

Salvatore Del Deo: A Storied History

Public Reception – August 31, 2017 5:30 – 7 pm

at Cape Cod Museum of Art

Exhibition Runs August 24 – November 26, 2017

17 year-old **Salvatore Del Deo**, whose parents had emigrated from Italy to Providence, R.I., arrived in Provincetown in 1945 with a dream to be an artist. 72 years later, this exhibition at Cape Cod Museum of Art (CCMoA) shows how he successfully realized that dream. In this show, a variety of Del Deo's painting styles reflect his vision of the Provincetown landscape, his love for his parent's homeland in Italy, and the social influences that shaped his life.

Del Deo has been honored with the **Cape Cod Museum of Art's MUSE Award** for outstanding contributions to the artistic community this year. "As he has spent much of his career honoring the lives of others, the museum is privileged to have this opportunity to pay tribute to his remarkable life and continuing creative endeavors through this exhibit," said **Edith (Deede) Tonelli, director of CCMoA**.

Del Deo was an initial supporter of the founding of CCMoA with Harry Holl in the 1980's and has continued his passionate support of the museum and many other cultural organizations on the Cape.

A student of Provincetown impressionist Henry Hensche, Del Deo's plein air paintings capture the light, water, and sky with a rich color palette. In a style that ranges from the realistic to the abstract, Del Deo has painted all the familiar scenes of his life at land's end – the sea, dunes, the fishermen.

In a grouping of paintings we see his colorful and emotional landscapes, all of which depict specific locations, but most of which express more about the mood and energy of the place than the exact details of the site.

"In his "homage" series to those lost in the shipwreck of the Patricia Marie in 1976, Del Deo has created portraits of those lost at sea, and honored their memory in an almost haunting, iconic tribute to all those courageous fisherman who daily face the excitement and dangers of the sea.

The artist's life has been committed to painting and the community. He opened a restaurant, Sal's Place, to as he said, "keep him in paint." Known for his generous hospitality, homemade wine and extraordinary community involvement, Sal and his wife, writer Josephine Couch, became beloved members of the Provincetown Community.

Del Deo's work has been on exhibition many local galleries, as well as in the National Portrait Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC, Harvard University, Williams College Museum of Art, and others. He is represented by the renowned **Berta Walker Gallery**.

About Cape Cod Museum of Art

Founded by artists in 1981, the Cape Cod Museum of Art preserves and celebrates the distinctive artistic heritage of Cape Cod, Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard. CCMoA is a major center of cultural growth and creativity that seeks to educate, inspire and excite the imagination of all through its outstanding art collection and diverse programming. Located in a beautiful setting surrounded by a sculpture garden, the museum has seven galleries, a museum shop and screening room. The museum is supported in part by the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the Arts Foundation of Cape Cod.

CCMoA is located at 60 Hope Lane, just off Route 6A, on the same campus as the Cape Cinema and the Cape Cod Playhouse in Dennis, MA. Hours are 10 am to 5 pm Tuesday through Saturday and noon to 5 pm on Sunday. It is open on ARTfull Thursdays from 5 – 8 with no admission fee. General Admission is \$9, \$7 for seniors and students 19+ with school ID, \$5 for students 13 to 18, and free for children 12 & under. For more information, call (508) 385-4477.