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Paintings from Questroyal Fine Art will star at Oscars

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Designer Michael S. Smith's design for the 2011 Architectural Digest Oscars green room. (Architectural Digest. Courtesy of Questroyal Fine Art)

Six spectacular American paintings from New York City's **Questroyal Fine Art** have been selected to adorn the *Architectural Digest* green room at the Oscars. Film stars and glitterati will gather for the 83rd Annual Academy Awards ceremony in Los Angeles on Sunday, February 27th.

Celebrated designer Michael S. Smith, whose credits include the 2002 and 2004 "AD 100" award, the recent White House renovation, and the 2003 "Designer of the Year" award from *Elle Decor*, composed the room with classic furnishings, a subtle palette, and stunning artwork. Pieces from Smith's own Baker Furniture line are featured in a space he envisioned as an "elegant, 1940s-style library" reminiscent of Hollywood's golden era.

To compliment his sophisticated design, Smith chose six historic paintings from the **Questroyal** collection, including: Thomas Hart Benton's *Swing Your Partner*, *Calla Lilies* by Arthur B. Carles; Childre Hassam's 1902 *Hollyhocks*, *Isle of Shoals*; Rockwell Kent's *Alpes-Maritimes*; Reginald Marsh's *New York City Women*; and *Lower New York Harbor from Grace & Co.'s Pier* by Paul Sawvjer.

The vibrant watercolor/gouache by famed American regionalist painter Thomas Hart Benton (1889-1975) titled "Swing Your Partner," painted in 1945, the last year of World War II, is a joyful rendition of wildly celebrating dancers. Smith placed this iconic American image as a backdrop to the Oscars green room bar area (pictured at right in photo above).

"I am delighted that *Architectural Digest* invited Questroyal to be a part of this year's Oscars green room," said Louis M. Salerno, owner of Questroyal. "My staff and I are excited to loan our best Impressionist and Modern masterpieces and honored to work with such an esteemed and talented designer."

Beginning on March 10, 2011, the green room's featured paintings will be on view at **Questroyal Fine Art**, 903 Park Ave., Suite 3A & B, New York, New, York. For information, tel. 212 744 3586 or email galleries@questroyalfineart.com.



Reginald Marsh (1898–1954) *New York City Women*. Tempera and watercolor on paper, 22 5/8 x 31 3/8 inches. Questroyal Fine Art.



Arthur B. Carles (1882–1952) *Calla Lilies*. Oil on canvas, 16 1/2 x 13 3/8 inches. Signed lower right: Carles.

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