

PRESS RELEASE

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For additional information and images, please contact Paula Martiesian at 401-521-7634 or at artsong5354@gmail.com. Attached images: paintings by Dan Talbot.

The BankRI Galleries present:

BankRI Turks Head Gallery: “Paintings by Dan Talbot,” September 1 through November 2, 2022 The branch is located at One Turks Head Place in downtown Providence. Hours are Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday 9 a.m to 5 p.m. The branch is closed on weekends. There will be two Gallery Night Providence receptions, one on September 15 and one on October 20, both from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact www.bankri.com or call the branch at 401 456-5152.



MEET THE ARTIST – DAN TALBOT

What happens when your whole house is a studio? When you work as hard as Providence painter Dan Talbot, the paintings multiply and take over. Admittedly, it is a very small house. Built as housing for mill workers in the late 1800s, the tiny home is set on an equally tiny street in the west end of Providence. Where immigrant laborers once lived, now hundreds of paintings on paper, canvas and wood reside.

A native Rhode Islander, Talbot grew up in Little Compton. He attended Wheeler and drew, wrote music and made psychedelic super 8 movies. Music was at his core then and he aspired to make music that combined the sounds of the seminal 1960s band the Velvet Underground and jazz great Miles Davis.

“At some point,” Talbot says, “I think I decided I wasn’t technically good enough to make it [music] my thing.” So he applied to and was accepted to the Rhode Island School of Design

where he studied painting, graduating in 1996. “I like painting because it’s private. I can go off into a corner and figure things out.”

Since graduating RISD, Talbot has been in his corner, figuring things out. At first, Talbot wasn’t sure that painting was in his future, but when he turned 29, he realized if he was going to be a painter, he needed to bear down and “do it right.” He has been painting seriously ever since.

For much of Talbot’s painting life, he has painted in two distinct styles – one based on observation of the everyday objects and people he encounters juxtaposed with large, seemingly random, flat swatches of color. The other is based on a personal symbolism and an abstracted flatter approach to painting.

Of late, Talbot has experimented with a third approach. Using his older paintings as sophisticated underpainting, he superimposes a different painting on top, weaving the newer work into the older one. The resulting paintings have an undeniable depth, a complex warren of imagery and color that is simultaneously recognizable and undefinable.

Talbot has not left his observational roots behind. He and his lifelong friend, painter Gregory Ricci, get together as often as they can to paint from life, an activity they’ve tagged as “paint club.” Talbot’s portraits, seen here in the bank exhibition, are from these get-togethers.

“I like to think,” Talbot says, “that I am approaching something in the middle, coming from two different directions. I’m hoping, that at some point, everything is going to come together.”

The BankRI Galleries are curated by Paula Martiesian, a Providence-based artist and arts advocate.

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