

Vickrey, Robert (b. 1926)  
New York, New York (now lives/paints in  
Massachusetts and Florida)

#### EDUCATION/INFLUENCES

- BA, MFA-Yale University, Art Students League with Kenneth Hayes Miller and Reginald Marsh
- Uses traditional egg tempera-has written 2 books on technique
- Painted over 60 Time Magazine covers

#### BIG IDEAS/THEMES

- Tight, realistic style, introduces almost tactile rather than just visual rendition of depicted surfaces
- Paintings appear to refer to our ordinary world but also aware we are in different reality-out of the ordinary.
- Uses symbols from traditional religious iconography or just observations centering on shadow patterns.
- Interested in exploring boundary between physical world and metaphysical one.

KIA WORK-*The Nun and the Arch*, egg tempera on panel, 1962

- Many works have used St. Vincent nuns as subjects (book written on series in 2002)
- Creating visual poetry with meaning derived from visual hints and symbols. Highly realistic style but enigmatic
- Purchased by Mrs. Gilmore in 1965, part of her private collection until death in 1990-came to KIA by bequest.
- Foremost American realist painter who works in the exacting medium of egg tempera.
- Specific Vickrey symbol, the Sister of Charity whose blue habit and elaborate headdress appear in many of his paintings. In this image, the nun is isolated in an anonymous architectural setting, perhaps referring to a center of traditional order and meditative calm in the midst of 20<sup>th</sup> century secular life

