

CULTURE

Nature at its most melodically colorful

ARTS – Jan Dilenschneider exhibition at the Galerie Pierre-Alain Challier.

BERTRAND DE SAINT VINCENT

bdesaintvincent@lefigaro.fr

U.S. artist Jan Dilenschneider will be exhibiting at the Galerie Pierre-Alain Challier in Paris's Marais district this summer. It will be the artist's third consecutive year at her preferred gallery, marking her ongoing love affair with vibrant Paris.

Dilenschneider, a nature lover by heart, has been painting the landscapes around her Gatsbyesque Long Island Sound home for years now, come rain, hail or shine. A latecomer to painting, she expresses her artistic sensibility unhampered by the trends and tyrannies of the art market. She wields her brush with wild passion and tremulous elation, bringing trees, flowers, grass and reeds to calm, majestic life.

The soothing effect one feels on viewing works such as *Still Waters*, *Grasses Reflecting in Blue Water* and the stunning *Bamboo Trees on Golden Skies* can be put down to the artist's influences. "I think of myself as an Expressionist with an Impressionist's palette," says Dilenschneider, adding that her wildest dream would be lunching with Matisse and Michelangelo, among others. Using light and a fertile imagination, she creates works in whimsical, poetic, muted hues like mauve, pale pink and violet. "I love shades of faded pink with orange tones, gray-tinted lilacs against a vivid yellow... I always ask myself whether I can hear the color sing," says Dilenschneider. Color is like a bird in her works, bringing enchantment wherever it lands.

For her latest exhibition, the luminous Dilenschneider has placed landscapes side by side in what may or may not be diptychs – the viewer is free to decide. Indeed, freedom is the very theme that the artist has chosen to explore in her Paris exhibition following the January attacks. It is also one that she promotes with her husband Robert's kind help, by aiding artists facing oppression in their home countries.

Due to interest and positive press, this Exhibition is extended two months to September 5, 2015 at the Galerie Pierre-Alain Challier, 8 Rue Debelleye, Paris 75003

[Caption: *Freedom of Expression* by Jan Dilenschneider]