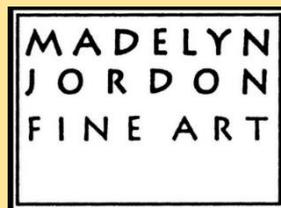


# HUNT SLONEM

*BUNNIES, BIRDS, and BUTTERFLIES*

September 23 - November 4, 2017



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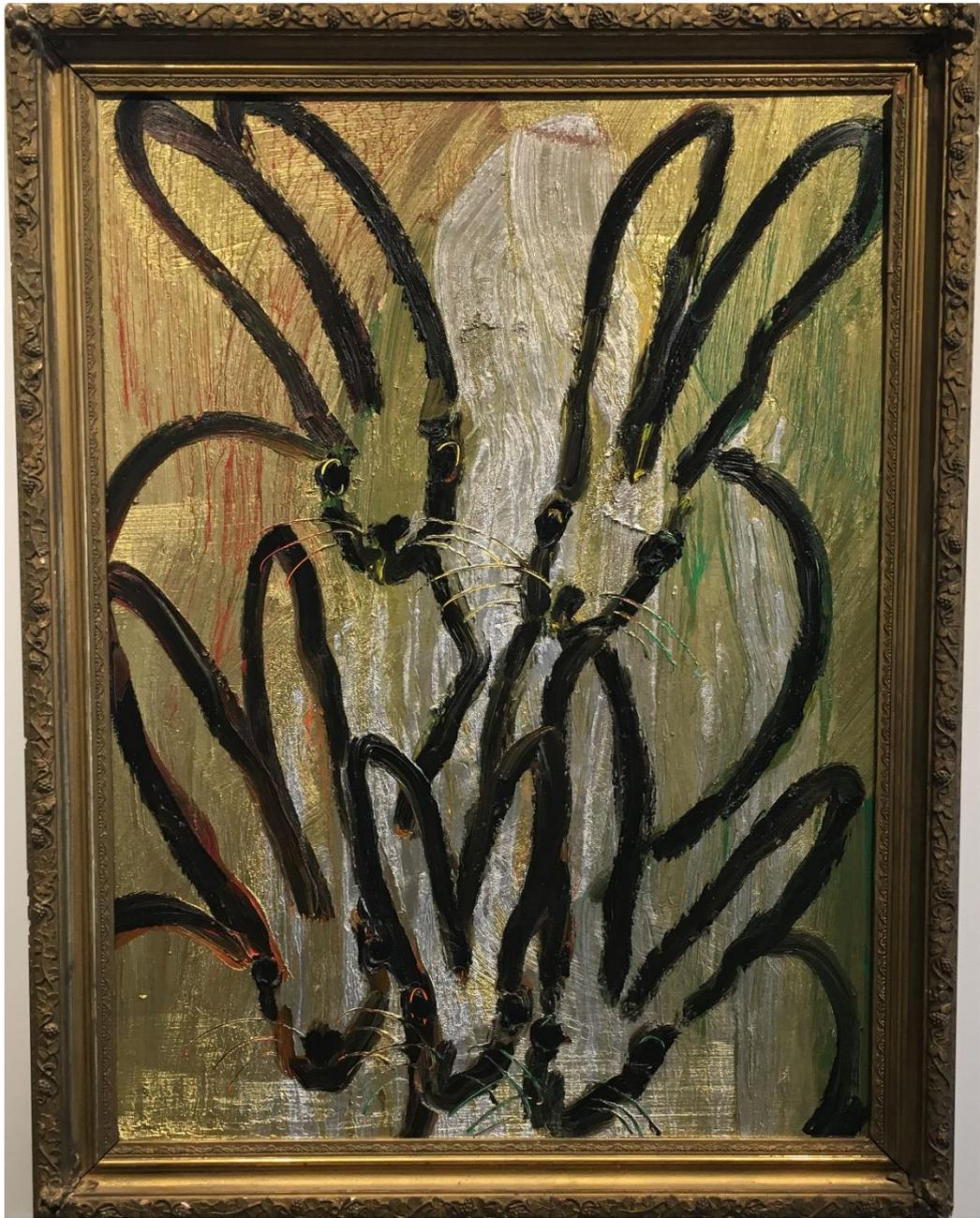
MJFA IS delighted to announce a solo exhibition of recent works by renowned American artist, **HUNT SLONEM**. The exhibition will run from September 23 - November 4, 2017, with an opening reception and book signing on **Wednesday, September 27, 2017 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.** It is Slonem's first appearance in Westchester, and the public is welcome to attend and meet the artist.

The book signing for Hunt Slonem's book, *Bunnies* will take place simultaneously. The book is a treasury filled with enchanting full-color and black-and-white paintings. *Bunnies* features a foreword by bestselling author (and friend of the artist) John Berendt and an essay by artist and gallerist, Bruce Helander.

The exhibition will debut a "fluffle" of Slonem's "Bunnies" alongside a selection of paintings of tropical "Birds" and "Butterflies", subjects for which Slonem is best known. Considered one of the great colorists of his time, Slonem's neo-expressionist paintings feature an exuberant and bold, fauvist palette to emphasize his beloved menagerie of animals. His spiritual practice provides the impetus for his Warholesque repetitive compositions.

Hunt Slonem's paintings of tropical birds and butterflies came into "full flight" in the 1980s. It was his time spent living in Hawaii and Nicaragua in his youth that Slonem credits with most influencing and inspiring his love of exotic birds. Both country's tropical landscape has informed not only Slonem's process, but also his need to be surrounded by the nature he paints. Birds and butterflies serve as his visual metaphor for consciousness, spirit, and soul as well as a source of wonder and coloristic inspiration. His use of loose expressionistic brushwork emphasizes the birds' motion and vigorous activity. Slonem's bird paintings are based on his personal aviary of exotic birds that he rescued and keeps at his Brooklyn-based studio.

In the early 1980s, Slonem began working on a new series of so-called "Rabbit paintings." The idea for this critically acclaimed series came to him after he had discovered that the year of his birth, 1951, was the year of the Rabbit in the Chinese zodiac calendar. The often repeated "Rabbit" imagery in this series is an act similar to citing mantras and spiritual meditation. As he told the Wall Street Journal, "Mantras are holy because you repeat them." This theme continued to inspire Slonem over the years, and the series is as prominent in his work today as it was over thirty years ago.



*Untitled, 2016*  
Oil on wood  
31.25 x 22.5 in.  
\$16,000



*Red Rover, 2017*

Oil on canvas

36 x 30 in.

\$19,500



*Untitled*, 2016

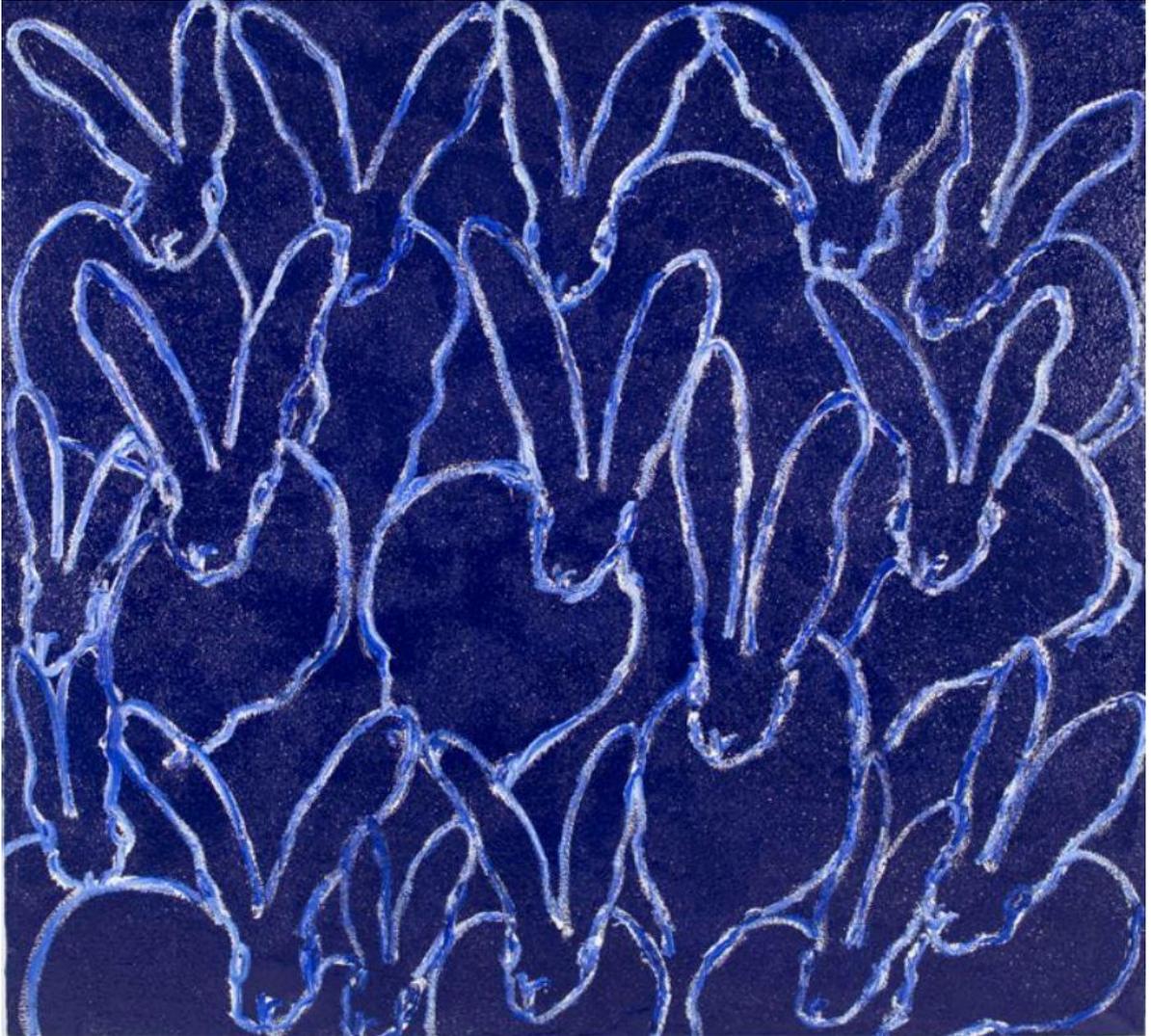
Oil on wood

23.5 x 28.5 in.

\$15,500



*Untitled*, 2016  
Oil on canvas  
30 x 24 in.  
\$16,000



*Untitled, 2016*

Oil on canvas

48 x 52 in.

\$32,000



*Untitled, 2017*  
Oil on canvas  
40 x 60 in.  
\$32,000



*Road Show 2, 2016*  
Oil on canvas  
40 x 30 in.  
\$22,000



MINI BUNNIES  
Paintings 10 x 8 in.



*Untitled, 2017*

Oil, acrylic, and diamond dust on wood

10 x 8 in.

\$5,000



*Untitled, 2017*

Oil on wood

10 x 8 in.

\$5,000



*Untitled, 2017*

Oil on wood

10 x 8 in.

\$5,000



*Untitled, 2017*  
Oil on canvas  
10 x 8 in.  
\$5,000



*Untitled, 2017*  
Oil and acrylic on wood with diamond dust  
11 x 9 in.  
\$6,000



*Untitled, 2017*  
Oil on wood  
10 x 8 in.  
\$5,000



*Untitled, 2017*

Oil and acrylic on wood with diamond dust

10 x 8 in.

\$5,000



*Untitled*, 2017

Oil on wood

10 x 8 in.

\$5,000



*Untitled*, 2016

Oil on wood

10 x 8 in.

\$5,000



*Chattering Lories, 2008*

Oil on canvas,

24 x 20 in.

\$12,000



*Untitled*, 1995  
Oil on panel  
12 x 9.5 in.  
\$3,500



*Magpie Jay*, 1992  
Oil on panel  
10 1/8 x 8 1/8 in.  
\$4,500



*Red Butterflies, 2008*

Oil on canvas

64 x 48 in.

\$25,000



*Anthurium and Vandas, 2005*

Oil on canvas,

30 x 40 in.

\$16,000

## ABOUT HUNT SLONEM

Hunt Slonem was born in Kittery, Maine in 1951; the eldest of four children. His father was a navy officer, while his mother was a homemaker who spent much of her time doing volunteer work. As a result of his father's military career, Slonem spent much of his childhood on different military bases; living in Hawaii, Virginia, Louisiana, Connecticut, California and Washington.

After completing school, which included living in Nicaragua as an exchange student at the age of 16, Slonem began his undergraduate studies at Vanderbilt University. He then spent six months of his sophomore year at the University of the Americas in San Andres Colula, Puebla, Mexico, eventually graduating with a Bachelors of Art in Painting and Art History from Tulane University in New Orleans.

During his collegiate years, Slonem attended the prestigious Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in Maine, where he was exposed to influential artists from the New York area including Alex Katz, Alice Neel, Richard Estes, Jack Levine, Louise Nevelson and Al Held. This exposure played a pivotal role in Slonem's artistic career, as it aided in his decision to move to New York in 1973. Three years after his arrival, Slonem received a painting grant from the Elizabeth Greenshields Foundation in Montreal, Canada and began painting extensively.

Since 1977, Slonem has had over 250 solo exhibitions at prestigious galleries, Museums both domestic and international have collected his work, among them The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum and the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York. Slonem's work has also been the subject of many books over the course of his career including: *Hunt Slonem: An Art Rich & Strange* (Abrams Books, 2002), *Pleasure Palaces: The Art and Homes of Hunt Slonem* (PowerHouse Books, 2007) and *The Worlds of Hunt Slonem* (Vendome Press, 2011).



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