

## D.J. HALL THIRTY-FIVE YEAR RETROSPECTIVE TO OPEN AT PALM SPRINGS ART MUSEUM



D.J. Hall, *The Conjurer*, 2000, oil on linen, Museum purchase with funds from the estate of Lionel R. Bauman Acquisition Fund and Mr. and Mrs. Hans Ries Acquisition Fund. © D.J. Hall

January 8, 2008 – A new exhibition *D.J. Hall Thirty-Five Year Retrospective* will be on view at the Palm Springs Art Museum from May 24 to September 14, 2008 and will feature approximately fifty paintings, as well as extensive photographs, drawings, color studies and notes that Hall uses in preparation for her large paintings. These supportive materials provide an insight into the artist's elaborate planning process. Also included are three-dimensional installations – one used on the set of the film *Spanglish* where Hall advised on the scenic design and recreated one of her paintings. Photographic film stills included in the exhibition contextualize this setting.

Artist D.J. Hall, a southern California artist, developed a distinctive style of painting that presents the sun-saturated world of Southern California women. Her paintings are inspired by the artist's visits to Palm Springs' pools and resorts and Los Angeles' posh Westside and beaches. Depictions of privileged, beautiful women grinning with self-satisfaction against the inevitable ravages of time became the basis of Hall's imagery. Employing a realist style of painting, the artist celebrates the color and quality of light in sunny environments. Yet, these emotionally charged works pack compelling thoughts for viewers who choose to look beyond the pretty faces and scenes. Beneath the surface beauty lurks a certain "edge" evoking an uneasy feeling that something is amiss. In revealing herself through these poignant and personal images, the artist lures us into deeper consideration of our own yearnings for eternal youth and our inability to face what inevitably comes with human mortality.

Combining a skill for capturing intense color and light and portraying women, her images often feature other genres within the painting – including still life,

landscape and water studies. Reflected in her artwork is her pre-occupation with fleeting youth, aging and the cultural expression of self-image.

This exhibition is organized by the Palm Springs Art Museum. The presenting sponsor is the Helene & Lou Galen Art Exhibition Fund. Additional funding has been provided by Trudy & Harold Stack.

Located downtown in an architecturally-significant E. Stewart Williams-designed building, the Palm Springs Art Museum features exciting exhibitions of contemporary, Native American, Western and Pre-Columbian art in spacious galleries. It features two sculpture gardens, stimulating lectures and educational programs for all ages, and offers diverse performances at its Annenberg Theater. The Art Museum is open six days a week; Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Thursday from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. Admission is free to members; \$12.50 for adults; \$10.50 for seniors 62 and over; \$5 for students and active-duty military with I.D. and free for youths 17 and under. For more information, call 760.332.4800 or visit [www.psmuseum.org](http://www.psmuseum.org).