

## WILBUR NIEWALD

February 28 – April 1, 2006

opening reception with the artist  
Feb, 28th from 6 to 10 pm

Gallery hours: Tuesday-Friday 9-5 | Saturday 12-5

“For over fifty years my paintings have been done from direct visual experience of nature (in this context – that which we see). In the fifties and sixties I worked almost exclusively from the landscape. My method of working was very simple. I would make drawings (charcoal and crayon), bring them to the studio and use them as a source for painting in oil. The drawings were done rather rapidly and were a response to basic forces and rhythms from the subject. In the fifties I worked primarily with straight lines and a low key palette on a relatively small scale.”



**Current River, 1965**  
Oil on canvas, 54 x 65 inches

“In the sixties my work became more open and expansive. The palette was the primary colors (yellow, red and blue). The scale increased and the handling was freer. Color was used to create the illusion of space in a balanced total. Gradually curves became more prominent and recognizable images were evident. It was a very expressive time of my life for me and the paintings of the sixties remain, for me, an important part of my total body of work.”

Recognized for the distinctive style of his portraits, still lifes and landscapes, Wilbur Niewald has established himself as one of the premier regionalist painters of his time. Born in 1925 in Kansas City, MO, Niewald received his BFA (1949) and MFA (1953) from the Kansas City Art Institute, where he later taught and influenced countless painters for more than 40 years. In 2004 a retrospective exhibition of his work traveled from the Albrecht Kemper Museum, in St. Joseph, MO to the Marianna Kistler Beach Museum, in Manhattan, KS to Rider University in New Jersey. His work is in numerous public and private collections including The Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY, The National Academy of Design, NY, The Nelson Atkins Museum of Art, and The Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art in Kansas City, MO.