



The Journey Series by Gil Bruvel

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Balanced on the scale of time, we are infinitesimally small, an ephemeral breath of wind, now here, now gone. We walk on the earth with creatures whose ancestors trod the same ground long before we were here. And they, in turn, move through trees whose seeds for eons have fallen and sprouted and grown in soil and rock whose geologic memory is unfathomably deep—the agelessness of the earth itself. On another scale, we totter precariously; we are too large. Yet the weights that cause us to tip—our clever inventiveness, narrow vision, unchecked desires—may somehow find balance in other equally human traits: curiosity, wonder, cooperation, awe.

The child walks ahead. The path is unmarked. The sky may appear as it always has, with reassuring daylight and clouds or a sliver of moon, or the horizon may seem mysteriously dark. The landscape through which we journey at this vital moment is unmapped. Its secrets are softly mounded by forgetfulness and time, reminding us perhaps of dangers we've seen or warning of threats far beyond what we have known. Still, the land's flowing forms and the elephant's gentle tread speak of possibility and trust. We move ahead. Are we journeying into stark survival, or into a deepening understanding of the preciousness of life?

Gussie Fauntleroy



Journey #1, oil on canvas 40" x 30"

The trackless path along which we travel is strewn, ahead and behind, with evidence of the human gift for creative, exponential leaps of invention and thought. We have looked at the world around us and borrowed nature's extraordinary systems and forms—for good or ill. Yet in this journey through new terrain, that store of immeasurable knowledge and skill is suspended for the moment in a dreamlike state; it is not what the child requires right now to lead. Instead, he knows to employ a triangulation of time; he finds his place in close conjunction with ancient companions, primal trees, and the ageless earth. Youthful innocence leads, wisdom follows, and the vast unknown becomes a potentially magical place.

Though we travel the world over to find the beautiful, we must carry it with us or we find it not. ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson







Journey #2, oil on canvas 40" x 30"

Far into the future, the land has been worn by the long unhurried erosion of geologic change, polished into softly fluid forms by the constancy of time. Events that might have meant a cataclysmic end have faded into the collective sigh of days and nights that continue on, like the almost forgotten sight of a half-buried, now-benign bomb. And yet, alongside the wearing down is the springing up: the endless regeneration of sinuously waving trees, the freshness of air and water as the planet slowly erases an almost unforgivable phase in its past. And there are the children and the gentle ones, alive with a sense of purpose and discovery, pointing across the water: What's over there?

A good traveler has no fixed plans, and is not intent on arriving. ~ Lao Tzu





Journey #3, tempera on paper mounted on board, 30" x 15"

The earth curls and flows in solid waves, as if unsettled and ready to shift. A field of vaguely alarming shapes sprouts up. The horizon dissolves. The ancient trees huddle close together in long-shadowed red and blue light. But the venerable wisdom bearers walk on, unafraid. The confident child rides high. In her hand is a wild companion bird with outstretched wings, testing the wind, ready to scout and return with a message of hope or concern. Up ahead, an even younger child wears a pointy, fantastical hat. With an easy faith in ordinary magic, he continues toward the source of light and perceives a future that we cannot yet see. Is it welcoming light or the fire of transformation?

Do we need to know?

The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes but in having new eyes. ~ Marcel Proust





Journey #4, tempera on paper mounted on board, 30" x 15"

About Gil Bruvel

Born in Sydney, Australia, in 1959, Gil Bruvel's French-born parents moved the family back to the south of France when he was 4 years old. While taking drawing lessons at age 9 and learning sculpture basics, Gil made the decision to spend his life creating art. There he found himself inspired by the light and landscapes in this region. He began working with oil paint at the age of 12 and the local environment had an enormous and lasting influence on his palette -giving him luminous colors he continues to use today.

Gil's father, being a cabinetmaker, introduced the budding artist to the inner workings of a wood workshop including furniture design, its practical function, and every aspect of hand crafting each piece. Taking this knowledge and experience with him, Gil began studies at an art restoration workshop 1974, spending the next three years learning the techniques of the Old Masters and modern Masters of contemporary art. Thereafter he set up his studio in St. Remy de Provence until 1986 when he first made his way to the United States, making it his permanent residence in 1990. At that time he started to experiment more with sculptures in bronze, mixed media as well as continuing to learn about creative processes in artistic expression.

He is currently creating paintings, sculptures, and functional art. Gil Bruvel has been exhibiting his work since 1974 in various places around the world and including: Australia, England, Monaco, England, Denmark, The Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland, Hungary, Japan, Singapore, New York, Florida, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, California and Hawaii.

His work has received many awards and his collectors span the globe.

Recent exhibitions:

- 2013 Context at Art Basel, Jan Kossen Contemporary, Miami Florida
- 2013 Art Cologne, Jan Kossen Contemporary, Cologne Germany
- 2013 Jan Kossen Contemporary, Basel Switzerland.
- 2013 Houston Art Fair, Laura Rathe Fine Art, Houston, Texas
- 2013 Dreamscapes Exhibition, Re-Art/Marcel Salome, Viechtach, Germany
- 2013 Dallas Art Fair, Laura Rathe Fine Art, Dallas, Texas
- 2013 Laura Rathe Fine Art, Houston Texas
- 2013 Fantasmus/Claus Brusen, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2013 Lahaina Gallery, The Art of Aloha, Maui Hawaii

