



NICK SAVIDES



RESILIENCE IN NYC

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BOWERY GALLERY

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Front Cover: 

"Creative Resilience" on Rivington, 2022, oil on linen, 36 x 48 inches (detail)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many thanks to the Bowery Gallery for the invitational exhibit "Resilience in NYC," Karina Broce-Gonzaga from UGallery for the introduction, Bobby Grossman and his "Debbie Harry Pepsi" photo and Shepard Fairey's Blondie mural for inspiration on "Blondie on Bleecker," Danielle Mastrion, Angela Del Sol and the Brave House for inspiration on "'Creative Resilience' on Rivington," Eduardo Kobra's mural "27 Club" for inspiration on "Legends on Rivington," Zoey O'Toole for the title, Samantha Greene and Alex Farkas from UGallery for coordination and planning, and Kerri Lindström from EV Gallery for consultation on the catalog layout and editing.

NICK SAVIDES: RESILIENCE IN NYC

Nick Savides paints realistic urban landscapes, transporting his viewer to scenes that simultaneously capture the real and the imagined. Savides' compositions bring iconic structures and uncanny corners alike to life as though bearing a sense of consciousness and curiosity—silent witnesses to human experiences within their midsts. The exhibit's title comes from the painting "'Creative Resilience' on Rivington," which includes an interpretation of the "Creative Resilience" mural by Danielle Mastrion and the young immigrant women of The Brave House, incorporating many of the elements found in his cityscapes—architecture, nature, murals, graffiti, people, and mystery.

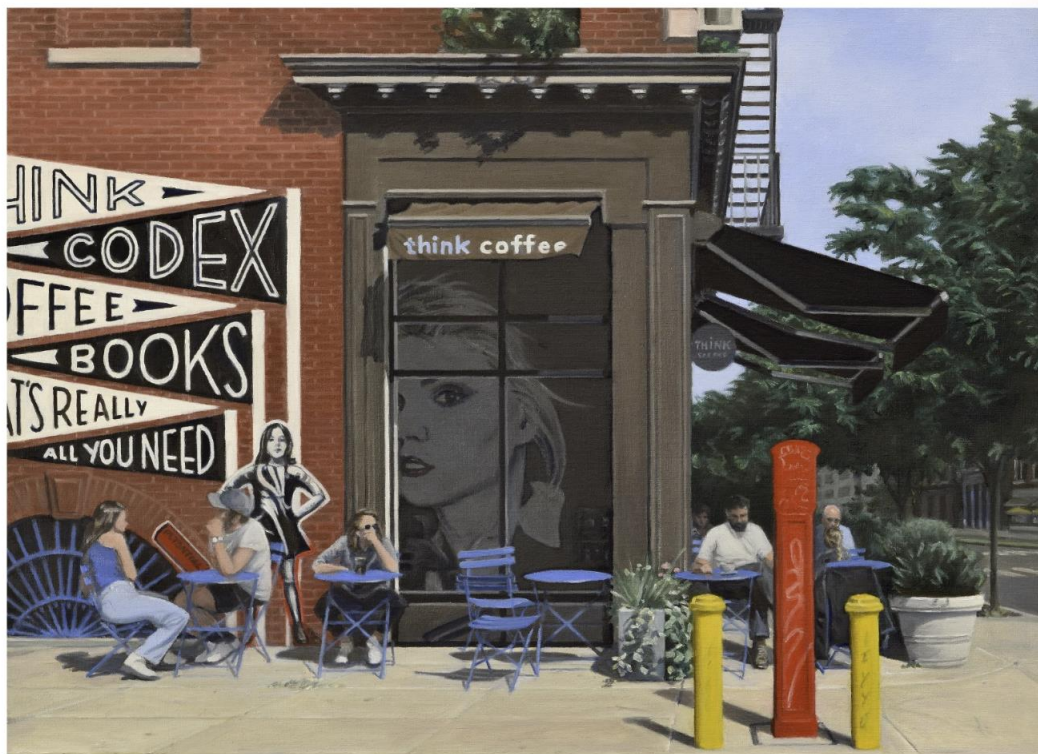
In his work "Think Coffee," café-goers engrossed in their own rituals while sitting on blue tables and chairs on the sidewalk, appear to be oblivious to the black and white figure on the brick wall and a monochromatic reflection of Debbie Harry—both openly addressing the viewer directly. "Blondie on Bleecker" is where one will find the original image reflected on the window. This piece features an adaptation of Shepard Fairey's mural, using the original black and white reference photo of Debbie Harry by Bobby Grossman. Cut-outs of Blondie's Parallel Lines and Pollinator album covers flank the large portrait, while a mysterious figure stands behind the only open window in the building.

In "Morning on Gansevoort," Savides paints the cobblestones, pavement, and architecture in intricate detail, shrouded in an alluring tonal atmosphere. All to lure the viewer's eye towards the lone figure looking back from the distance.

"Sorrel River Ranch on Watts Street" features a portion of Watts Street in Soho on a sunny day. Dappled shadows dance on the concrete sidewalk and road. The piece shows an ad for the Sorrel River Ranch resort in Utah beside Negri's window display featuring three mannequins in stark contrast to the galloping horses. Savides tackles different spatial perspectives, by drawing the scene inward through an alley that gives way to the top of One World Trade Center, as well as creating a portal-like entry to another world where the animals roam freely in wild terrain—unrestricted and unconstrained, offering respite from this small urban street.

By seamlessly merging the familiar and the mysteriously intriguing, Savides encourages both casual inspection and intimate dialogue where all are welcome to bear witness, akin to the timeless structures epitomized in his work.

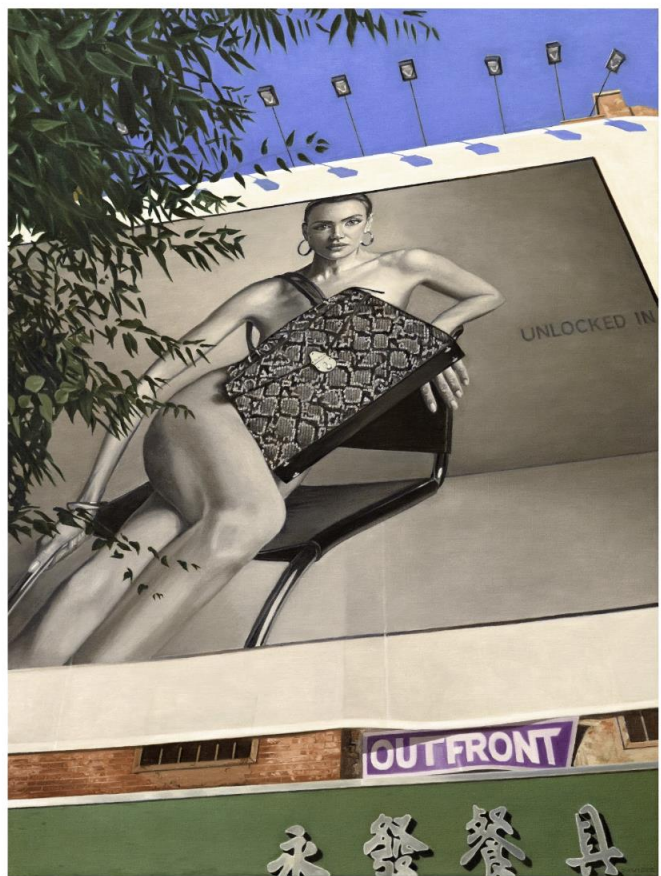
Karina Broce-Gonzaga



Think Coffee
2021
Oil on linen
18 x 24 inches



Blondie on Bleecker
2021
Oil on linen
36 x 48 inches



Unlocked / Outfront
 2020
 Oil on linen
 48 x 36 inches



On Grand Street
 2020
 Oil on linen
 48 x 36 inches



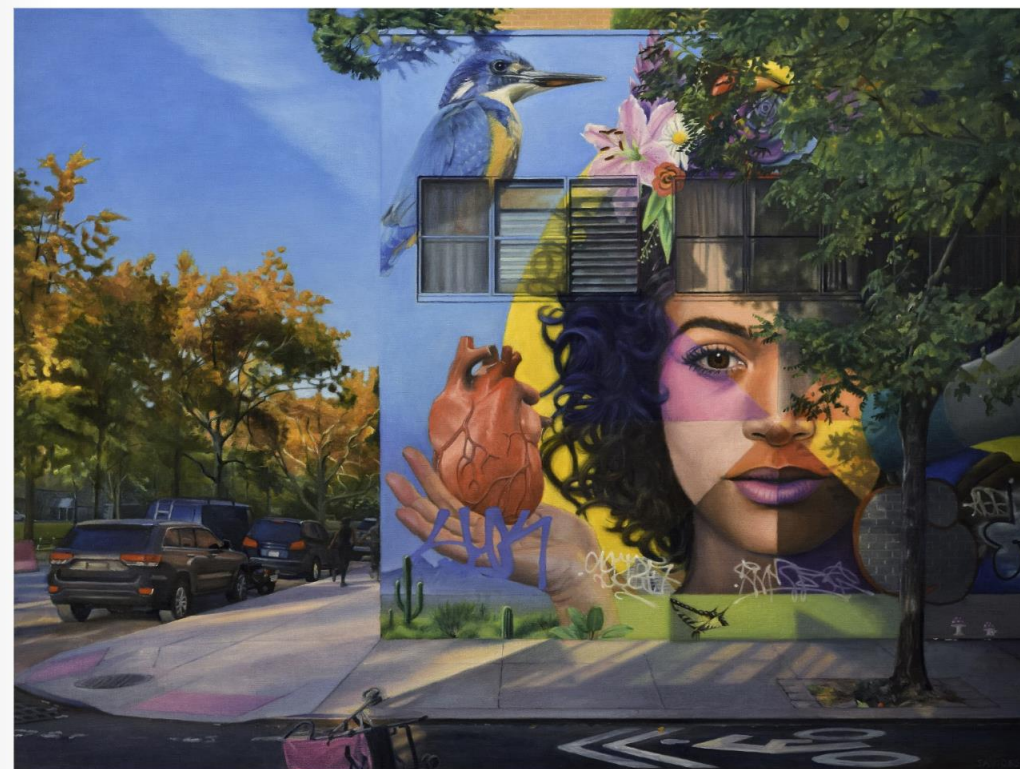
Legends on Rivington Street
2020
Oil on linen
24 x 36 inches



Physical Graffiti
2019
Oil on linen
36 x 48 inches



High Line View with Robot Lady
 2019
 Oil on linen
 16 x 20 inches



"Creative Resilience" on Rivington
 2022
 Oil on linen
 36 x 48 inches



Feels Like
2022
Oil on linen
18 x 24 inches



Block Drugs
2021
Oil on linen
24 x 36 inches



On St Marks Place
2018
Oil on linen
24 x 36 inches



View from the High Line at Sunset - Gansevoort Street
2018
Oil on linen
24 x 36 inches



Waverly Diner at Sunset
 2020
 Oil on linen
 18 x 24 inches



Serafina on Ludlow
 2021
 Oil on linen
 24 x 24 inches



Washington Square Park – October Afternoon
2022
Oil on linen
24 x 24 inches



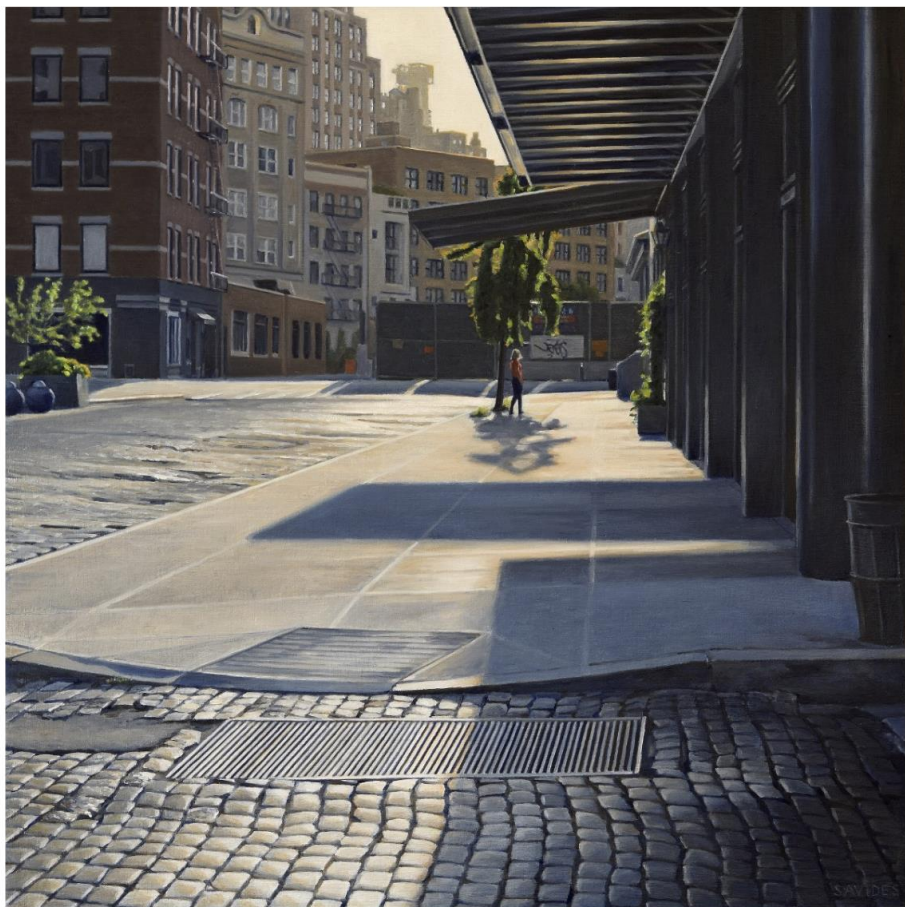
Washington Square Park – Summer Afternoon
2019
Oil on linen
24 x 24 inches



Sorrel River Ranch on Watts Street
2020
Oil on linen
24 x 36 inches



Handball Court
2022
Oil on linen
24 x 36 inches



Morning on Gansevoort
 2020
 Oil on linen
 24 x 24 inches



On Howard Street
 2020
 Oil on linen
 16 x 20 inches



Red on Broome
2021
Oil on linen
18 x 24 inches



Tacos vs Burritos
2021
Oil on linen
16 x 20 inches



Nick Savides grew up in Piscataway, New Jersey. He received a BA with Highest Honors in Fine Arts from Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts (1979), studying painting under Paul Georges. He lives and works in Brooklyn, and has been part of the New York figurative art scene since the 1980's.

He has exhibited in solo shows in the New York region, including: "Resilience in NYC," Bowery Gallery, NYC, 2022, "You're Always Something to Find," EV Gallery, NYC, 2022, "NYCscapes," Wagner College, Staten Island, NY, 2018-19, "Recent Paintings," Shakespeare & Associates, Milford, PA, 2018, "Expressions," The Good Gallery, Kent, CT, 2016, "New York Icons," Berkeley College Art Gallery, NYC, 2015, "Nick Savides: Contemplating Time, Light, and Space," Geary Gallery, Darien, CT, 2013, "Nick Savides: Reflections on Realism, Paintings from 1979-2012," Berkeley College Art Gallery, Brooklyn, 2012 and "New York – Paris," Nabi Gallery, NYC, 2009.

He has exhibited in group shows in the US and Canada, including: Open Cityscapes Exhibition, Salmagundi Club, NYC, 2021, "In Real Life," Noyes Museum of Art, Hammonton, NJ, 2021, "Third Annual National Juried Exhibition," Wausau Museum of Contemporary Art, WI, 2019, "28th Annual Juried Competition," Bowery Gallery, NYC, 2019, "JuxtaPositions," The Painting Center, NYC, 2018, "The Art of the Figure," Gallery North, Setauket, NY, 2018, "Art of Painting in the 21st Century," John Natsoulas Gallery, Davis, CA, 2018, Affordable Art Fair NYC – UGallery, 2017, "Small Matters of Great Importance – Light and Shadow," Edward Hopper House Art Center, Nyack, NY, 2015.

Two previous books of his work were published by Nabi Press — Nick Savides – New York/Paris, 2009 and Nick Savides – Paintings, 2008. His work was on the cover of the 2015 William & Mary Review, and also in ArtVoices Art Books' 2016 101 Contemporary Artists, the John Natsoulas Press' 2018 10th Annual Art of Painting and Open Studios Press' Studio Visit, Volume 41, 2018. He and his art were featured on June Middleton's "Minding Your Business," which aired on the Manhattan Neighborhood Network in 2010.

He is a volunteer educator with ArtWorks NYC, teaching visual literacy in the NYC public school system and leading museum tours in the Brooklyn Museum.