

Brown, Roger (1941-1997)  
Hamilton and Opelika, Alabama

#### EDUCATION/INFLUENCES

- Trained as commercial artist
- Influenced by Henri Rousseau and Joseph Yoakum

#### BIG IDEAS/THEMES

- Most works feature silhouette-haunted apartment buildings and obsessively regimented landscapes- feeling of apprehension and urban anxiety.
- Works look realistic and fantastical at the same time. Heavy black outlines, shallow space, low horizon lines backgrounds often resemble curtains of clouds or hills. Works large scale.
- Many works based on artist's experiences, especially childhood memories.

#### KIA WORK-*Americana*, oil on canvas, 1988

- Tribute to four of America's great artists that influenced Brown's work. Stage-like feel, slightly larger than life figures are captured in an eternal curtain call for their innovative paintings.
- The art world, dominated by European concerns or the New York mainstream, left other artists unlabeled and uninhibited to forge ahead and create their own personal vision and styles in painting. Roger Brown, in his time, and the four artists depicted in *Americana* (left to right: Marsden Hartley, Diego Rivera, Georgia O'Keeffe, Thomas Hart Benton), in their time, were innovators.

