



NATIONAL SPORTING LIBRARY & MUSEUM

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The National Sporting Library & Museum announces new exhibition featuring Sporting Artist Peter Corbin's Fly Fishing Paintings

MIDDLEBURG, Virginia – Three decades after first meeting sporting artist Peter Corbin, prominent angling author and editor John Merwin (1921-2013) wrote in 2005, “[...]Corbin possesses that sort of restless intellect that never stops evolving[...].” (foreword to *An Artist's Creel*, Hudson Hill Press, Inc., 2005) The painter, admittedly, has spent much time reflecting on his art and on fly fishing. Corbin produced a video slide show to accompany his exhibition, *Line Dance – The Art of Fly Fishing by Peter Corbin*, on view at the **National Sporting Library & Museum (NSLM), Middleburg, VA, from January 30 through July 3, 2016.**

In the voice-over for the video, Corbin delves into his artistic inspirations, his meticulous painting process, and his philosophy on creating art - all rooted in a lifelong passion for fly fishing and the outdoors. He sees three distinct categories in which his narrative sporting works fall. He said, “The first is a painting of anticipation such as an angler starting his cast and a guide positioning the boat. The second kind of painting is a frozen moment when time seems to stop and the image is etched into your mind... for example the first massive jump of a tarpon. The third is the painting of reflection. This is the quiet time of the day with the angler against the sunset or releasing a fish.”

These three categories are well-represented in the selection of fifteen large paintings spanning from 1978 to the present which are on loan to the NSLM exhibition from collectors of the artist's work. It is worthy of note that Corbin considers himself a landscape painter, first, and the sporting subject matter he depicts as part of the scene. The paintings reveal the beauty and diversity of prime fresh and saltwater fly fishing areas in North America, from the grandeur of the mountains out West in *Morning on the Gallatin*, 2011; to the hallowed space in *Evening Rise*, 2008; and the rocky shoreline of Martha's Vineyard in *Evening in Lobsterville*, 2006.

Although Corbin tried *plein air* painting, in the last four decades he has honed a painstaking and exacting technique in his studio in Millbrook, NY. A series of photographs by Corbin in the video reveals the progression of his oil painting, *Line Dance*, 2014, from the reference photos taken while on a tarpon fly fishing trip through completion of the resulting 20 x 30-inch canvas on view in the NSLM exhibition.

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Corbin's primary artistic influences are sporting artists Ogden Pleissner and A.B. Frost, and the renowned Winslow Homer. He counts abstract artists Steve Smith, Alexander Calder, and José de Rivera among his early inspirations. Corbin has come a long way since graduating from Wesleyan University in 1968 with high honors in art and his first one-man show featuring his abstract sculpture. He noted that he still contemplates many of the same principals in painting his representational works, "My fascination with both reflected and transmitted light, and the elements of asymmetrical balance and linear motion, all come together in the realism of the sport of fly fishing, which, for me, is the most direct form of fishing that exists."

The NSLM will celebrate the opening of the exhibition with a Free Admission Day on Saturday, January 30th. An exhibition catalog, the book *Peter Corbin: The Artist's Creel* by Tom Davis, and a limited edition print of *Broad River Redfish*, a painting in the exhibition, will all be available for purchase.

A "Meet the Artist" event is scheduled for Saturday, March 19th at 10:00 am at the NSLM with artist Peter Corbin. Admission to this event is free to NSLM members and \$5 for non-members.

For more information about the exhibition, go to NationalSporting.org or for details about the artist, visit PeterCorbin.com. Watch Peter Corbin's exhibition video slide show at <https://youtube/0WCWOu3rLN4>.

The National Sporting Library & Museum (NSLM) is located in Middleburg, Virginia, the heart of beautiful hunt country. Founded in 1954, the renowned research Library, and fine art Museum highlight the rich heritage and tradition of country pursuits. Angling, horsemanship, shooting, steeplechasing, foxhunting, flat racing, polo, coaching, and wildlife are among the subjects one can explore in the organization's general stacks, rare book holdings, archives, and art collection. The NSLM offers a wide variety of educational programs, exhibitions, and family activities throughout the year, and is open to researchers and the general public. While there is no admission fee to the Library, the Museum charges \$10 for adults, \$8 for youths (age 13-18), and \$8 for seniors. NSLM members and children age 12 and under are free. Library & Museum hours are Wednesday-Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

[Credit lines must appear with images]:



Broad River Redfish, oil on canvas, 24 x 36 inches, Credit Line: Collection of Mr. & Mrs. William F. Henagan, © Peter Corbin, 2015



Evening at Lobsterville, oil on canvas, 20 x 30 inches, Credit Line: Collection of Mr. & Mrs. Jay Bonanno © Peter Corbin, 2006



Line Dance, oil on canvas 20 x 30 inches, Credit Line: Private Collection © Peter Corbin, 2014



Power and Grace, oil on canvas, 24 x 36 inches, Credit Line: Collection of the Treiber Family © Peter Corbin, 2001