House in Asheville, North Carolina, traveling the east coast restoring large scale murals in museums and mansions for such clients as the Smithsonian Institute and the U.S. Treasury Department in Washington, DC, New Jersey State House in Trenton, Gusman Center for the Arts and Vizcaya Museum in Miami.

It was during these travels he began to notice the void of high quality monumental figurative paintings from the past and invented a style that was aimed at filling this void. Rut created his aged style of cracked canvases and murals that mimic so eloquently Italian frescoes and figurative oils. "The one element evident in all of my paintings is the superficial patina or aging," that Rut creates with a variety of transparent and semitransparent glazes. This process creates the timeless illusion and expressive beauty of each mythical figure.

Rut has been honored in publications such as the *Who's Who in 20th Century America* profiling America's greatest achievers. In the June 1999 *Robb Report Best of the Best* issue, Tomasz Rut was recognized as one the most collectible artists in the United States along with such celebrated artists as Fernando Botero and David Hockney.

"I look for inspiration in the humanistic tradition of classical art. My canvases express the entire spectrum of human emotions from exhilaration and cheerfulness to contentment, melancholy, pain, and agony".

- Tomasz Rut

"My paintings give people the ability to learn, respond, and feel comfortable with the classics".

- Tomasz Rut

## Museum Exhibitions

Alexander Brest Museum — Jacksonville, Florida

Mississippi Museum of Art — Jackson, Mississippi

Coral Springs Museum of Art — Coral Springs, Florida

The Schacknow Museum of Fine Arts, Inc. — Plantation, Florida

Wake Forest University Permanent Art Collection — Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Mobile Museum of Art — Mobile, Alabama

Zigler Museum of Art — Jennings, Louisiana

Frye Museum of Art — Seattle, Washington