

WATERSTONE GALLERY

424 NW 12th Ave Portland OR 97209
503.226.6196 info@waterstonegallery.com

August Press Release

What: **Scott C. Johnson: Vacation**
New Paintings

Where: **Waterstone Gallery**
424 NW 12th Ave
Portland OR 97209
503.226.6196
www.waterstonegallery.com

When: **August 6 – 31, 2008**
Preview Reception: Wed. August 6, 5–9pm
First Thursday Reception: August 7, 6–9pm
Gallery hours: 12–6 Wed-Sat, Sun 12–4

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Scott Johnson's landscape based paintings offer powerful scenes of delicate tree branches against foreboding skies that evoke the atmosphere of twilight nights, mutable weather, or the mood of misty mornings.

Although his works are rooted in *plein air* painting, Johnson's approach to landscape allows subtle references to unfold within invented scenes that allude to a dream world. Working mostly in watercolor, the soft washes of his sensual skies are influenced by Japanese tradition and technique while the refined line work in the foreground trees and grasses reference Persian miniature painting. Johnson's rich and moody palette is built up through transparent layers of smooth brushwork that yield a surface depth difficult to achieve through traditional watercolor techniques.

Johnson, who is primarily a self-taught artist, has been painting for roughly 25 years. In that time Johnson has developed confident and intricate painting methods that allow him to focus on the meditational aspects of painting, as it becomes a recording process. This methodology evokes an emotional intimacy within Johnson's imaginative landscape scenes.