

HUDSON VALLEY SKETCHBOOK

by

James Lancel McElhinney

© 2016

3.5 x 5 inches. Watercolor sketchbook. Thirty-three page-spread paintings in archival aqueous media. Covers affixed with various labels: Recto: White mailing label. Handwritten in black “Hudson Valley Journal March 15-2012, 2016” Signed by the artist in orange Micron (Japanese) pen. Green Boscobel House and Gardens label dated in ballpoint pen “9/16”. Verso: Orange Moleskine label, Metropolitan Museum of Art entry sticker dated 0702 (2016). Gold stamped octavo-sized *Solander* box, with inset and green lift-ribbon. Cover title: “Needlewatcher”. Spine: “Hudson Valley Sketchbook”. The box was produced by Cat, at Wyvern Bindery, London in 2016. McElhinney has been described as a “topo-pictorial historiographer”. He regards his unique painted journals as contemporary-antiquarian rare books.

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(3.5 x 10-inch page-spreads)

Cover:



1. *Kaaterskill Falls, Lower Cataract. March 15, 2012.*



2. *Lake Minnewaska. Ulster County, N.Y. 4:55 pm. Friday 3/16/12*
- 3.



4. *Poets' Walk. St. Patrick's Day, 2012*



5. *John Burroughs Grave Site. 8/10/13*



6. *67 degrees. John Burroughs Grave Site. Sunday August 11, 2013. 4:30 pm*



7. *Poets' Walk, Saturday August 24, 2013. 4:55 pm*



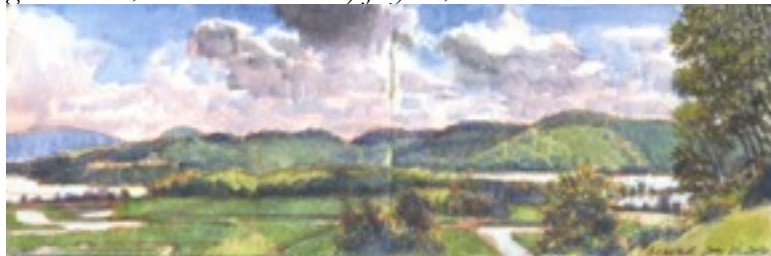
8. *Row of Trees behind Phillipse Manor, Friday July 15, 2016*



9. *Storm King, July 10, 2016*



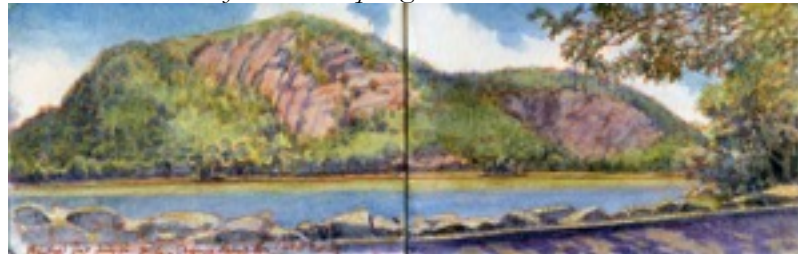
10. *Boscobel. (Looking Southwest, toward West Point) July 12, 2016*



11. *Crow's Nest and Part of Constitution Island from Boscobel. Saturday, July 12, 2016.*



12. *Started July 16, 2016. Crow's Nest from Cold Spring.*



13. *Boscobel Belvedere. July 16, 2016*



14. *View of the Hudson from Painter's Rock, near Catskill Mountain House*



15. *Looking southeast from Artist's Rock*



16. *Gifford's View: North and South Lakes from Sunset Rock*



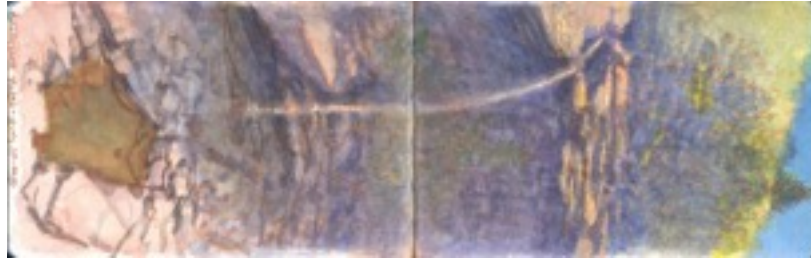
17. *Map of North South Lake with field notes*



18. *North Lake, late afternoon*



19. *Kaaterskill Falls*



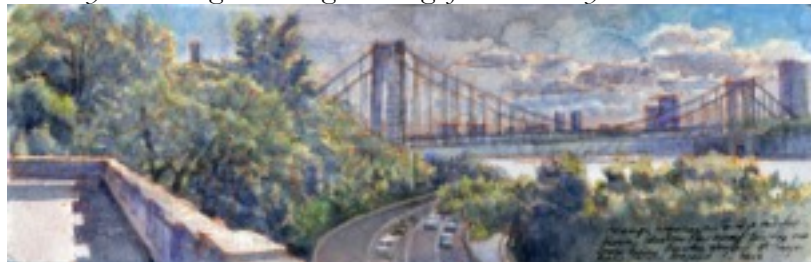
20. *Looking toward South Gate and Roa Hook from Peekskill*



21. *View of West Point from Garrison's Landing*



22. *Henry Hudson Parkway and George Washington Bridge from Fort Tryon Park*



23. *The Jersey Palisades from Below the Cloisters*



24. *View of Yonkers from the Palisades*



25. *View of Yonkers from State Line Park.*



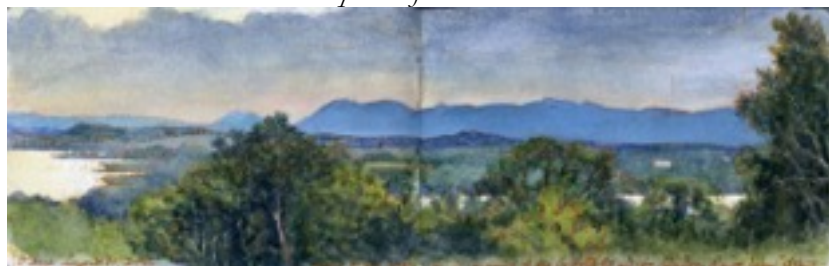
26. *Hook Mountain from Croton Point*



27. *Hook Mountain from Croton Point*



28. *Looking Southeast Toward the Catskill Escarpment from Olana*



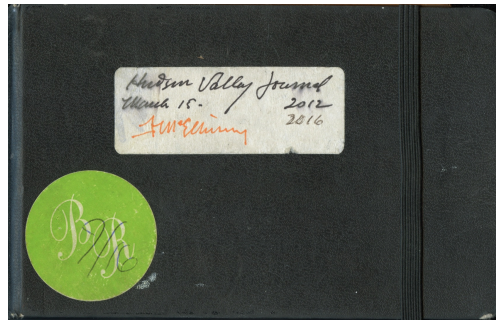
29. *Looking South from Piermont, Tallman Mountain to the Right*



30. *Manhattan from Fort Lee.*



Back cover:



Reviving a Lost Art

On Veteran's Day, 2005, McElhinney was hospitalized for nearly a month. Passing the time painting in sketchbooks, he came to realize that the open page-spread could replace canvas as the substratum for finished paintings. Discovering that he had acquired an allergy to oil paint, McElhinney began working exclusively in water-based media. Over the next five years, his work slowly migrated from the easel and into books. Inspired by expeditionary artists from Jacques le Moyne and John White to Seth Eastman and the brothers Kern, McElhinney has revived the practice of journal-painting during trips to Europe, Hawaii, Ecuador, Peru, California, the Rocky Mountains, the American Southwest, and throughout the Hudson Valley. Following in the footsteps of Thomas Cole, Frederic Church, Nathaniel Parker Willis, Washington Irving, John Burroughs and others, McElhinney's narrative parallels *The Hudson from the Wilderness to the Sea*, an 1866 book by travel-writer and artist Benson J. Lossing. McElhinney regards each of his painted books not just as a collection of discrete images, but as intimate, completed time-based works.

The Artist

James Lancel McElhinney is a visual artist, author and oral historian. McElhinney attended Tyler School of Art, Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture and Yale, where he earned an MFA in painting. McElhinney is a recipient of a 2017 Pollock-Krasner Grant., and a previous fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts. McElhinney is listed on the Master Artist Council of the Arthur Miller Foundation. Website: www.mcelhinneyart.com

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