

JENNESS CORTEZ

LATEST NEWS FROM MY STUDIO



© By Jenness Cortez
Acrylic on mahogany panel
18 by 24 inches

SUMMER GALLERY TOUR

Summer is the perfect time to visit our gallery and see my new paintings. I invite you to join us in the picturesque foothills of the Berkshire Mountains for a personal tour. Call (518) 674-8711 or email info@perlmuttergallery.com to make an appointment.

- Can't make the trip? Connect with us online:
- Go to www.facebook.com/CortezArt ("like" my page)
 - Follow "jennescortez" on Instagram
 - Visit www.perlmuttergallery.com

Best regards,

Jenness Cortez

CORTEZ PAINTINGS HEAD WEST

We are pleased to announce The J. Willott Gallery, located in Palm Desert, California, will be exhibiting new paintings by Jenness Cortez in January 2019. Owned by Josh Paquette and Josh Otten, The J. Willott Gallery is a new addition to our list of galleries representing Jenness' work.

According to The J. Willott Gallery website (www.jwillott.com), "From humble beginnings the gallery is now recognized as one of the most consistently outstanding businesses on the famed El Paseo."

Stay tuned for dates and details!

“IT MAKES MY HEART SING” BY ROBERT YASSIN

FROM THE FOREWORD TO THE BOOK, “HOMAGE TO THE CREATIVE SPIRIT”
AMERICAN REALISM: PAST TO PRESENT

After more than five decades of involvement in the art world, this simple statement, made by a friend while looking at a splendid Monet painting, brought into bright clarity the way to know the genuine article--a real work of art. The paintings of Jenness Cortez make my heart sing.

It was in a serendipitous, welcome and most rewarding way that I discovered Cortez' paintings. While doing research for an exhibition on van Gogh, I saw an advertisement for a showing of Cortez' work at a local gallery in Los Angeles not far from where I was working. The painting in the ad featured van Gogh's famous *Starry Night* as if it were hanging in the home of a collector, surrounded by exquisitely painted and carefully selected items such as books and photographs related to the artist. More than just the subject, the whole painting in the ad captivated me.

Then I saw the actual painting on a visit to the gallery, along with the other equally extraordinary paintings in the exhibition. I was overwhelmed.

My heart did, indeed, sing. This was my first encounter with Cortez' work; it led me to investigate her history and, ultimately, to contact her. I was delighted to discover that her roots were in Indiana where I, too, had lived and worked for many years. I was equally impressed by the artist as a person, and by her intelligence, an intelligence that has allowed her to orchestrate her extraordinary technical ability into a unique and superb body of work.

It is axiomatic that great art is only made by great minds; the creative ability of average minds is exactly that, average. In today's post-modern, conceptual world of art, too frequently

the title “artist” is given to anyone who makes anything and calls it art. What is worse, even if it only looks new or different, it is frequently seen as “cutting-edge” and therefore important, with little if any justification. After looking at some of the more idiosyncratic and challenging examples of so-called “cutting-edge” art (contemporary critics seem to love the word “challenging” precisely because of its imprecision), Cortez' work appears much more refreshing and intellectually stimulating. Knowing something about the artist and her history helps to explain why.

READ FULL REVIEW AT
WWW.PERLMUTTERGALLERY.COM/REVIEWS/

ALL ABOUT DETAILS

"MELVILLE'S INSPIRATION"

© by Jenness Cortez, 2018

Acrylic on mahogany panel, 18 by 24 inches
--“The Whale Fishery ‘Laying On’” Hand-

colored lithograph, 1852 by Nathaniel Currier, based on a painting by Ambroise Louis Garneray. Private collection.

--Scriumshaw whale tooth by W. L. Roderick, mid-19th century, Inscribed at tip “The Tooth of a Sperm Whale Captured March 30th 1855.”

--Herman Melville portrait by Joseph Oriol Eaton, 1870. Fogg Art Museum of Harvard University.

--American Folk Art Nantucket sperm whale nautical sailor whirligig.

--Nantucket Inquirer clipping, August 4, 1827.



JENNESS CORTEZ, MASTER AMERICAN REALIST



Jenness Cortez is a distinguished figure in the contemporary revival of classical realist painting. She was born in Indiana and exhibited a very early talent for art. As a teenager, she took private lessons with Antonius Raemaekers, a well-trained Dutch-born painter and superb teacher whose early instruction continues to influence her work.

www.perlmuttergallery.com