



## Indiana Design Center™

### BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

### Create Harmony Between Modern Art and Traditional Elements



#### COATS-WRIGHT ART & DESIGN

If one thing is true about building an art collection, it's that choosing art is always personal. "Buy what you love and buy the best you can afford. It has to speak to you," says Dianne Wright, gallery director for Coats-Wright Art & Design. Dianne's passion for connecting clients with art they love is complimented by an elegant, yet inviting, interior design style. As Wright juxtaposes European antiques with contemporary artwork in the gallery, it is a shining example that elements of various styles and eras can live well together in a thoughtful, eclectic setting.

The gallery features work from world-renowned artists based in Indiana and around the country. California artist JoAnn Belson is catching the eyes of art collectors who visit. Belson's work represents mixed-media pieces ranging from figurative watercolors to bold, large format paintings within her "Choke" series. Work like Belson's marries well with a variety of design styles. "Modern art shines when it's surrounded by a different aesthetic. Consider a baroque frame, and always give the piece room to breathe," says Wright.

*Into the Sun*, 72x60 Oil On Canvas by JoAnn Belson with French antique chairs from Beauchamp Antiques in the Coats-Wright Art & Design gallery.

#### WALTER KNABE

Artist Walter Knabe, whose studio is located in the IDC, has built an internationally acclaimed career inspired by the delicate balance between classic and modern elements.

"I like having a sense of antiquity in my work which reminds us of the past and helps us feel grounded in the present, hopefully leading us to a sense of posterity," explains Knabe as he describes the philosophy behind his fine art.

Knabe's fine art evokes a sense of worldliness as it takes cues from religion, history and mythology. From a design standpoint, Knabe feels modern and traditional styles can exist together and add a sense of sophistication to a room. "Colors and shapes or elements within a painting can merge the two worlds. If a pattern such as damask or a color creates continuity in a room, it just works," assures Knabe.



*Liberation*, 53x70 Walter Knabe



*Here Lies My Heart*, 36x28 Walter Knabe

Knabe and Wright would agree, it all starts with an emotional connection and from there, your décor can nod to both the past and ever-changing present. ❁