

PAINTER SPOTLIGHT

Jos Van Riswick: Physicist-Turned-Painter

By Wim Van Aalst

Dutch painter Jos Van Riswick (born 1973) graduated in physics from the University of Nijmegen, Holland, and worked as a researcher for a few years.

He only got into painting after having learned about the northern realists (“Noordelijke Realisten”). This group of contemporary Dutch painters from the '90s set out to revive the tradition of the old Dutch masters, painting closely observed realism in a time when nobody else did.

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Jos Van Riswick

Van Riswick perfected his technique by painting tiny still lifes—often one per day.

His first exhibition in 2004 proved surprisingly successful, to the point that he decided to become a professional full-

time artist.

“Because my work has a high degree of realism, people often tell me ‘Wow, it looks just like a photo!’ but the paintings differ from photographs by many subtle nuances, making the objects depicted appear more tangible than a camera ever could, even though the paintings contain less detail than a photo.”

Indeed, Van Riswick’s brushwork displays more texture than one would suspect at first glance. From a few yards away, the paintings look very realistic. Coming closer, one can discern more texture and explore the richness and finesse in which different ways of paint handling contribute to the visual representation of light, texture, and form.

“For me, standing in awe at technical achievements is an important aspect of the art experience. That is certainly part of what I strive for,” Van Riswick explains.

But creating stunning visual representations is only half the job: “I want my paintings to convey something sacred—not in a religious sense; more like the kind of feeling one has when looking at a sunset. I want them to evoke an admiration for beauty, a sense of quiet, ... a few moments of silence in your head. ... Although, being a qualified physicist, I don’t want to get too fuzzy about it.”

Nevertheless, one can’t go wrong describing Van Riswick’s still lifes as meditative



“Still life with cherries and tankard,” 2014, by Jos Van Riswick.

visual oases—even his earthenware paintings display his hand’s characteristic quiet and suppleness.

Food for the soul and a spa for your brain? Gazing at Van Riswick’s work promptly soothes the mind after a hard day’s work.

Jos Van Riswick sells worldwide, and in Holland through Morren Galleries. His hobbies are choir singing and he enjoys playing the piano. josvanriswick.com

Wim Van Aalst is a painter based in Belgium.

‘Gone Girl’ Tops Box Office for Second Weekend

By Sandy Cohen

LOS ANGELES—Four new films couldn’t catch “Gone Girl” at theaters this weekend.

The Fox thriller starring Ben Affleck as a man whose wife goes missing is poised to top the box office for a second week with \$26.8 million in ticket sales, according to studio estimates Sunday.

Also starring Rosamund Pike, “Gone Girl” is based on the best-selling novel by Gillian Flynn, who adapted her book for the screen.

“There’s a mystery that’s surrounding this movie,” said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for box-office

tracker Rentrak. “To have an adult drama like this hold up so well for two weekends in a row is really unusual.”

Universal’s “Dracula Untold” opened in second place with \$23.4 million. The Disney family romp, “Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day,” debuted in third with \$19.1 million.

Two Warner Bros. films round out the top five. The horror “Annabelle” claimed fourth place in its second week of release with \$16.3 million, followed by the Robert Downey Jr.–Robert Duvall drama, “The Judge,” which debuted with \$13.3 million.

Lions Gate’s erotic thriller “Addicted” opened in seventh place with \$7.6 million.

The diversity of choices at theaters is making for robust post-summer ticket sales, Dergarabedian said. “We’re making up a lot of ground after a summer season that was down 15 percent.”

From The Associated Press



AP PHOTO/20TH CENTURY FOX, MERRICK MORTON

Ben Affleck and Rosamund Pike appear in a scene from “Gone Girl.”

Estimated Ticket Sales

1. **“Gone Girl”**
\$26.8 million (\$27 million international)
2. **“Dracula Untold”**
\$23.4 million (\$33.9 million international)
3. **“Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day”**
\$19.1 million (\$2.8 million international)
4. **“Annabelle”**
\$16.3 million (\$27 million international)
5. **“The Judge”**
\$13.3 million (\$1.6 million international)
6. **“The Equalizer”**
\$9.7 million (\$11.5 million international)
7. **“Addicted”**
\$7.6 million
8. **“The Maze Runner”**
\$7.5 million (\$13.7 million international)
9. **“The Boxtrolls”**
\$6.6 million (\$3.6 million international)
10. **“Meet the Mormons”**
\$2.9 million

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Rentrak. Where available, the latest international numbers are also included.

On the Block

Upcoming Auctions

Tuesday, Oct. 14

Forever Chic (Christie’s)

A curated design sale which will celebrate timeless style from modern luxury to the enduring appeal of the ancient. This innovative auction will encompass inspiring lighting, furniture, one-off design pieces, sculpture, Chinese works of art, pop-art and antiquities. 248 lots.

Brilliant Jewels (Christie’s)

Online only through Oct. 28.

Signature Cellars New York: Online Wine Auction (Christie’s)

Online only through Oct. 28.

20th Century Japanese and British Studio Ceramics (Christie’s)

Online only through Oct. 28.

Rare & Important Travel Posters (Swann)

Highlights of this sale include posters from a private Australian collection and masterful British Rail posters. 198 lots.

Wednesday, Oct. 15

Important English & Continental Furniture & Decorations/Old Master Paintings (Doyle)

Includes furniture and décor from the collection of acclaimed fashion designer Adolfo Faustino Sardiña. 150 lots.

Thursday, Oct. 16

Modern & Contemporary Arab & Turkish Art (Christie’s)

Online only one-day sale.

From East to West: The Confluence of Cultures in Chinese Export Silver (Christie’s)

Online only through Oct. 28.

Handbags & Accessories (Christie’s)

Online only through Oct. 28.

Now In Technicolor (Christie’s)

Online only through Oct. 28.

Lalique (Christie’s)

Online only through Oct. 30.

Friday, Oct. 17

Fine Photographs: Icons & Images (Swann)

Features Contemporary images and iconic photos by Modern masters including Ansel Adams, Harry Callahan, Lewis W. Hine, Horst P. Horst and Garry Winogrand, as well as 19th-century photographs and albums. 335 lots.

Saturday, Oct. 18

Kentshire: A Legendary Collection (Sotheby’s)

Founded in 1940, Kentshire has become synonymous with the very best of English Furniture. Some highlights include an important pair of George II pier mirrors in the manner of Matthias Lock and a magnificent Italian specimen marble top by Giacomo Raffaelli on a William IV ormolu and cast-iron base. 452 lots.

Compiled by Christine Lin, Epoch Times Staff

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