

## **Richard Mayhew: *Transcendence***

March 26 through May 4, 2020

Opening Reception: Thursday, March 26, from 7 to 9 PM

Book Signing: Saturday, March 28 from 2 to 5 PM

ACA Galleries is pleased to present a solo exhibition of Richard Mayhew, *Transcendence*, which celebrates the release of his first monograph (Chronicle Books, 2020) with an essay and interview by Andrew Walker, Executive Director of the Amon Carter Museum.

Born 1924 in Amityville, New York Mayhew's parents were descendants of African-Americans and Native-Americans. Early on he learned about Native American culture and folklore which instilled in him a lifelong reverence for nature.

In 1945, Mayhew moved to New York City and attended the Brooklyn Museum of Art's School and Art Students League, where he studied with Reuben Tam, Edwin Dickinson, Hans Hofmann and Max Beckmann. His first solo exhibition was at the Brooklyn Museum of Art in 1955. Recognized as one of the most important living American landscape painters, he has had more than forty solo exhibitions over the last fifty years.



In 1958, Mayhew was awarded the John Hay Whitney Foundation Grant which enabled him to travel to Europe in 1959 to continue his studies. After returning to New York in 1963 he became a founding member of "Spiral," a group of African-American artists and intellectuals committed to promoting civil rights in the art world.

*When I paint a tree, I feel it, I have an intense emotional and spiritual union with nature. That's part of my heritage and I've been faithful to it.*

– Richard

Mayhew

*Lumbee*, 2009, oil on canvas, 30 x 30 inches

Mayhew's work is in the permanent collections of numerous museums including: The Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY; Whitney Museum of American Art, NY; Brooklyn Museum of Art, NY; Art Institute of Chicago; IL; National Museum of American Art, DC; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, CA; and the De Young Museum; CA. He is also a member of the National Academy of Design and has held teaching positions at the Art Students League, Hunter College, and Pennsylvania State University, among others.

### **About ACA Galleries**

American Contemporary Art Gallery (ACA) is one of the earliest champions of American art in the United States. Founded in 1932 ACA's pioneering interest in progressive American art was established early on with exhibitions featuring or introducing the work of Rockwell Kent, Alice Neel, Barnett Newman, David Smith and Charles White, among others. In 1935, ACA hosted the inaugural meetings of the American Artists Congress (AAC), the influential precursor of the WPA federal programs that aided artists and funded public art projects during the depression. Committed to continuing its tradition of supporting artists with progressive points of view ACA continues to break new ground. ACA specializes in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century American and Contemporary art.

[acagalleries.com](http://acagalleries.com) | [@acagalleries1932](https://www.instagram.com/acagalleries1932)

### **Hours:**

Tuesday – Saturday:

11am – 6pm.

Sunday – Monday:

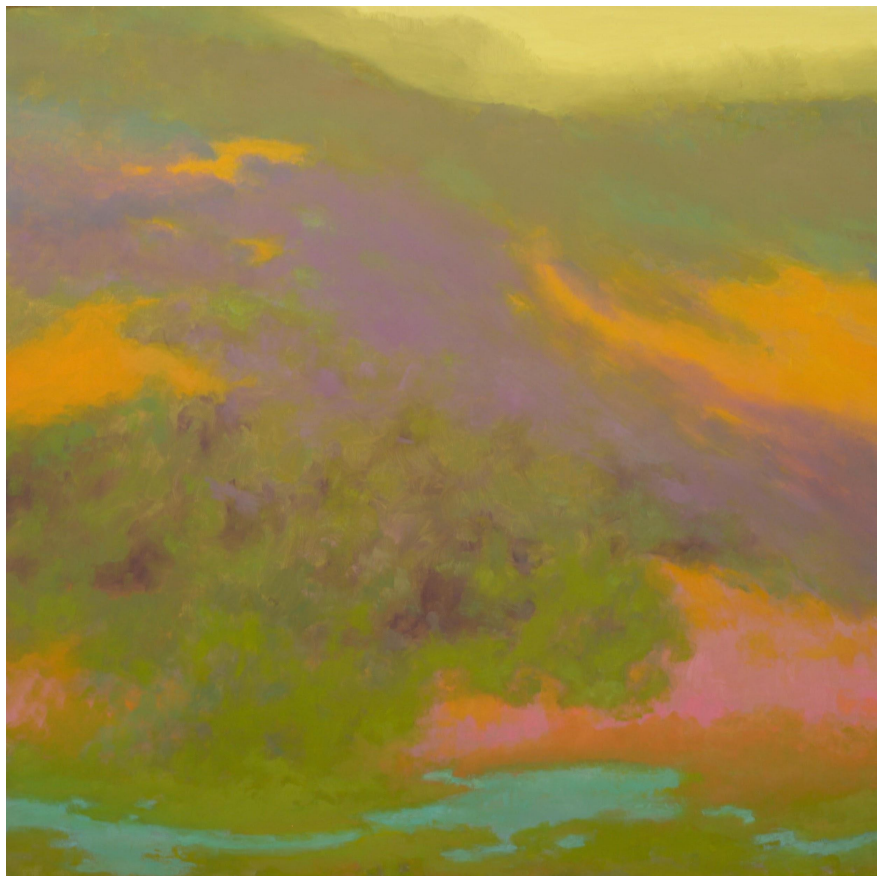
By Appointment

### **Press Contact:**

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*Above and Beyond*, 2009, oil on canvas, 48 x 48 inches