

REYNOLDS GALLERY

ANDRAS BALITY

Four Seasons

May 4 - June 29, 2018

Opening Reception
Friday, May 4
7 - 9 pm



Fall Path Alongside Willow Oaks, 2017, oil on canvas, 30 x 27 inches

Reynolds Gallery is pleased to announce the opening of *Four Seasons*, an exhibition of Andras Bality's recent oil on canvas paintings. The exhibition opens with a reception for the artist on Friday, May 4 from 7 - 9 pm and continues through June 29, 2018.

Bality began his career as a plein air painter, then explored abstraction for 10 years. It was a walk with his daughter around his Richmond neighborhood that drew him back to representational painting. This moment deepened his appreciation of nature, specifically Virginia's variety of terrain with its rivers, ocean, and mountains. In this exhibition, *Four Seasons*, Bality expresses scenes from across the east coast, including Maine, Florida, and the Shenandoah Valley.

Movement is key in Bality's work, emanating from wind-swept leaves, a glimmering river, or figures crossing a plane. Each piece captures an atmospheric transition, established by his intense study of light and color and an immediacy in his practice. Each work begins as a small watercolor study or drawing made en plein air, quickly rendered in a pocket-sized journal. Later, Bality reimagines the roughly-drawn study on a larger scale in his studio. Establishing tone and general space with quick, dry strokes, he then gradually builds wet marks into a defined scene. Often scraping off oil paint and reworking planes, his fresh interpretations continue themes of movement as he transitions three-dimensional scenes into two-dimensional depictions. He preserves dimensionality by building up varied strokes and blocks of color on the canvas. Bality's impressionist marks and characteristic figures express themes of both representation and abstraction, culling techniques from art historical painting traditions of Impressionism, American landscape painting, and Contemporary Art.

After he completed his undergraduate work at Virginia Commonwealth University in 1986, Bality did graduate work at Cyprus College of Art, Lemba, Cyprus, in 1987. Since then, he has mounted several exhibitions at venues including Jack Blanton Fine Arts and 1708 Gallery, both, Richmond, VA; the Peninsula Fine Arts Center, Newport News, VA; Wall Street Galleries, New York, NY; the Ernst Museum, Budapest, Hungary; and the Ora Gallery, Nicosia, Cyprus, among others. His work is held in collections throughout Virginia, including The University of Virginia Healthcare System, Marsh Art Gallery at the

1514 West Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23220
804.355.6553 | www.reynoldsgallery.com

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University of Richmond, Federal Reserve Bank, Medical College of Virginia, the College of William and Mary, Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, and Markel Corporation. He is a recipient of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Professional Fellowship and a Theresa Pollak Award in Visual Art.

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