

“Red Poppies” by Thuy Saliba Copyright 2003

The Art of Buying Art

FOR YOUR HOME

By Thuy Saliba

You want your home to be comfortable, tasteful and beautiful. You want to create a space that you enjoy coming home to, and where you take pleasure in entertaining friends and family. You know that art is the final key element that can make or break how your home looks and feels.

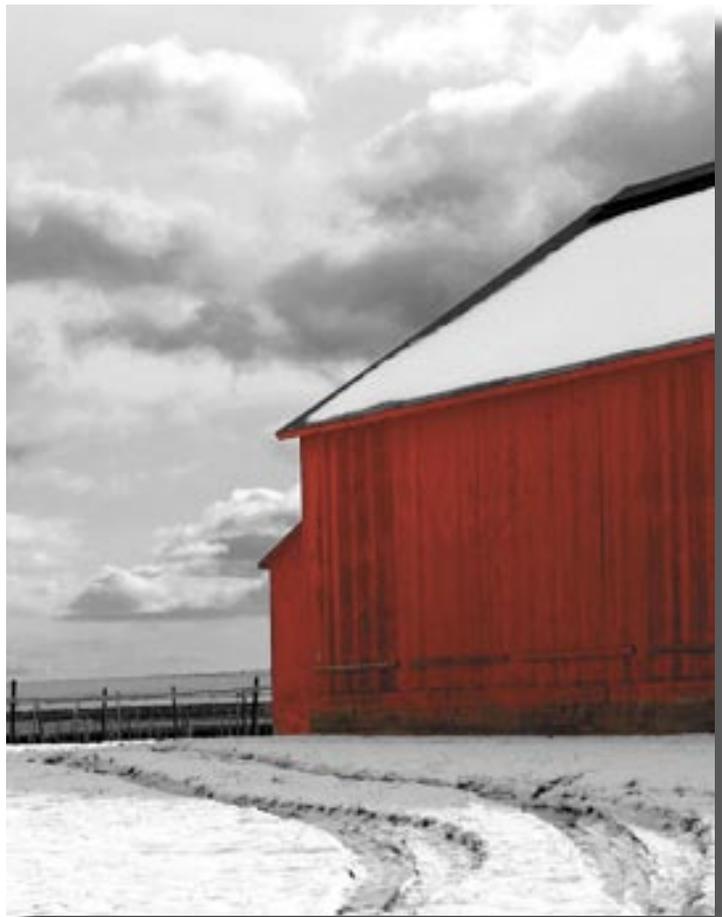
You may be at a loss on how to create that look and feel. You may be uncomfortable with the process of acquiring art, or uncertain of the true value of a particular piece. Here are a few suggestions for creating the space that will make you happy and comfortable.

Whether you enjoy browsing neighborhood art shows, shopping online, visiting galleries, or working with interior designers, the best guide for choosing art is your own taste – what you like

or dislike. Gaining knowledge by talking to artists, listening to gallery staff, getting input from interior designers, taking art classes, or reading art texts and magazines will hone your understanding of art and the art trade – but, ultimately, what makes you feel best is what you want in your home. After all, you have to live with it each and every day.

So, indulge. Mixing styles, choosing different media (photography, oils, pastels, prints, 3 dimensional art, sculpture, pottery, drawings, etc.), collecting only one genre, or even collecting the works of a single artist. It all works. Each can be dramatic, pastoral, calming, exciting, and beautiful. I have in my home traditional landscapes, still lifes, impressionist works, abstracts, oils, pastels, watercolors, photography, woodblock prints, silk paintings, porcelain, pottery, carvings, glass and sculpture. My collection is eclectic, but fits together in a way that creates a space in which I feel happy.

Shopping for your pieces is a part of the enjoyment of your art. If a particular gallery is a little too snooty for your comfort, go to another. Your interior designer keeps leading you to a look for which you have already expressed dislike, find a different designer. Make the acquisition of your art as enjoyable as you want your home to be comfortable and beautiful.



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“Cycles” by Thuy Saliba

“Tracks in the Snow” by Thuy Saliba



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“Winter Clouds” by Thuy Saliba

How much to spend? Whether your budget is \$300, \$3000 or \$30,000, the overriding guideline on value is, again, what makes you happy. If you look at a piece and say “I like it, but it’s not worth that price.” Then it is not. If you look at a piece and say “I like it, and ‘x’ dollars sounds fine to me.” Then buy it and enjoy it. Unless you are collecting art in the tens of thousands or millions of dollars, do not worry one bit about the future value of the piece. Make your art purchases for your present enjoyment.

Original works of art will make your home uniquely yours. An uncommon niche in this hectic world, custom fit to your happiness and well being.

About the Author

Thuy Saliba is an award winning Fort Worth artist. Her fine art photography evokes strong emotions through its elegance and sensuality.

Thuy’s fine art pieces make a striking addition to any art collection. Thuy is also available for image consulting, portraiture, and commercial/advertising photography.

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To see more of Thuy’s work, please visit www.ThuySaliba.com.

