

# PalmBeachPost

## The Best of 2004: Art

### Gary Schwan's five favorite works of art in 2004

By Gary Schwan

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**1. Seven Characters (1985-2000). Ilya and Emilia Kabakov. Multimedia installation. Norton Museum of Art.**

Because it renewed your faith in installation art after seeing so much clumsy work over the years. A recreation of a crowded, Soviet-era apartment building, the work was cleverly installed and told moving personal stories. The work was both political and humane.



***Portrait of a Man in a Red Doublet (17th century).***

**2. Portrait of a Man in a Red Doublet (17th century). Rembrandt van Rijn. Oil on canvas. Palm Beach Classic art fair.**

Because it's Rembrandt van Rijn, and his work is scarce on the ground in these parts. Or, rather, the walls.

**3. Boanerges (2003). Paul Manes. Oil on canvas. Eaton Fine Art, West Palm Beach.**

Because the New York artist can paint anything he wants with a versatile touch. In this case, he took a World War II-era bomber, spread its wings over three canvases, and made it look like the fearsome engine of wrath it was.



**4. Sunset on the Marshes (1867). Martin Johnson Heade. Oil on canvas. Vero Beach Museum of Art.**

Because Heade's rosy sky is sublime, and he has a Palm Beach connection. His patron was Henry Flagler. The picture was just one of several fine works in an 18th-century American landscape show.

**5. God II. Michael Joo. Multimedia installation. Palm Beach Institute of Contemporary Art.**

Some art stops the heart because it's so beautiful. Joo's work stopped the heart because it was shocking. Turn a corner and you found a skeleton in an Eskimo garb sprawled atop a "snowy" refrigerated base. Viewers' breath added frost to the tableau, slowly obscuring the disintegrating figure. Eerie, and an example of Joo's science-meets-art approach.