

## F. Scott Hess

F. Scott Hess was born in Baltimore in 1955, received a Bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and studied five years at the Vienna Academy of Fine Art. In 1979 Hess had his first solo exhibition in Vienna, quickly followed by exhibitions in Austria, Germany and France. In 1981 he received one of Austria's most prestigious awards for artists, the Theodor Koerner Award. In 1984 Hess moved to his current home of Los Angeles and in 1985 had his first American solo exhibition, followed by over one hundred group and solo exhibitions, including venues in Europe, Taiwan, and Iran. His work is included in the public collections of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Orange County Museum of Art, Oakland Museum, San Jose Museum of Art, and the Smithsonian Institute, among others. In 1990 he received a Western States Art Federation award, and in 1991 a J. Paul Getty Fellowship and a National Endowment for the Arts Visual Arts Fellowship. In 2014 a retrospective at two venues, the Begovich Gallery at Cal State Fullerton, and the Municipal Art Gallery of Los Angeles, featured selections from over thirty years of Hess' work. His massive family history project, *The Paternal Suit*, began touring the country in 2012, with venues in South Carolina, Alabama, and ending at the Long Beach Museum of Art in 2014. F. Scott Hess is represented by Koplín Del Río Gallery in Los Angeles, and is an Associate Professor with Laguna College of Art + Design's MFA and BFA programs.

F. Scott Hess has been described as a “New Old Master”. His narrative portraiture blends realistic scenes of everyday life with symbolic and allegorical events, humor, eroticism, and voyeurism. He begins with drawings and careful diagramming on his canvases before adding traditional oil paint or egg tempera. Hess’s works are defined by his strong brushwork, careful attention to the luminosity of flesh, and ability to capture ethereal light. Some of his paintings are reimaginings of the works of canonical masters, such as Diego Velázquez and Jean-Antoine Watteau. Recently he has begun to examine the new possibilities that technology has opened up for his art-making practice. “Over the summer of 2013 I focused on three paintings where my subject matter derived from screwed-up iPhone panorama photographs,” he explains. “The way the panorama mode stitches together a scene is akin to the way human vision actually works. Movement engages the viewer at a preconscious level, eliciting an empathetic response before language can intercede.”

1955	Born in Baltimore, MD
1973–1975	Studied at Lawrence University, Appleton, WI
1977	Received BSA at University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI
1979	Received Rudolph Hausner Prize, Vienna, Austria
1981	Received One year grant, Austrian Ministry of Science & Research Received Theodor Koerner Award, Vienna, Austria
1982	Received Rudolph Hausner Prize, Vienna, Austria

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- 1990 Awarded Western States Arts Federation
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Awarded J. Paul Getty Museum Individual Artist's Fellowship
- 1999 Received Faculty Enrichment Grant, Art Center College of Design, Pasadena,  
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