



## Binoculars

Catherine Christiano (born 1962) Oil on linen, 2001, 34" x 30" Collection of the artist, Old Lyme, Conn. Exhibited at the Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts Old Lyme Senior Thesis Exhibition, 2001

**B**inoculars is one of a series of paintings that explore the nature of spectatorship in art. In each, viewers are confronted by their own actions. Figures return the viewer's scrutiny through binoculars, cameras, or sunglasses that shield their eyes, the "windows of the soul." The figures' eyes appear enlarged, mechanical, unblinking, and omniscient like those of ancient Sumerian sculpture.

Catherine Christiano, who lives and works in Old Lyme, Conn., completed a bachelor of fine arts at the Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts in 2001. Previously, she worked in business and engineering and earned a master's in business administration from Rutgers University.

Her work has been exhibited in museums and galleries in the Northeast, including the New Britain Museum of American Art, the Mattatuck Museum, and the offices of Pfizer Global Research & Development. Christiano has received awards for her paintings from Connecticut Women Artists, Inc. and William Zimmer, an art critic for the *New York Times*. She also created the award-winning design in a competition for a new seal for the Town of Old Lyme.



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