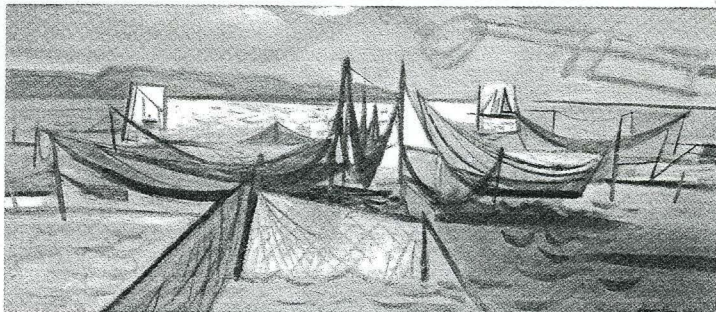


MAURICE FREEDMAN



"Provincetown Night" 1952 30" x 20" Oil on canvas

"Memoirs of P'town"



"The Hindu and the Weirs" 1961 18" x 40" Oil on canvas

BAY VIEWS • SEASCAPES • STILL LIFES

Maurice Freedman (1904-1985)

"Paintings that deserve to go straight into any history of American painting in this century."—John Russell, *The New York Times*

MAURICE FREEDMAN

"Memoirs of P'town"

August 6 to 12, 1999

JULIE HELLER GALLERY

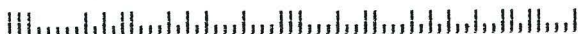
2 Gosnold Street, Provincetown, MA 02657 • Tel (508) 487-2169

(Across from Adam's Pharmacy, Town Landing on the beach. Parking available.)

Opening Reception Friday, August 6 7:30 pm

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Maurice Freedman's bold colors, lush brush strokes

Surging seascapes, panoramic landscapes and strong still life compositions, painted with bold color and a loaded brush are the legacy of the late artist Maurice Freedman.

Freedman, whose Provincetown paintings will be exhibited, beginning Friday at Julie Heller Gallery, was inspired for 50 years by Provincetown's dramatic, natural settings.

From the somber dark works of the 1930s and 1940s to the brightening bold hues of the 1950s and 1960s until the cool lavenders and blues typifying his late work, Freedman's brush strokes were direct and lively.

The publication "Art News" said the freedom with which Freedman manipulated color and the poetic aura he imparted remain the most engaging aspects of his work.

Freedman was heavily influenced by the work of Max Beckman, which he saw in Europe in 1930. Eventually, he and Beckman became friends and this was an essential catalyst in Freedman's commitment to finding a balance between form and content. Isolating the essential formal structures in service to the expression of feeling was critical to Freedman.

"This is a tremendous source of inspiration and pleasure because it happens to be the life force," he said. "Then you have the world, really you have the world."

The subject matter of Freedman's work reflect where he lived and traveled. New York City's energetic pace, the New England seacoast, Provincetown's traditional imagery and the romance and cultured history of Europe were all fodder for Freedman.

He also returned throughout his life to these subjects and themes, reworking them until he felt he had captured the quintessential feeling of his subject matter. The work shows a recurrent fascination with the changing, ephemeral effects of light, weather and the passage of time.

John Russell, a senior art critic for "The New York Times" said, "Freedman had learned how to draw with the loaded brush, how to handle rich and strong color without letting it get out of hand and how to give individuality of the objects of everyday."

A "painter's painter," his work remains fresh, rewarding and time-tested.

Born in Boston in 1904, Freedman died at the age of 81 in 1985. He was associated with the school of painting that included Marsden Hartley, Milton Avery, Karl Knaths and John Marin.

He began studying at an early age and was a classmate of John Whorf's at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts.

Freedman left Boston for New York City in his mid-20s and it was there he began seeing the work of

contemporary European artists. Determined to go to Europe, Freedman eventually went to Paris to study, returning with a profound understanding of the roots of modern art in form and composition and the techniques used by the Old Masters.

He absorbed these lessons well and constructed an idiom of his own. Freedman responded to difficult questions of abstract composition without losing sight of the original subject. His work was a synthesis of modern European art and native American subject matter.

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Freedman's "P'town Memoirs"

Maurice Freedman will be the featured artist in a show entitled "Memoirs of P'Town" at the Julie Heller Gallery beginning Friday and running through August 12.

Freedman, who died in 1985, was associated with several New England painters including John Marin, Marsden Hartley, Milton Avery and Karl Knaths. His subjects reflected the places that he lived and traveled, including images that demonstrate the power and beauty of the New England sea coast, traditional Provincetown imagery, the energetic pace of New York City and the cultured history of Europe, as well as serene interiors and still lifes.

Freedman lived and painted in his Truro studio for many summers and was involved in the vital art community in the

area. He is known for having great skill with the use of color. He experimented with color throughout his career, moving from somber works in the 1930s and '40s to the use of bold, bright hues in the '50s and '60s.

The show pays homage to what many consider a master American painter who "documented the dramatic energy of nature" using what several came to call his "loaded brush." Freedman filled his pieces with mood and feeling. He has been said to create a poetic aura within his pieces.

This show will be Freedman's eighth one-man show at the Julie Heller Gallery.

The show opens with a reception on Friday from 6-8



"Provincetown Night"
by Maurice Freedman

p.m. The Julie Heller Gallery is located at 2 Gosnold St. For more information call 487-2169.