

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Everhart". The signature is fluid and expressive, with a large, sweeping arch over the first few letters of "Tom" and a long horizontal line extending from the end of "Everhart".

*I'm interested in light as a property of color, not as an illusion. Instead of trying to paint the illusion of light, I'm actually working with these transparent layers of light in themselves. The light is inherently part of the color.*

Tom Everhart

The monumental paintings of Tom Everhart have always straddled the line between the familiar and a new way of seeing. As the only artist licensed to use the Peanuts™ characters in his art, Everhart utilizes the instantly recognizable image of Snoopy to communicate a new sensibility – one that is at once accessible and exotic. “I want my work to be very inviting,” he explains. “I want people to see the attraction in it, and be lured in.”

A master colorist, Everhart understands that one of the lures into his art is the attention to color and line. The element that originally brought Everhart to Schulz was a fascination with the “brilliant architecture of [Schulz’s] black ink line” and its potential for monumental shifts in tone and scale. Everhart’s love of Schulz’s line – and his remarkable ability to capture it with his own vivid interpretation – impressed Schulz and launched a friendship that continued until Schulz’s death in 2000. “I had this collaboration with Charles Schulz,” Tom says, “and since his death that collaboration has ended. I want to keep the work growing, because keeping the work growing means that it’s alive.”

In the past year, Everhart has developed an entirely new method for infusing his canvases with color and light. These paintings contain sculptural tendencies, with tropical forms sculpted from poured paint. “The new paintings are very color-saturated,” Everhart says, “and that saturation comes from light.” By layering transparent colors on top of one another, Everhart creates a surface of glowing color.

Everhart is constantly in search of what he calls, “the evolution of the mark.” From the expressionist slashes of his early works, to the prismatic dots of the last few years, to the sculptural tendencies of his most recent art, Everhart’s strengths have remained an unmatched eye for color and a willingness to experiment with textures and surfaces. In the medium of fine art lithography, Everhart has made great strides, working with Master Printers at S2 Art Group’s world-famous lithography atelier to achieve subtle transparencies and reflective light from hand-mixed inks. The limited-edition lithographs created in partnership with the S2 Atelier are stunning examples of the quality of color that is possible with lithography.

Everhart’s paintings have been exhibited in Museums and fine art galleries worldwide, including the Louvre Museum (Paris, France), Museu da Cidade (Lisbon, Portugal), Suntory Museum (Osaka, Japan), and the Charles M. Schulz Museum (Santa Rosa, CA). Gallery exhibitions have taken place across the country, with major shows in Las Vegas and Chicago. Everhart’s work continues to be widely exhibited in the United States and Japan. His collection “*Boom Shaka Laka Laka: The Lagoon Paintings*” exhibited at the Venetian Hotel in Las Vegas in fall 2007 commemorates Everhart’s marriage in Tahiti to his longtime muse, Jennifer Gallagher. Tom and Jennifer divide their time between their home in Southern California and their beloved Bora Bora.