

**UPCOMING GROUP SHOW**

*Up to 20 works*

Aug. 21-Sept. 18, 2010

Gallery One

5133 Harding Pike, Suite 1A

Nashville, TN 37205

(615) 352-3006

• SHOW LOCATION NASHVILLE, TN

## DEBRA FRITTS AND THOMAS MONAGHAN

### From the earth

Working in clay and found objects, **Debra Fritts'** sculpture is inspired by the joys and mysteries in daily life. **Thomas Monaghan's** newest works celebrate the natural beauty of summer and its effects on the landscape. Gallery One in Nashville, Tennessee, celebrates these distinct styles in a two-person show of works that,

in their own unique ways, explore a deep connection to the land.

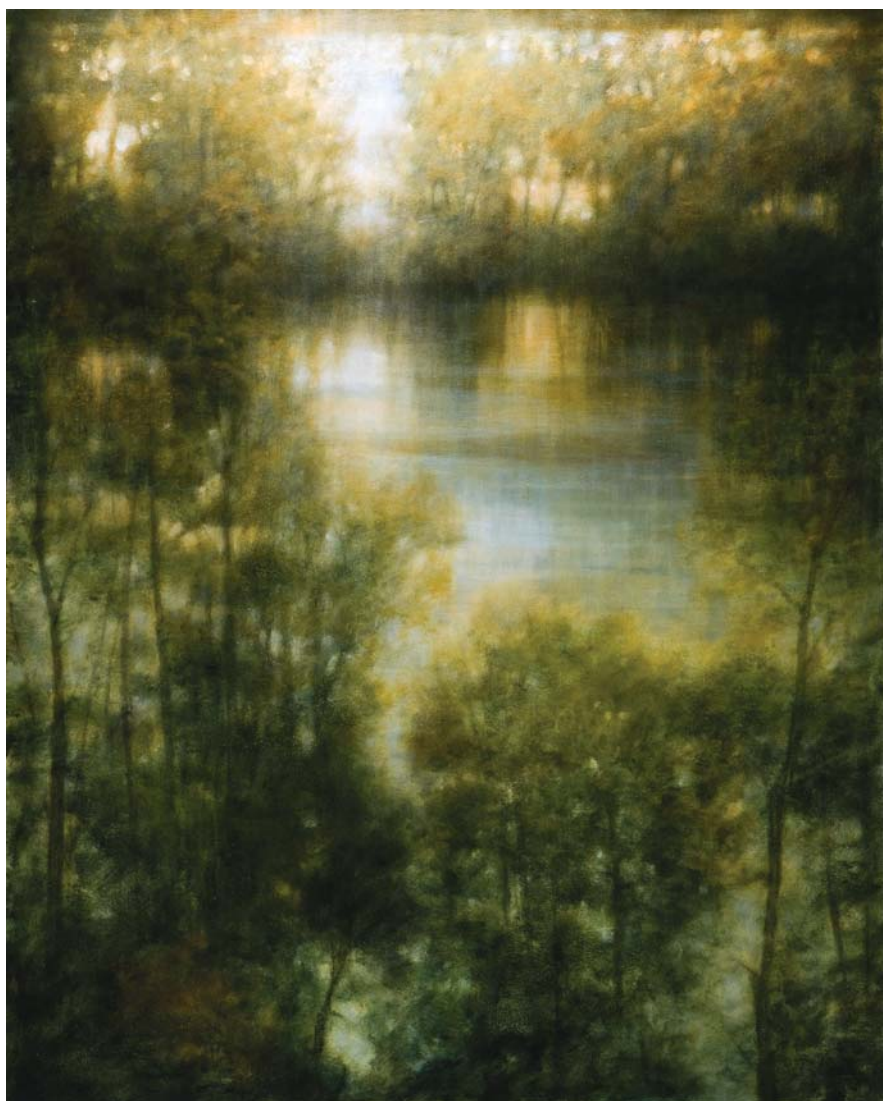
Debra Fritts' work is distinguished by intriguing surface treatment of the clay created through repeated firings and use of found objects, marks, and multi-fired colorants. She works with a red stoneware clay, and most pieces are hand-built using

thick coils.

"I am intuitive in the studio, allowing childhood memories, environmental issues, and personal relationships to lead my hands to create expressive sculptures with pounds of wet clay," says Fritts. "I trust the process and continue working until the inner core—the spiritual level—of the work develops. At



DEBRA FRITTS, THREE WOMEN PRAYING, CERAMIC, 34 X 24 X 24"



THOMAS MONAGHAN, LAKE STUDY, OIL ON CANVAS, 60 X 48"

## *The Gallery Says . . .*

**“There is an almost spiritual quality to Debra Fritts’ work that people relate to on a visceral level. Thomas Monaghan explores transitional light in relation to water, and the results are magical.”**

*— Shelley McBurney, Gallery One*



**DEBRA FRITTS, RAINKEEPER – LATE SUMMER, CERAMIC, 62 X 11 X 10”**



**THOMAS MONAGHAN, SUNLIT LAKE COVES, OIL ON CANVAS, 36 X 48”**

this time, I feel the work ‘speaks.’ Tribal and primitive icons, the symbolism celebrated in different cultures and the rituals of all religions interest me. Also my natural surroundings direct the sculptures.”

Fritts loves spending long days in the studio, but at the same time, has developed a connection to the land through her work.

“I need to work daily to keep my thoughts flowing and to allow ‘something’ to happen,” says Fritts. “As I age, I seem to simplify and really relate to the land. How primal and basic is digging in the dirt?”

Thomas Monaghan incorporates a rich blending of colors to capture the peaceful moodiness of the landscape—its hills, creeks and lakes. In Monaghan’s newest work, he has sought to capture the radiance of summer.

“I knew I would be working on the paintings in early summer through to the August

show date. I certainly didn’t want to miss any summertime experiences, so I made summer my subject,” says Monaghan. “This is a series of paintings that explore my feelings about how sunlight plays on the water’s surface.”

Hoping to convey a sense of the pure joy one feels when approaching a sunlit shore, Monaghan finds motivation in being caught by the beauty of a natural setting.

“Study it, meditate on it and collect the essence,” says Monaghan. “This collection of paintings is my short narrative of a summer story. I have always been a big daydreamer, and these paintings are moments or fragments of my daydreams.” ●

*For a direct link to the exhibiting gallery go to*   
[www.americanartcollector.com](http://www.americanartcollector.com)