

Home Views

BARBARA SIEBEL THOMAS paints views of people's houses or the views from their houses or gardens, and the charming results are brightening more and more walls in Manhattan and the Hamptons, the two places where the artist lives. She works on commission, in watercolor, gouache or oil—your choice—and the paintings have a kind of deftly innocent feel to them, as if the house had just awakened from a nap. "I go to the property when there's good light," she says, "sit down with the client and make sketches on the spot. The client then chooses the view he or she wants.

"I can do a watercolor piece in as little as two weeks," she continues, "but generally it takes several months; I'm a slow worker. I try to get it the way I really want it. I try to keep my paintings low-key. I try to create an atmosphere of

serene beauty." She tries and succeeds; this is a labor of love. In fact, she says, "I love doing them so much that sometimes I hate to give them up." Prices start at \$1,000 for a small watercolor. *Call (212) 966-6830.* **ANTHONY BRANDT**

