

"Lord! when you sell a man a book you don't sell just twelve ounces of paper and ink and glue—you sell him a whole new life. Love and friendship and humor and ships at sea by night—there's all heaven and earth in a book, a real book."

—CHRISTOPHER MORLEY

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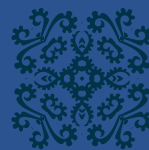
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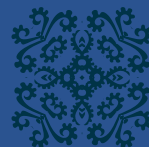


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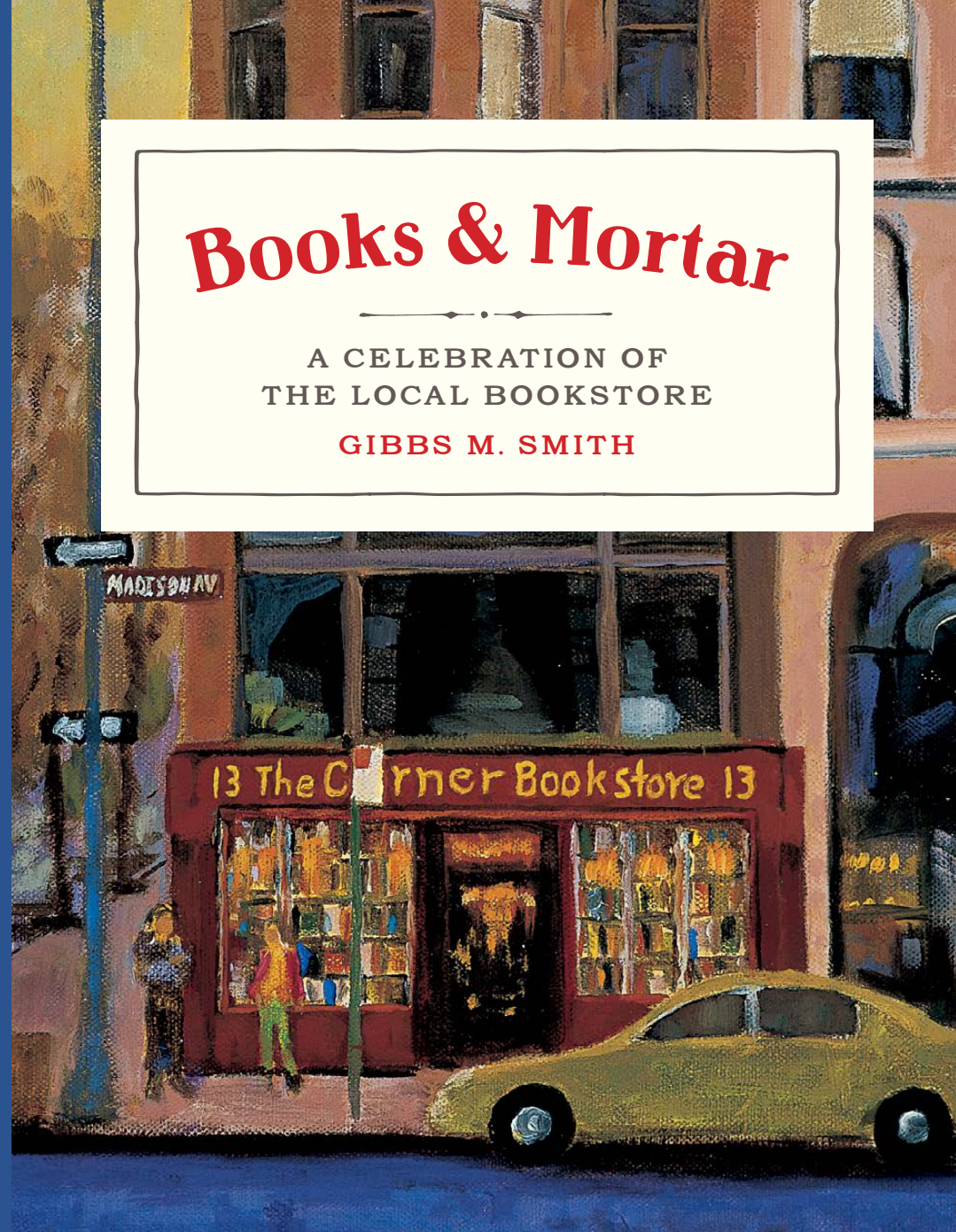
GIBBS
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Books & Mortar

A CELEBRATION OF
THE LOCAL BOOKSTORE

GIBBS M. SMITH



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Bank Street Bookstore New York, New York	City Lights Books San Francisco, California	Kramerbooks & Afterwords Washington, D.C.	El Ateneo Grand Splendid Buenos Aires, Argentina	Powell's Books Portland, Oregon	Builders Booksource Berkeley, California
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Barnes & Noble at Union Square

New York, New York

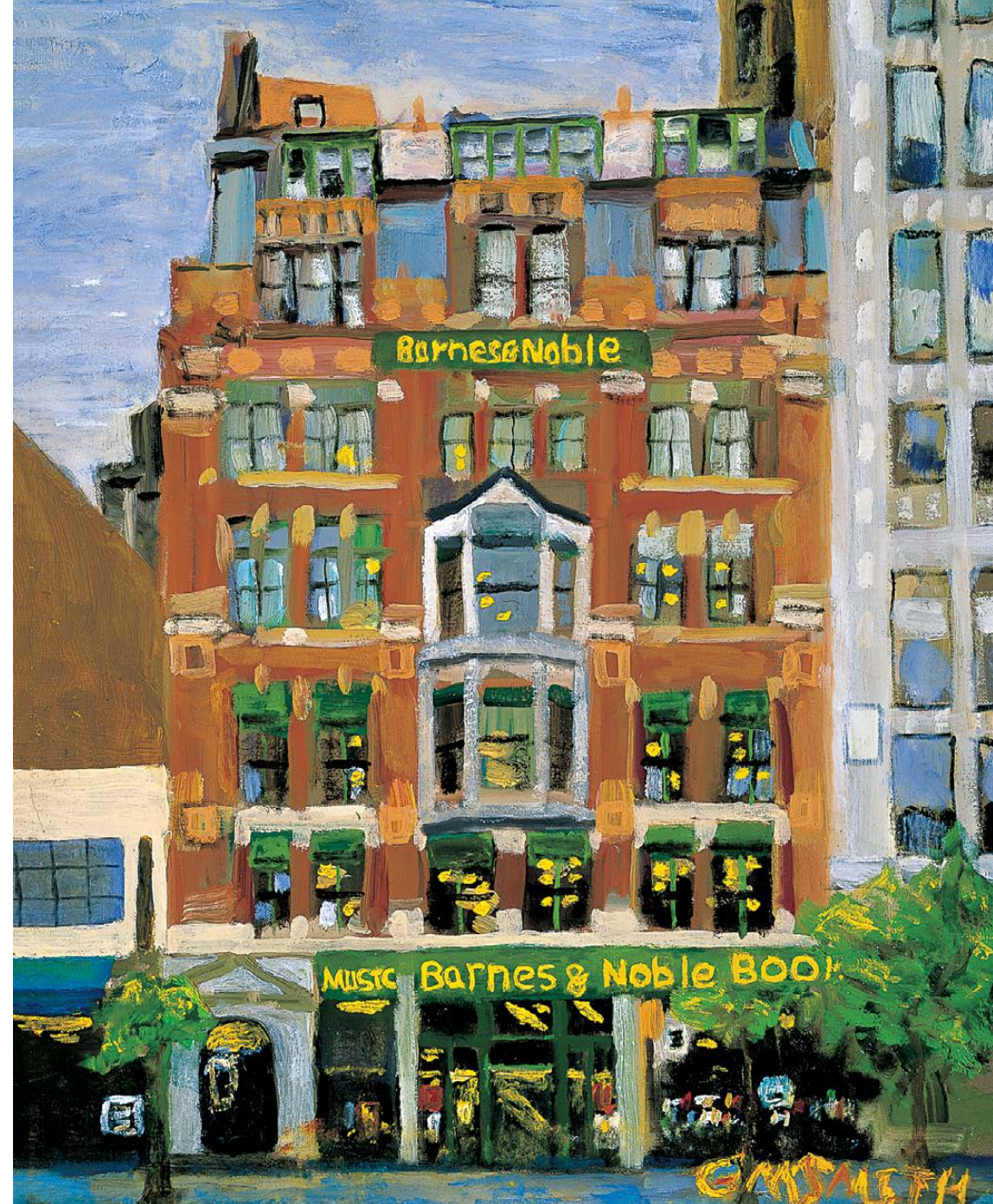
"Bookselling is, of course, a vocation, but it is also an avocation, an art, and a passion. The magnificent Queen Anne style building that our bookstore occupies is the Century Building, formerly the home of Century Magazine, Century Publishing Company, and Saint Nicholas' children's magazine. For several decades, many of the finest authors and artists in America roamed its high-ceilinged rooms, mingling with their editors. Walt Whitman, Stephen Crane, Edith Wharton, Frederic Remington, and N. C. Wyeth were just a few of the prominent contributors to the publications. Even Ulysses S. Grant and Theodore Roosevelt were Century authors.

"If you walk through our Union Square store these days, you might spot a young poet heading towards the registers with a copy of Leaves of Grass or a new bestseller. Head upstairs and you might be treated to a live event featuring Nick Hornby or John Grisham; Toni Morrison or Don DeLillo; a poet laureate or a rock star; a White House occupant, past or future. One night, we even hosted an upstart author named Barack Obama.

We at Barnes & Noble find that what continues and what sustains us is our commitment to connecting writers and artists to readers."

—Steve Riggio, CEO of Barnes & Noble, Inc. (2002–2010)

Gibbs M. Smith, Bookstore, Union Square, New York, 1997. Oil on linen, 16" × 20".

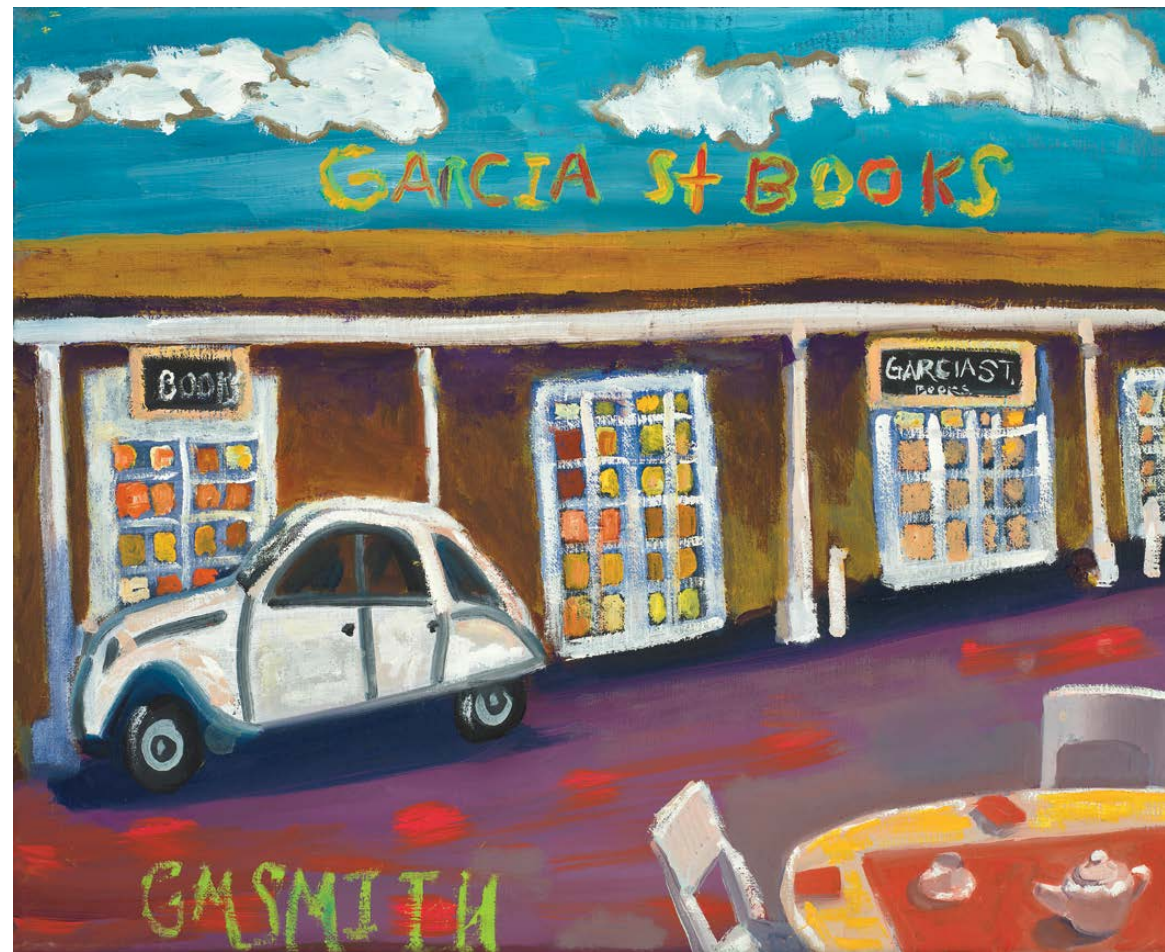


Garcia Street Books

Santa Fe, New Mexico

Garcia Street Books has been a neighborhood landmark in Santa Fe's East Side for more than twenty-five years. The store is supported by longtime residents, second-home residents, and the almost year-round flow of tourists. The store, through five owners, has continued to be well loved by the community for its well curated selection of books that allows for engaging the senses in pursuit of literary works. The display approach—covers facing forward—supports this multi-sensory experience and encourages touching, talking, and browsing. The book selection is a reflection of the community's wants and interests, offering an unusual selection of art, style, and cooking, a unique section focused on living well, as well as literary fiction and serious non-fiction, both new and classic.

Regulars of the bookstore are fiercely loyal and order their selection of books through the store rather than online retailers. It is common to find patrons stopping in the store to share with the owner the latest reviews from the *New York Times*, PBS or other respected sources. These visits serve to shape and influence book selection. Looking to the future, there will be a focus on providing a personal sense of place, where patrons can interact with each other, while opening amazing places for the mind and spirit to go. In a community where the pace is more deliberate and interactive and filled with so many people of great artistic, cultural, and literary talent, Garcia Street Books will continue to be a beloved friend.



Gibbs M. Smith, Garcia Street, Santa Fe, 2009. Oil on linen, 16" × 20".

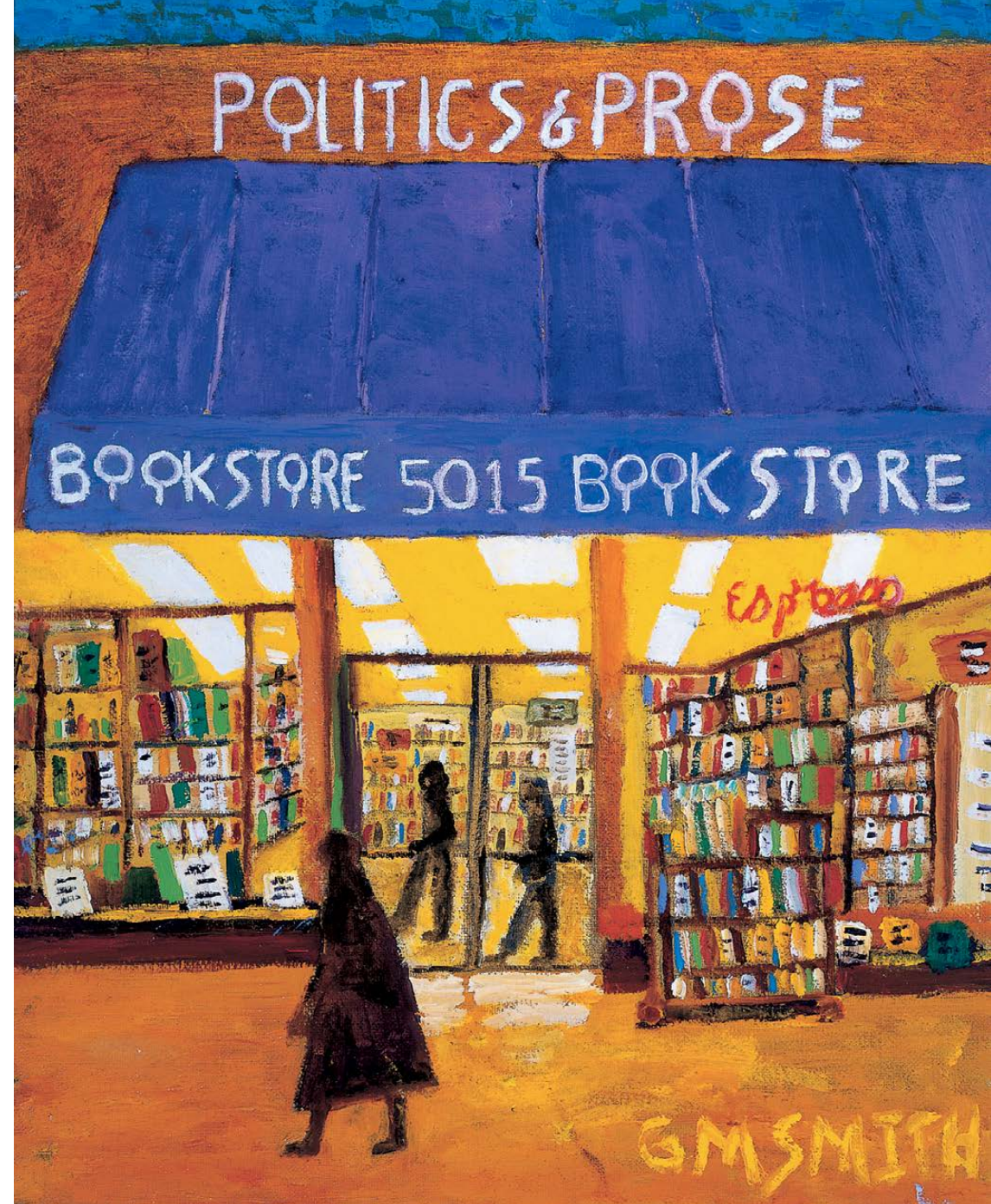
Politics and Prose Bookstore

Washington, D.C.

Politics and Prose was founded by Carla Cohen and Barbara Meade in 1984. This store has become one of the most honored independent bookstores in the country and has grown to twelve thousand square feet, with fifty employees. Politics and Prose has an impressive schedule of events, with authors and lectures occurring at least once a day. The store also has an impressive number of book groups that are led by the store's staff.

The name Politics and Prose fits with the clientele's interests, which include government and public policy, American history and biography, fiction, poetry, children's books, and much more.

Gibbs M. Smith, Politics & Prose, 2006. Oil on linen, 16" x 20".



City Lights Bookstore

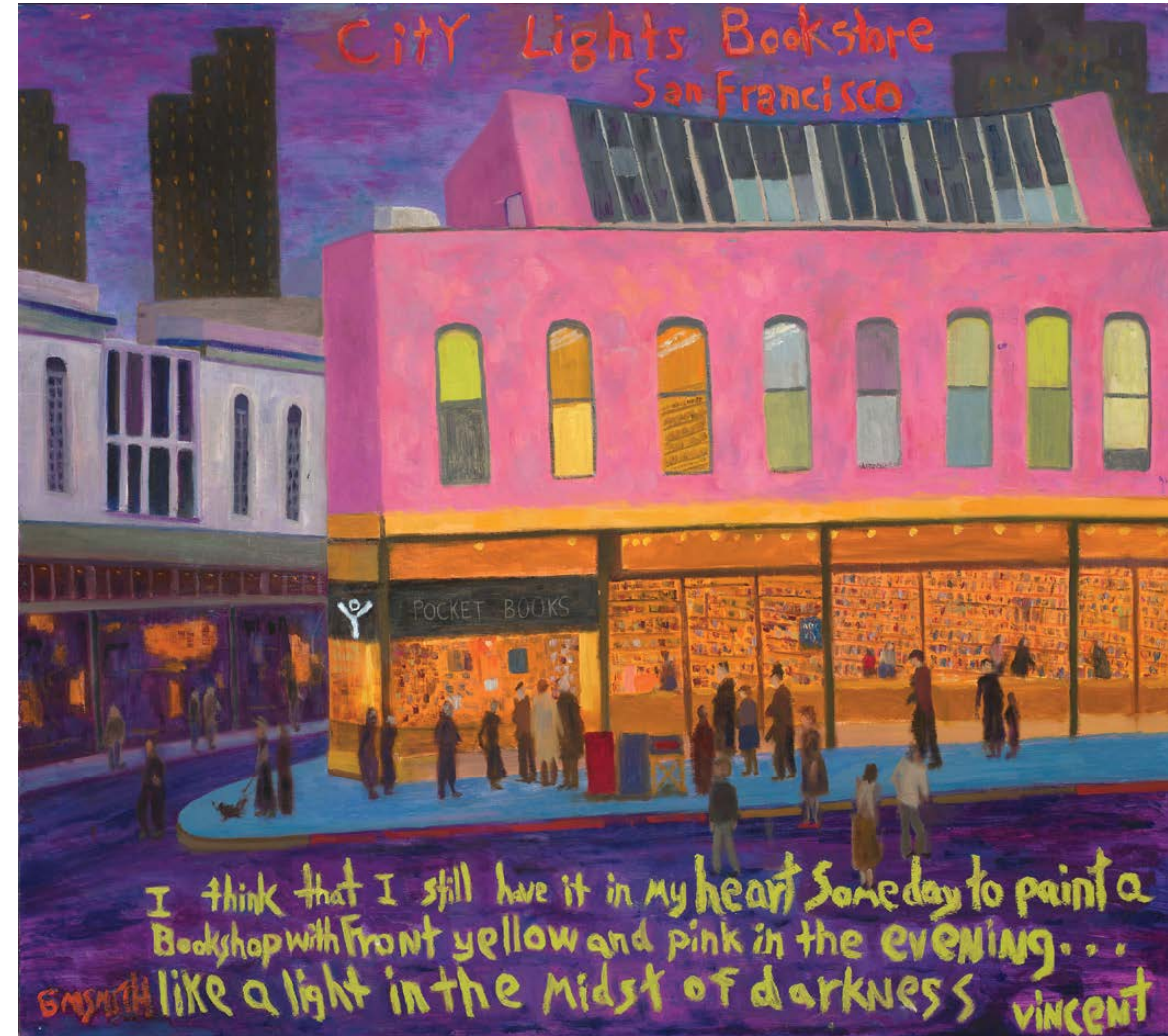
San Francisco, California

Founded in 1953 by Lawrence Ferlinghetti and Peter D. Martin, City Lights is a historic literary hangout that has attracted dynamic individuals and promoted freedom of thoughts and ideas ever since it opened.

City Lights' regulars over the years have included Jack Kerouac and poet Allen Ginsberg, and the store helped to establish new guidelines regarding freedom of speech after publishing Ginsberg's poem "Howl" and successfully defending the work in court.

City Lights' large inventory of books reflects its support of progressive ideas and artistic freedom. The staff makes an effort to promote non-mainstream, thought-provoking titles, from gender studies to world literature to theological debate and much more. The store's selection of poetry and small press books is particularly impressive.

Gibbs M. Smith, City Lights Bookstore, 1988. Oil on canvas, 36" x 40".



Tecolote Book Shop

Santa Barbara, California

Opened in 1925 in the Montecito area of Santa Barbara, the beloved Tecolote Book Shop was in danger of closing in 2007 after eighty-two years in business. But Mary Sheldon, the manager at the time, knew how important the independent store was to the community and wanted to do everything she could to help save it. She found three willing partners, Len Freedman, Marc Winkelman, and longtime customer Herb Simon, to help her purchase the shop from then-owner Peggy Dent. Mary was able to save this local treasure, and the community proudly supports it by shopping there as their parents and grandparents did.

Mary and her two employees are exceptionally knowledgeable about books and are happy to make recommendations or locate elusive out-of-print titles.

Gibbs M. Smith, Santa Barbara in the Spring, 2009. Oil on linen, 16" x 20".

