

TIBOR DE NAGY

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Ann Toebbe *Friends and Rentals*

June 6 to July 27, 2019

Opening Reception, June 6, 6-8PM



The exhibition features Toebbe's intricate works made with gouache, pencil and paper collage on wood panels. The images depict domestic interior settings pulled from the social media posts of the artist's friends and family in Ohio and Kentucky, as well as her own photos with her husband and children. Toebbe archived these social media posts from her large extended family, including 42 cousins, amassing a trove of images of family gatherings, birthday parties, baby showers, and displays of Christmas decorations. She uses the background details revealed in these postings to construct portraits of the homes themselves. One work, *Friend: Sandie*, is a widow's home in Kentucky that is all frill draperies, doilies and Christmas ornaments; another, *Friend: Becky* (pictured above) shows a cousin's sprawling house in southern Ohio, furnished with large furniture and even larger TV screens tuned to sports channels, like a specimen of American suburban life preserved in amber.

Toebbe's process is labor intensive. She employs freehand painting, flat geometry, geometric abstraction and intricate patterning; her paintings require numerous preparatory drawings and extensive planning. An important part of her work is the play with flatness and multiple points of view. Each work freely combines interior and outside viewpoints, views from above and cross-sections. Objects and figures appear unexpectedly at eye-level, like isolated artifacts. Toebbe's working method draws inspiration from American folk art and Indian miniature painting. Folk art often embraces stylization and eschews perspective. Mughal painters utilized compartmentalization as a compositional device, as its origin was to inventory the king's court. As Ryan Steadman notes in the catalogue essay, "In this way, Toebbe exerts the control she has — control over her picture plane — in order to better organize the lives of her family and friends via images of their homes and belongings."

Ann Toebbe was born in Cincinnati and received her BFA from Cleveland Art Institute and her MFA from Yale University. She was a DAAD scholar in Berlin in 2005. She has had residencies at the Vermont Studio Center, AiR Pilchuk Glass School and Skowhegan. This summer she will participate in the group exhibition, *Small Paintings*, at Corbett vs. Dempsey and in the fall she will have a solo exhibition, titled *Swing State*, at Sarah Lawrence College. The artist currently lives and works in Chicago.

About Tibor de Nagy:

Tibor de Nagy continues its significant role in contemporary American Art since its founding in 1950. In June 2017, the gallery moved to the Lower East Side at 11 Rivington Streets.

Tibor de Nagy Gallery presents exhibitions of such contemporary artists as Sarah McEneaney, Trevor Winkfield and Jen Mazza, as well artists from the Post War second generation New York School. Its long history includes the first exhibitions of Carl Andre, Helen Frankenthaler, Jane Freilicher, Red Grooms, Grace Hartigan, Alfred Leslie, Fairfield Porter and Larry Rivers.

The gallery's program continues its mission to present a broad overview of contemporary art of singular vision including recent exhibitions of Hannah Wilke, Francis Picabia, and Jess. This unique history has also fostered collaborations between poets and artists. The gallery was the first publisher of the poems of John Ashbery, Frank O'Hara, Kenneth Koch, and James Schuyler.

Listings Information:

Tibor de Nagy Gallery is located at 11 Rivington Street on the Lower East Side
Tel: 212 262 5050. | Web: www.tibordenagy.com | Email: info@tibordenagy.com

Gallery Hours: Wednesday – Saturday 10am – 6pm, Sunday 12pm – 6pm

Social Media:

Join the conversation on social media by mentioning Tibor de Nagy and using the hashtags #AnnToebbe and #tibordenagy when posting. Facebook: Tibor de Nagy Gallery | Instagram: @tibordenagygallery | Twitter: @TiborDeNagy