



Mary Salstrom The Prairie and the Sea April 26 -May 21, 2016

For Immediate Release:

March 28, 2016

The Prince Street Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of recent oil paintings and pastel sketches from life by Mary Salstrom. Mary Salstrom *The Prairie and the Sea*, features recent landscape paintings of northern Illinois and of southern Sweden. The show will begin on Tuesday, April 26; and will close on Saturday, May 21. The **opening reception** will be held on **Thursday, April 28** from **5-8 PM**. A **gallery talk** is scheduled for **3 PM** on Saturday, **April 30th**.

Plein air paintings of the summer landscape created in southern Sweden compared to oil paintings and pastels created in northern Illinois compose the theme of the current show. Beauty of the land and its character are expressed in these painterly works. Ongoing presence and history are preserved through organized efforts in both places: In Illinois, the natural prairie of Nachusa Grasslands is protected by the Nature Conservancy; just as the Jarrett Prairie and museum are a part of the Byron Forest Preserve. In Sweden, the historic village of Hultet in Tranås, Småland reveals the way generations before us lived. Light in the Swedish summer with its very long days reveals flowering fields, large lakes, colorful rural and urban architecture and moving clouds. In contrast to the Swedish summer climate, dry Illinois summers that follow cold winters produce flowering prairies and river meadows. Why Swedish ancestors may have chosen the place they decided to call home when they came to America may be seen through these paintings of both places.

Mary Salstrom who lives in New York City is a native of the Rock River Valley and Oregon, Illinois where she returns to paint landscapes each summer. Most recently she has traveled to Sweden in search of discovering and painting the places that her Swedish ancestors might have known before immigrating to America and settling in northern Illinois. Her work is in several public collections including Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, New York; The Oregon Public Library and Art Collection, Illinois; The Scott Memorial Study Collection, Bryn Mawr College; the Rockford Art Museum, Illinois. Her work appears on the back cover of **Our Rock River**, published by Nels Akerlund and Ted Landphir and also in a chapter: "*Mary Salstrom, Space and Color*" **Painting the Landscape**, by Watson Guptill. She exhibits her work regularly at the Prince Street Gallery. website: www.marysalstrom.com

GALLERY HOURS: **Tuesday – Saturday, 11 –6**
OPENING RECEPTION: **Thursday, April 28, 5-8 PM**
GALLERY TALK: **Saturday, April 30, 3 PM**

For More information and digital images: (646) 230-0246