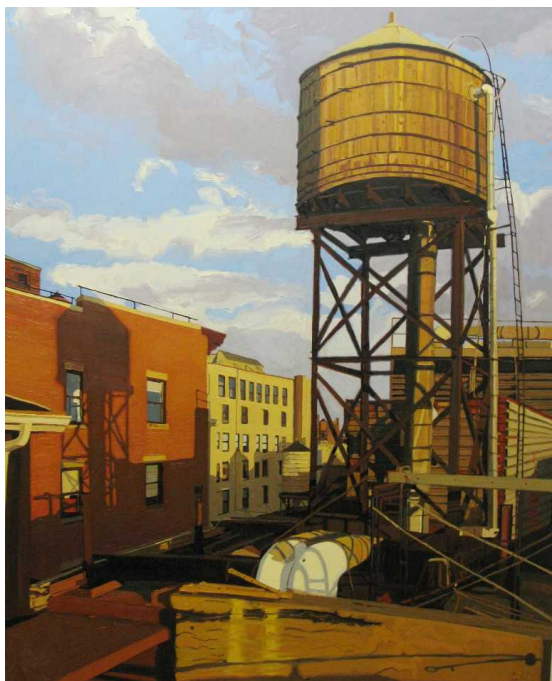




JENKINS JOHNSON GALLERY



Sonya Sklaroff, *Cable Water Tower* 60 x 48 inches, oil on panel

## SONYA SKLAROFF

*NEW YORK: HERE AND NOW*

MAY 1 –31, 2008

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tuesday - friday 10am – 6pm saturday 10 am – 5pm

Jenkins Johnson Gallery announces a solo exhibition of New York artist, Sonya Sklaroff, *NEW YORK: HERE AND NOW* exhibits a new collection of oil paintings. The exhibition opens with the artist's reception on Thursday, May 1 from 5:30 – 7:30pm in San Francisco and will run through May 31, 2008. The exhibition can also be viewed at [jenkinsjohnsongallery.com](http://jenkinsjohnsongallery.com).

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*New York: Here and Now* is a fresh series of work from Sonya Sklaroff's continuum of paintings of Manhattan street scenes. The series is a medley of vibrant colors, rhythmic brush strokes and dynamic compositions that depict a window into everyday New York City life. Sklaroff has a deep personal connection to the city the buildings, the streets, and the people that live in it. She illustrates anonymous people walking down the sidewalk or crossing the street illuminated by an evening glow emitted from the street lights; quiet moments from everyday life that Sklaroff juxtaposes against the effervescent energy of the city.

She depicts the diverse Manhattan skyline silhouetted against vast blue, red and yellow skies, arching street lights standing before old brick tenements, fire escapes that climb up to rooftops and the monumental water towers that remind us of New York's industrial history. Sklaroff finds the charm in these otherwise banal, dirty constructs. *Cable Water Tower* demonstrates a brilliant contrast between light and dark, the yellow rusty water tower appears bright and illuminated against the pale blue sky. The shadow of the water tower casts against the linear face of a sun-drenched neighboring building, demonstrating a sophisticated use of color, light and shadow.

In *Purple Umbrella on Broadway* she paints the urban scene of a woman standing on a street corner with a bright purple umbrella. The day is grey and drizzly, the face of the figure is hardly discernible, she stands anonymous, rain puddles dance beneath her and reflect the colors cast by the bright orange construction sign and purple umbrella. Her composition relies on receding lines of perspective that allow the viewer to enter into the work; it becomes an experience. This, like many of Sklaroff's paintings of urban views, are mundane scenes of everyday life, but portray an American beauty that is intrinsic to urban living and the focus of Sklaroff's work. It reminds us of how enchanting New York City, with its billboards and dirty bustling street corners, an intoxicating beauty and energy transcends.

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Sonya Sklaroff lives and works in New York City. Her paintings have been exhibited in major museum and gallery collections including the: Arnot Museum, Albright Knox Art Gallery, and Flint Institute of Arts. Sklaroff's work is also included in permanent, national and international, corporate and government collections, and has been reviewed by major news publications, including the *New York Times* and *Washington Post*. She holds a BFA from the Rhode Island School of Design and an MFA from the Parsons School of Design. The artist has been honored with several awards including a fellowship and scholarship from the Santa Fe Art Institute.