

# OIL PAINTERS OF AMERICA

2021 NATIONAL SALON SHOW | JUNE 10 THROUGH AUGUST 7

AT THE QUINLAN VISUAL ARTS CENTER



## BLAIR ATHERHOLT

At age 18, Blair Atherholt set out on an undergraduate Pre-Med course of study at Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. However, at exam time, when Atherholt thumbed through his notebooks from his classes, he came face to face with the reality that the notebooks were full of drawings and sketches instead of the notes he needed to study.

From that day forward, Atherholt was determined not to pursue a medical career but an art career instead. He entered the Schuler School of Fine Arts in 2011 in pursuit of learning the techniques and disciplines of the Old Masters. The life works of Hans Schuler, Sr. (1874-1951) and Jacques Maroger (1884-1962) and their dedication to excellence in art represent the hallmark of the Schuler School and its mission in training students of the school.

Since his graduation from the Schuler School of Fine Arts in 2015, Atherholt's artistic focus has remained concentrated upon traditional still life painting in oils. Within this genre, his continual ambition is to compose works made distinctively his own by utilizing contemporary, imaginative subject matter. He strives with each new painting to improve his control of the medium, one measured brushstroke at a time.

His work has been included in multiple national shows and international publications. Most recently, he was awarded the American Art Collector Editor's Choice in the 15th Annual International Guild of Realism Exhibition, an Award of Excellence in the Oil Painters of America Wet Paint Competition, 2nd Place in the Artists Magazine Annual Art Competition: Still Life + Interiors, as well as the Windows to the Divine Award in the Art Renewal Center's 14th International Salon. He also received the Realism Award of Excellence in the Oil Painters of America 28th National Juried Exhibition, as well as the Best Still Life Award in the National Oil and Acrylic Painters Society's Best of America Small Works Exhibition. He has been honored to have been publicized on the cover of the August/September 2020 issue of International Artist Magazine with a feature demonstration article, *Painting with Precision*. He was also a featured artist in Southwest Art Magazine's *21 Under 31* issue, in September 2017. His paintings are part of numerous public and private collections.