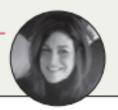
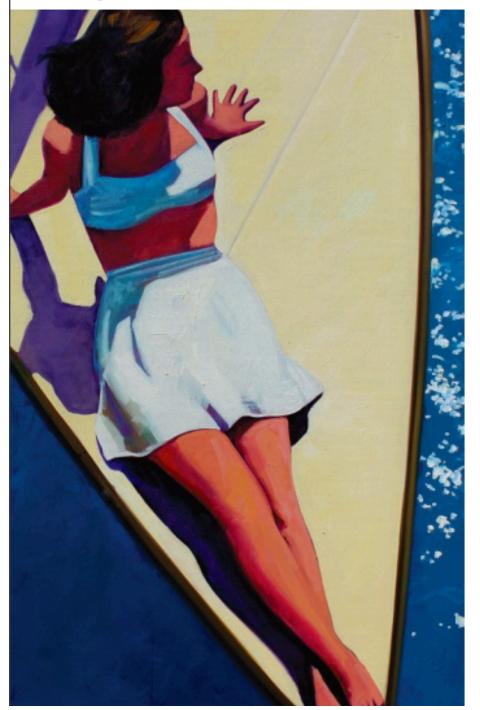


Quidley & Company 375 Broad Avenue South | Naples, FL 34102 (239) 261-4300 | www.quidleyandco.com



TRACEY SYLVESTER HARRIS

By the waterside



Tracey Sylvester Harris' paintings are inspired by the colors, the light and the people she saw around the pool growing up in Las Vegas. Rippling water distorted all three and added to the energy of the scenes. One of her first drawings featured her own feet in the pool.

Her parents, Lowell, a graphic artist, and Melanee, an impressionist painter, moved their family to California where, in 1983, they opened a gallery in Cambria. Her first exhibition was there in 2008—but only after she worked hard to develop her own style and to earn an invitation from the gallery owners.

Her latest work will be shown February 10 through 29 at Quidley & Company in Naples, Florida.

Harris combines her love of water and its visual effects with a fascination for found photographs of women at the beach or by pools in the mid-20th century. She brings moments frozen in black-and-white time to life with vibrant color and lively brushstrokes that often take on a life of their own. She enhances the anonymity of the original snapshots often by cropping the heads.

A nearly full figure floats in Watery Bliss. As in most of her paintings, Harris' figures project a feeling of being in command. Whether relaxing from her work at home while her children play nearby or taking a break from her professional work week, this figure abandons herself to the buoyant water.

Harris comments, "The exciting challenge is to keep the paintings relevant and current even though the subjects come from another era. To avoid sentimentality, I keep the compositions bold and cropped, the paintwork loose, drippy and rough, even pushing some areas into abstraction..."

In On the Water, the figure reclines in the sun on the bow of a boat that reflects in the water on the right. Her air of self-confidence echoes that of the woman in Watery Bliss. She could be a captured still from a romantic '50s movie.

Harris' paintings, themselves, have had movie roles, appearing as the work of Ed Harris who played an artist opposite Annette Bening in the 2014 release Face of Love. ●



- On the Water, oil on carryas, 36 x 24"
- 2 Watery 8/iss, oil on canvas, 48 x 48"
- 3 Evening at the Shore, oil on canvas, 48 x 36°
- 4 Diving Board Lovely, oil on canvas, 60 x 60*



