



## Natural Passion

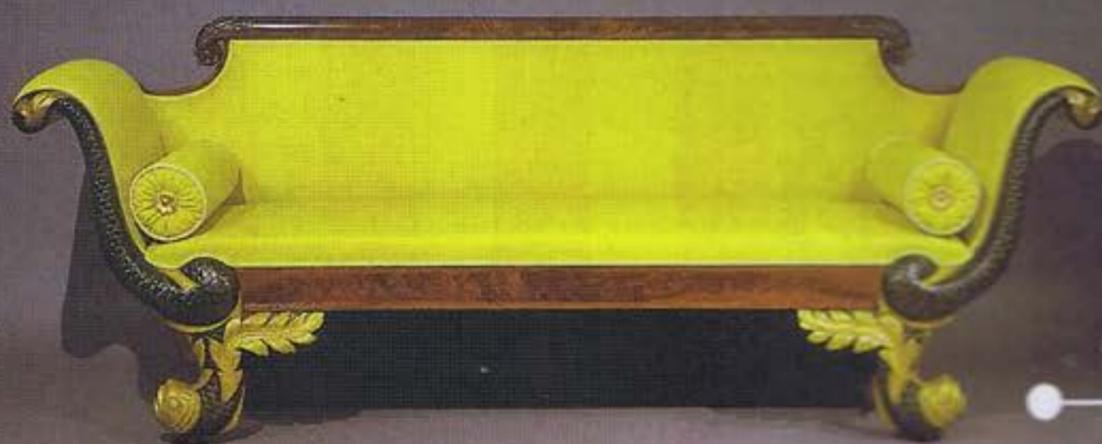
Throughout her career, landscape artist/activist Susan Swartz had “always found solace and peace in nature.” But after a decade of environmentally related illnesses (mercury poisoning and Lyme disease), her style changed, from a cool, photorealistic technique to an abstract, emotional approach. Executed with a palette knife and large brushes, her paintings pulsate with color—blazing reds, leaf-bright greens and, as in “Afterglow” (*above*, 2007), velvety blues—all, she says, “achingly full of desire” to preserve endangered ecosystems. » *Susan Swartz: Recent Paintings*, The Carlyle, A Rosewood Hotel, 35 E. 76th St., 289-2227, Dec. 8-11

## Trick With Mirrors

Detroit-born glass sculptor Michael Glancy is an alchemist: He transforms humble substances into art. Using a technique called electroforming, he passes a high-voltage charge through diverse industrial materials—plate glass, copper, stainless steel—which he then carves and painstakingly engraves by hand. The resultant works, such as the shimmering, mirrorlike “Liquid Landscape” (*below*, 2010), typically juxtapose a sharp, flat angular base with a spherical or undulating piece that’s fixed to it. Each piece is unique (no multiples are made), and Glancy produces no more than 10 of them a year. » Barry Friedman Ltd., 515 W. 26th St., 239-8600



HOMEGROWN TALENT



Duncan Phyfe (1768-1854) was America’s first brand-name furniture designer; in the early 1800s, his elegant, well-proportioned pieces influenced cabinetmaking all over the young nation. With over 100 items by Phyfe and his contemporaries, *The World of Duncan Phyfe: The Arts of New York, 1800-1847* traces the evolution in the decorative arts from restrained simplicity to ornate Greek Revival styles, such as the gilded dolphin-leg sofa, ca. 1820 (*left*). » Hirschl & Adler Galleries, 730 Fifth Ave., 535-8810, Dec. 15-Feb. 17

PHOTO: DUNCAN PHYFE SOFA, JOSHUA NEFSKY