

Arthur Prisco
Alexis Antiques

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Background Statement:

Born in New York, my early interest in art was stimulated through close proximity to the abundance of museums and galleries in the area. During the mid 1960's I became particularly interested in the modern and contemporary artists who were exhibiting in New York. After military service (Southeast Asia) between 1966-1968, I moved to San Francisco, where my art interests became formalized. I was awarded a Master of Arts degree from San Francisco State University, specializing in Art History with an emphasis in Modern and Contemporary Art. During this period I interned at the Oakland Museum in the Prints and Drawing Department under the direction of Teresa Heyman.

After receiving my degree I worked with several art gallery directors in San Francisco. At the Hank Baum Gallery I specialized in editioned prints created by contemporary printmakers and unique works of art on paper by nationally and internationally recognized artists. At the Hansen-Fuller Gallery I created biographies and catalogued works of gallery artists who had established reputations throughout the United States and Europe.

In 1979, I began to catalogue artworks of contemporary California artists and worked with their dealers in New York, Chicago and San Francisco. During this period I also began a curatorial and arts management service for private and corporate art collections. This service included research, documentation, photography, biographies, and catalogues regarding the individual works in private collections. Unique catalogues were created for Modern, Contemporary, and Old Master collections. Selected collections were appraised for trust and gift purposes and corporate clients in the acquisition and development of a collection of artwork.

As advisor, my role was to act as liaison between artist, gallery, and the individual collector or corporation. Since each client's needs were unique, my services were designed to meet specific client requirements while taking into account budgetary guidelines.

Since 1990, my focus has been to provide appraisals and arts management services for private, corporate collections and artist estates. These services included appraisals for replacement value for insurance purposes, donations to museums, and certified appraisals for trusts, estate tax and tax planning purposes.

Community activities have included providing specialized appraisal services for the Crocker Museum Art Evaluation Day as a specialist in prints and drawings on a continuing basis.

Memberships have included the Society for the Encouragement of Contemporary Art, (SECA), San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and the Crocker Art Museum.