

For Immediate Release

ADRIAN NIVOLA | *new paintings and pastels*

December 3-23, 2021 | January 12-29, 2022

VICTORIA MUNROE
fine art

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Teresa (detail), 2020
oil on canvas, 20 x 16"



A Valley in Idaho, 2020
pastel on paper, 12 x 14"



Flowers in a Vase, 2021
oil on canvas, 20 x 16"

Open December 3, 2021, through January 29, 2022, Victoria Munroe Fine Art is pleased to present ADRIAN NIVOLA *paintings and pastels*. Nivola tackles a variety of themes in his imagery, working from memory and driven by an effort to convey an enduring quality of light in ephemeral scenes. Among his subjects are women in interiors, landscapes of Idaho and the East End of Long Island, and jockeys after a race. The exhibition is held in association with The Drawing Room gallery in East Hampton which represents Nivola's sculpture.

In the figurative compositions Nivola paints the people closest to him in the context of a shared interior space. With a lush impasto technique his delicate dabs of pigment are tactile and luminous. *My Grandmother Sweeping* draws the viewer into a quiet interior where the artist portrays his grandmother's solitude. Each object depicted in the setting is imbued with meaning. A painting on the wall, for example, is identifiable as a portrait by her late husband, the artist's grandfather.

In his delicately layered pastel landscapes Nivola articulates the vast, radiant expanse of valleys in Idaho. In these images, the sublime scale of the Western American landscape becomes a foil for the sparse and unlikely structures of its inhabitants. In the 3 by 5-inch pastel entitled *Louse Point Landscape*, Nivola's mastery of scale is evident, where he captures a breadth of infinite distance on a small format.

A third subject which engaged Nivola's eye and hand is the ephemeral light on the jerseys of horse jockeys which he studied at the Belmont Racetrack. In *Final Turn at the Paddock*, he focuses on a huddle of professional riders at dusk. *Horse and Jockey Late Afternoon* describes the gesture of a rider tilting in the direction of the setting sun. The sumptuous palette and accent on costume recalls Degas's pastels of the races.

A simultaneous engagement in multiple mediums and techniques suits Nivola who grew up under the influence of his artist grandparents. The Sardinian-born sculptor Costantino Nivola was celebrated for his large-scale sandcast murals and his grandmother Ruth Guggenheim Nivola created jewelry from silk and metal thread. Through the legacy of his grandparents, Nivola inherited a formative philosophy of life in art. He earned a master's degree at the New York Studio School in 2008 after graduating with a BFA with distinction in painting at Yale.

This exhibition is in association with The Drawing Room gallery in East Hampton which represents Adrian Nivola's meticulous wood and wire sculpture. [Online catalog of his recent show of rare birds](#). Currently, examples of Nivola's sculptures from his series The Architecture of the Instrument are on view in the exhibition, The Art of Music, at the Nassau County Museum of Art in Roslyn, NY through March 6, 2022.

For further information and reproduction-quality images, please contact Margo Hudson
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