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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
MARCH, 15, 2017

## ICONIC VIGNETTES

THURSTON BELMER AND JACK ROSENBERG

April 6 – May 13, 2017



*Thurston Belmer, Untitled #2, 2016, Oil on Panel, 48 x 84 in*



*Jack Rosenberg, It Is Not What You Think, 2012, Oil on Canvas, 22 x 30 in*

**Denise Bibro Fine Art** announces its upcoming exhibition, *Iconic Vignettes*, works by Thurston Belmer and Jack Rosenberg. One may wonder why match these two artists. Yet, on inspection, one can see that, although their works are distinctly different, they often reflect similar schools of thought and reference.

Both artists treasure the iconic images of their forebears and have cultivated their own way to present universal truths, dialogues, and stories. Despite the timelessness of the concepts, each finds a different way to interpret them with a contemporary twist. Their works are multi-layered aesthetically and conceptually. Often referring to iconic images of the Dutch Masters. Several works employ chiaroscuro and light; techniques frequently used by the Masters. In many cases these two contemporary artists depict their subjects in garments like those of the 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> centuries. Albeit their similarities, these two artists differ in the mood of their art. Whereas Belmer's work is often muted, mysterious, dark and introspective, Rosenberg's work is often mischievous, full of double-andante and humor.

Thurston Belmer's *Untitled #2, 2016* depicts a 15<sup>th</sup> century Dutch-like female caught in a moment of thought. While the Masters often depicted their figures in more intimate settings, Belmer's beautifully rendered lady is close upfront. This work, like most, deals



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with loss, alienation, and the absurd. As the artist says himself, "...the word absurd in the sense of the cultural movement—our search as humans to locate inherent, universal meaning, and our human inability to find any." Jack Rosenberg's, *It Is Not What You Think*, 2012 depicts a man, perhaps from the same era. It is possibly a subject of either someone else's or the artist's pranks. Rosenberg's language is layered with conceptual and perceptual revelations.

Among Thurston Belmer's recent major exhibitions are: *Governor's Island*, NYC; *Dacia Gallery*, NYC; *Salomon Arts Gallery*, NYC; *Central Booking Gallery*, NYC; *One Art Space*, NYC; *Dacia Gallery*, NYC; *The Hinge Gallery*, Saint Louis, MO; *University of New Haven*, New Haven, CT. He studied at *Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts*, Kemper Museum of Art, Saint Louis, MO and *Washington University* in Saint Louis, MO, as well as other well-known institutions. He has been reviewed in *Artefuse*, *Fine Art Connoisseur*, *Hyperallergic*, *Artribune*, and *International Painting Annual* to name a few. Jack Rosenberg has numerous exhibitions, including solo and two-person exhibitions, at *the Washington Arts*, Washington, CT; *Caelum Gallery*, NYC; *The Silo Gallery*, New Milford, CT. He has also shown in numerous group exhibitions including most recently, *Washington Art*, Washington, CT; *Jan Kossen Contemporary*, NYC; *Karlyn Mannix Contemporary*, NYC. He has had notices in the *New York Time*, NYC; *Litchfield County Times*, Litchfield, CT; *Housatonic Times*, CT; *East Hampton Star*, LI, NYC among others. He studied at the, *New York Academy of Art*, NYC; *Florence Academy of Art*, Florence, Italy; and *Prince Charles Drawing School*, London, U.K.

**Opening Reception: Thursday, April 6, 2017, 6-8pm.**