A Rhapsody in Cerulean Blue

The Seas and Skies of Kelly Reider

1 February - March 11, 2022

The various artists who crearted Spiderman, the Incredible Hulk, and the Fantastic Four inspired Kelly Reider to start his artistic journey at an early age. Kelly later developed a kinship with the many artists who painted dramatic nautical landscapes and brought to life the dynamics of Native American life in the 19th century.

The byproduct of that kinship are paintings assembled for this exhibition; the common denominator is Kelly Reider's use of blue--in the skies, rivers, oceans and lakes. His art takes on a rhapsodic feeling, in terms of the hard-edged action and gripping drama he depicts. The high seas and rugged Indian country provide the backdrops for Kelly's enthusiastic, all-encompassing paintings.

Notable Artwork

In his painting *Buffalo Hunt #2,* Kelly shows Comanches on Appaloosas hunting a herd of white horned bison as they stampede across the high plains. Kelly is highly skilled at portraying animals in action. The hunt takes place under hazy blue skies and a big yellow sun. Tree covered hills are in the background, and the colors are vibrant earth tones.



The dreamy *A Date at Sea* is reminiscent of Paul Klee, the Swiss abstract expressionist and Kelly's source of artistic inspiration. To find more of Klee's influence, compare Reider's *Regatta* to *Klee's Harbour and Sailboats*.



Regatta by Kelly Reider



Harbour and Sailboats by Paul Klee



This Exhibition was curated & installed by AmeriCorps volunteers, Feb. 2022