



"After Michelangelo, The Creation" by David Salle (at right)

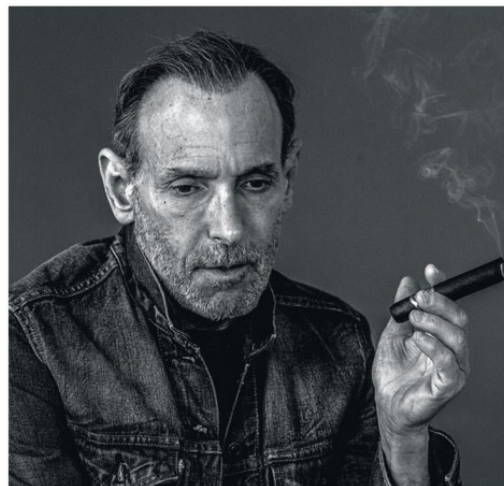
The Crowded World of David Salle

WITH THREE NEW PAINTINGS ON VIEW AT PARRISH ART MUSEUM, THE WORK OF AN EAST HAMPTON- AND NYC-BASED NEO-EXPRESSIONIST ARTIST PROVES TO BE MONUMENTAL IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE. BY ALLISON BERG

Known for his large-scale multipanel paintings, David Salle is one of the most celebrated artists of our community. "He is one of our most erudite and nuanced creators who has a long-standing relationship to our region," shares Parrish Art Museum Director Terrie Sultan. To celebrate this connection, the Parrish acquired three significant Salle paintings for its permanent collection last fall. Gifted to the museum by Margaret S. Bilotti, "After Michelangelo, The Flood" and "After Michelangelo, The Last Judgment" were created in Salle's East Hampton studio and

are currently on view at the Parrish through October of this year. Like his other compositions, the Sistine Chapel-inspired paintings deconstruct and juxtapose rich imagery. Salle's creativity is not just in the chosen images themselves but, arguably, even more in how they are arranged. Using traditional painting tools and materials, he continuously recontextualizes elements in a fashion that's at once straightforward and complex. Ironically a man of succinct thought about his elaborate style, Salle helps us decipher his oeuvres.

People love labeling art and artists. As such, the labels



you are usually associated with are 'Pictures Generation' and Postmodern Art.' Do you consider these categorizations of your work accurate? I don't know if they're accurate, but they don't bother me. I'm more interested in the continuity.

How has your process behind these complex compositions changed over the decades? It's

always evolving, but I can't really describe how.

What stories were you telling with the mix of biblical and pop culture references in Sistine Chapel paintings currently on view at the Parrish Museum? Maybe instead of saying 'pop culture,' we could just say 'culture.' Everything was pop culture once, if you know what I mean.

AFTER MICHELANGELO, THE CREATION, 2005-2006 OIL AND ACRYLIC ON LINEN 90 X 110, PARRISH ART MUSEUM, WATER MILL, NEW YORK. GIFT OF MARGARET S. BILOTTI, 2018.10.1 ©DAVID SALLE/AGAA AT ARTISTS RIGHTS SOCIETY (ARS), NY; DAVID SALLE PHOTO BY MICHAEL AVEDON