

Thomas Arvid

(American, b. 1964)

Thomas Arvid is an American Realist, who has invented a new genre of still life, based solely on wine and its accoutrements. He has an unerring ability to capture the exacting nuances and compositional rhythms of his complex subject. In doing so, he amazes us with the wonders of his talent to paint from the model. Called “The Rembrandt of Yountville,” and like the Old Masters -- legendary for their still lifes of fruits, flowers, exotic foods, and *objets de vertu* -- Arvid exudes bravado draftsmanship and painterly finesse, rarely seen in his generation.

“Wine is a great subject because it has so many elements: hot and cool surfaces, fluid, wood, chrome, glass. It’s like an orchestra: all the pieces, all the instruments playing together to create a symphony.” And though the artist speaks of these things, as if in an off-hand manner, he strives to demonstrate his skills by painting the *hardest* subject matters: a glass’ bowl reflecting the elements in a room, the trick of painting the ‘silver’ of wine accoutrements, of capturing the grain in cork and woods, and the subtle torques, textures, and tears of foil wine-caps. How amazing is his grasp of geometric mimesis: the perfect circles and ovals of his wine bottles and glasses, expertly drawn *into* the picture ground, as in nature -- with light refracting in dozens of phenomenal ways -- to the artist’s keen ability to wrap even the most fanciful wine-label typefaces and imagery ’round curving bottles. As *Art Business News* has said of Arvid: “. . . a world phenomenon, launching a major art trend.”

Selected Exhibitions

- 2012 Marietta Cobb Museum of Art, Marietta, GA
- 2001 *International Art Expo*, NYC, NY
- 2000 *Décor Atlanta 2000*, GA
- 1997 Birmingham Art Festival, AL

Prizes, Honors, & Awards

- 2008 Official Artist, “Pebble Beach Food-&-Wine Grand Tasting”
- 2004 Host, High Museum of Art fundraiser: “The Artist Dinner,” Atlanta,

GA

Silver Oak ‘Release Day,’ Guest Painter, on site, semi-annually

Selected Vineyard Collections

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| Silver Oak Cellars | Diamond Creek Winery |
| Shafer Family Vineyards | Flora Springs Winery |
| Anderson Conn Valley | Kenwood Wineries |

Media & Press

- Los Angeles Times*, Wed. 6 Aug. 2003, “Still life (or sparkling)”
- Wine Spectator*, “Art Imitates Wine,” 31 Jul. 2003
- USA TODAY*, 17 Dec. 2004, Food & Wine section, “Wine savored in oil on canvas”
- Wine Enthusiast*, “Building a Cellar, One Brushstroke at a Time,” Feb. 2005

Monographs

- Arvid: Redefining the Modern Still Life* (2004)
with ‘Introduction’ by Maria Phillips, PhD. Art History