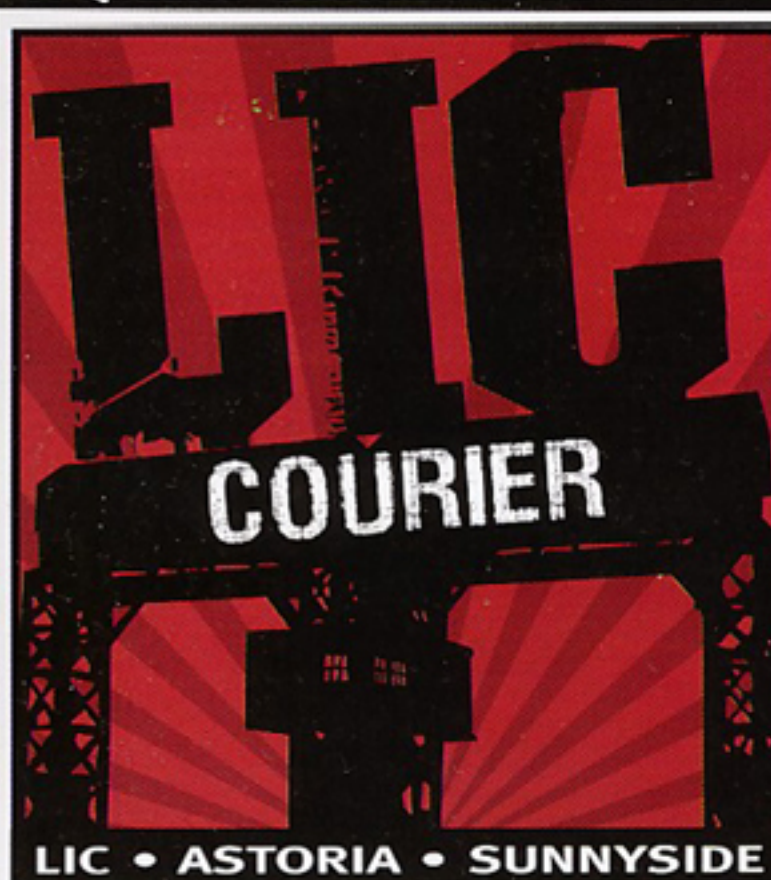


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- Folk Artist Jeneen Terrana
- Sculpture Artist Lars Fisk
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ON THE COVER

City Words, City Views

Tom Matt and the art of layering

This month's cover art was contributed by LIC artist Tom Matt, whose signature works – pastel cityscapes atop front pages of major newspapers – can be traced back to an interest in typography and a passion for underappreciated or overlooked urban scenes.

Matt works in the mediums of oil, carbon pencil and pastel. Much of his professional and commissioned work focuses on the city as his muse, while he also engages in still life and portraiture.

Taking the paper-of-the-day as his canvas, the artist finds city scenes that captivate and spark his creativity. With pastel as his medium of choice, he draws these views 'on-site' on top of the front of New York newspapers. The merging of city-news and city-views forms a unique portrait and synthesis of a layered metropolitan landscape.

"It's the merging of the city you see and the city you read," he said. "There are various layers of a city and art layering, as well. So these works speak to layers and the experience of living in a city."

The series is available as commissioned artwork, originals, and limited edition prints. Also, much of his work can be seen hanging in Cranky's Café on Vernon Boulevard.

On his web site, www.tommatt.com, the artist states:

"My interest in art started very early, as soon as I could handle a pencil. Encouraged by my parents, both fine artists, I was exposed to many forms of artistic expression, both visual and musical, throughout my formative years. As a child my family and I lived in Rome, Italy, for two years while my father was a Fellow in sculpture at the American Academy in Rome. In addition, I lived and traveled in Mexico and Europe for several years as an adult, working with charitable organizations. My artistic development and influences continued during my education in high school in Connecticut and later through the School of Fine Arts at Boston University, Boston, MA; the Lyme Academy of Fine Art, Old Lyme, CT; and the School of Visual Arts, NY."

