

AMERICAN
art
COLLECTOR



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*Also Showcasing
Glass, Ceramics & Wood*



SERGIO ROFFO

Moods of the shore

Sergio Roffo was born in San Donato, Italy, in 1953 and came to Boston with his family in 1961. He attended the Vesper George School of Art in Boston, which had been established to prepare young artists for careers in advertising and publishing. One of his teachers, however, was Robert Douglas Hunter who was considered the “dean” of the “Boston School” of artists. The original Boston School artists celebrated classical beauty. Hunter once said, “Painting is easy. It’s seeing that is hard.”

Roffo worked as a commercial artist for a period before devoting himself to painting landscapes, initially watercolors of Boston. He now lives in Scituate, Massachusetts, a town with a large harbor, a rocky shore and vast salt marshes. Taught to observe, he has since learned more about the sea by sailing his own catboat along the Atlantic coast. His paintings depict the sea and marshes of Scituate and surrounding communities as well as Martha’s Vineyard and Nantucket.

An exhibition of his latest paintings is on view at Quidley & Company on Nantucket, August 21 to September 3.



Inspired by George Inness and Albert Bierstadt, Roffo captures the quickly changing mood of the shore, painting the luminous atmosphere as well as the

textural details of marsh grass, sand, water and the wood and sails of boats. Some of his paintings are completed in plein air and others are done in his studio from both memory and sketches made in the field.

His mastery has earned him recognition as a fellow of the American Society of Marine Artists and as a Copley Master by the Copley Society of Art, which was founded in the late 1870s.

He captures both the predictable and the unpredictable nature of the shore in *Burning Mist, Monomoy*, a scene on a small island in Nantucket Sound. A landlubber might wonder if the sailboat has run aground, but islanders know the tide will come in and float the boat, just as it will recede and ground it again. The mist may burn off in the rising sun but it may also settle in again, obliterating the landscape. The glowing sky is separated from the foreground by a strip of townscape on the mainland. Roffo leads the eye across the foreground with repeated patches of green marsh grass.

Roffo has mastered both the art of seeing and the art of painting. ●





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1
Reflections in the Mist,
oil on canvas, 24 x 36"

2
Dorys at Low Tide, oil,
30 x 40"

3
Burning Mist, Monomoy,
oil on canvas, 30 x 40"

4
Sergio Roffo paints
on location.

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