



UNDER PRESSURE PAINTING WITH AIR

A SURVEY OF CONTEMPORARY AIRBRUSH REALISM



Under Pressure—Painting With Air is comprised of over 45 works, wide-ranging in theme, by noteworthy, working artists who have chosen airbrush as their principle medium of expression including: Dru Blair and others associated with his Charleston, SC atelier—Silvia Belviso, David Evanoff, Joshua Zarambo; Don Eddy (New York, NY), Bruce Evans (Philadelphia, PA), George Green (1943-2020, Portland, OR), Kirk Lybecker (Portland, OR), Jerry Ott (Duluth, MN), Alan Pastrana, (Queens, NY), Cesar Santander (New York, NY), and Hisaya Taira (Tokyo, Japan). A hip medium

**“... It’s impressive! ...
interesting and strong work...”**

PETER J. BALDAIA, DIRECTOR OF
CURATORIAL AFFAIRS
*Huntsville Museum of Art where
Under Pressure premiered*

in the world of commercial art, airbrush is actually a nineteenth-century invention. Francis Stanley (famous for the Stanley Steamer), patented a simple “atomizer” airbrush to colorize photographs in 1876. An instrument called the “paint distributor,” which relied on a hand-operated compressor to supply continuous air, was developed in 1879 by Abner Peeler “for the painting of watercolors and other artistic purposes.” A commercial prototype was developed by Liberty Walkup who re-patented it under a name suggested by his wife Phoebe: “air-brush.” In 1892,



Images: Cesar Santander, *Soupcan Girl 2*; Don Eddy using his Paasche Airbrush, photo courtesy Vincent Zambrano; Bruce Evans, *Studio XX*; Dru Blair, *Wolf in Repose*; Cesar Santander at work in his studio.

Cover image: David Evanoff, *Jimmi Iwata Eclipse*, Courtesy Anest Iwata-Medea, Inc.



Charles Burdick patented his revolutionary double-action, internal-mix airbrush similar to those used today. It featured an index finger trigger with the air supply re-positioned through the bottom, which improved balance and control, and was showcased at the 1892 World Columbian Exposition. In the world of fine art, Man Ray (1890–1977) the American who spent most of his career in Paris, was among the first to employ airbrush. Alberto

“Don Eddy purchased an H1 Paasche Airbrush at the age of 13. We are pleased that he is still using that airbrush to make his art 64 years later”

VALLIE PETERSEN, PRESIDENT
Paasche Airbrush Company, Kenosha, Wisconsin

Vargas (1896–1992) used airbrush when creating his signature pin-ups. With the emergence of Photorealism in the mid and late 1960's, the airbrush assumed a special place of distinction as a favorite medium of that generation of artists. *Under Pressure—Painting With Air* features a diverse selection of works by contemporary artists in celebration of their virtuosity and achievement through this unique, American medium: airbrush.

EXHIBITION SPECIFICATIONS

Under Pressure is available on a first-come/first-serve basis.

CONTENTS: Over 45 original airbrush paintings in a range of size, subject, and style

FEE: Mid-range exhibit rental fee plus shipping and in-house and in-transit insurance

AVAILABILITY: Available for duration of eight weeks or longer

SUPPORT: Education, press, registration, and retail are available

EDUCATION: Artist lectures, demonstrations, workshops may be possible for a fee and travel-related expenses pending scheduling

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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Notes: Other artists and artworks may be added or substituted. Various historical facts contained herein were drawn from airbrushinformation.net, airbrushmuseum.com, and other online resources.