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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A|MUS|E

The largest exhibition of new works by Stuart Dunkel at Rehs Contemporary

NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK –On Monday, April 6th, Rehs Contemporary will unveil a digital exhibition, A|MUS|E, featuring new work from Stuart Dunkel on their website – [www. RehsCGI.com](http://www.RehsCGI.com). Dunkel, who has seen rapid success in the last few years, has compiled more than 40 original paintings for this project – the largest number of available works in one venue by the artist.

Stuart Dunkel’s subject matter ranges widely – his works can be classified as still life, landscapes, or even genre paintings – but one quirky characteristic is consistent throughout... the presence of a little white mouse named Chuckie; his *Muse*. A muse is most commonly thought of as the source of inspiration for a creative artist – for Dunkel, he thinks of it as more of a “magnificent obsession.” But it is not just about what he is painting, as the artist says, “there is rhythm and harmony; my life has been dedicated to the pursuit of beauty.”

Dunkel, a world renowned oboist, turned his full attention from music to painting in the mid-1990s. Early on, much of his work focused on rendering various animals... that was until he submitted a painting of a mouse to a local gallery, where it found a buyer. Ever since, the mouse, which is in the biological genus *Mus*, has become the iconic feature of Dunkel’s work.

The mouse that inhabits his work is clearly autobiographical, but it resonates universally, sharing emotional experiences that range from delight to fear - usually with a twist of humor as well. The seemingly non-stop adventure that Dunkel’s mouse is on, allows the artist to keep a fresh sense to his compositions by developing endless narratives all in an attempt to *amuse* his viewers. As Dunkel puts it, “Chuckie is a problem solver. He meets life events with a goofy, glass half full attitude; and when the situation turns serious, he often glances out at the viewer in futility and disbelief. The true nature of my paintings is to reflect our human emotions through expression – those of being sad, mad, glad, scared and everything in between.”

Along Dunkel’s many explorations, his little white mouse routinely crosses paths an assortment of entertaining and odd characters; or stumbles into a kitchen and its enticing offerings; or is merely having some fun. His work has a way of connecting with viewers, oftentimes resulting in someone feeling as if the work was made uniquely for them. The artist takes a rather simple approach in showing us what he believes art should be – something amusing, beautiful and relatable.

A|MUS|E will remain on digital display on Rehs Contemporary Galleries website from April 6th through April 30th. We hope to soon be able to offer in-person viewing by appointment – please check our website regularly for updates.

If you would like to request high-resolution images of featured work, please contact Alyssa Rehs at alyssa@rehs.com.

About Rehs Contemporary

Rehs Contemporary is regarded as one of the top galleries in New York City and is a platform for new, emerging and established contemporary artists; many of whom have received extensive academic training. The gallery offers high quality works to art lovers of all kinds, from first-time buyers to major collectors.

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Stuart Dunkel – Family Portrait: Rabbit – 6 x 12 inches



Stuart Dunkel – Dance of RA – 6 x 8 inches



Stuart Dunkel – Trouble Maker – 20 x 8 inches