

about the artist . . .



## Henry Asencio

Contemporary painter Henry Asencio has emerged as one of the most intriguing young artists working today. His work blends the classical ideals of figurative painting with a unique style. The artist states, "Painting for me is very cathartic and is the most articulate way for me to express my passion." Merging introspection and visual spectacle, Asencio's personal investigations of the figure, spirituality and abstraction possess the power to transform today's ideals of elegance and sensuality. In 1996, Asencio was sponsored by an art supply company, Thayer and Chandler, which resulted in exposure in exhibitions as far afield as Germany and Paris. In 1998, Asencio's work was recognized in the Amsterdam Art Competition, earning the prestige of being a first-time artist dually awarded with gold and silver medals in two separate divisions, he was acknowledged for self-portraiture in oils and a figure in the acrylic medium. Excelling in his chosen discipline, Asencio graduated with honours from the San Francisco Art Academy in 1998. He was a chosen finalist in an Artist's Magazine competition that same year, again for his work in portraiture. Although he earned a living as a portrait artist early in his career, today Asencio is "more concerned with creating a mood and pushing the aesthetic opposed to replicating a scene. A native of California, today the artist lives and works in his studio near San Jose, north of his birthplace of Los Angeles. The artist's reputation and exposure in the marketplace continues to grow. Recently signed with Crown Thorn Publishing in LaJolla, California, Asencio's work is now available in limited edition format for international distribution. It is the power of the artist's vision that gives his work its own reality and makes it interesting to the viewer. Asencio's work is influenced by themes of transformation and spontaneous beauty and has fast become the artist's hallmark in creating the excitement of his masterful works of art.

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