



Priscilla, (1998) Oil on canvas.

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FEATURE ARTICLE [excerpt]

Reinventing the Landscape

From the spiritual to the technological, the sublime to the revolutionary, today's landscape painters are transforming the genre

By Hilarie M. Sheets

“The ways in which technological disasters can mirror the sublime fascinate Joy Garnett. She was first inspired to paint mushroom clouds-as delicate and luminous as Turner's skies-while watching clips of atomic-bomb testing at the end of the movie *Dr. Strangelove*. "It started what has become an obsession with this weird relationship between beauty and apocalypse and landscape," says Garnett, who now finds source material at Web sites that post declassified government images. "The soldiers taking the photographs during the tests were seeing them as transporting pictures. In letters I've found, 18-year-old guys were writing home to their moms about the coral tones of the clouds and the extraordinary light and how it changed them-before their hair fell out." Her newest series, about rocket science gone wrong, will be shown next month at Debs & Co. in New York.”