

**Rehs Contemporary Galleries, Inc.**

5 East 57<sup>th</sup> Street – 8<sup>th</sup> Floor

New York, NY 10022

212-355-5710

[www.rehscgi.com](http://www.rehscgi.com)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

REHS CONTEMPORARY GALLERIES, INC. IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE '**HEROES, VILLAINS, MYTHS & LEGENDS**' ... AN EXHIBITION FEATURING THE ASTONISHING TALENT FROM THE ANI ART ACADEMIES' FAMILY OF ARTISTS.

Last year's exhibition – The BIG Gamble – posed the following question: Does contemporary art need to shock the viewer to be good? I think we proved it does not...well, kind of. The overall reception to our exhibition was incredible and the opening saw more than 700 people in attendance with plenty of sales.

We have always viewed "shock-value" in terms of what some artists/people claim are works of art and the astronomical prices certain contemporary pieces can bring. Over the past year at auction, we have seen artists take everyday items, declare them works of art and sell them for large sums of money. In addition, works by Basquiat reached nearly \$50 million, Warhol's work sold for \$40 million+ and a Lichtenstein climbed over the \$56 million mark – to many, this was shocking. We believe the Ani Art Academy artists truly hold their own "shock-value." The visitors at The BIG Gamble were astounded at highly precise, realistic, charcoals and oil paintings on display ... more than once we were asked: are those photographs? The technical accuracy and detail these bold, young, artists produced were absolutely incredible and the fact that some of the works were the first 'creative' piece they produced was nothing less than shocking.

On Saturday March 15, 2014 we will once again open our doors and welcome the public to visit our exhibition: **Heroes, Villains, Myths & Legends**. This exhibit will be the second significant concentration of works in New York City from The Ani Art Academies' instructors, current apprentices, alumni and associates. A broad theme was chosen to give each artist the freedom to express themselves through characters and/or individuals who inspire them. On view will be a variety of works celebrating The Lone Ranger, Wolverine, Atlas, Aphrodite, Mata Hari, Miss Havisham (from Great Expectations), Joan of Arc, Tron and many others; this will be an amazing exhibition and is one in which the quality of the works will shock you.

As we have stated before, our ultimate goal with these exhibitions is to celebrate the good, the talented, and the skilled artists who continue a great tradition, centuries old, of Academic training.

The BIG Gamble featured over 42 works from 32 artists; however, the roster for ***Heroes, Villains, Myths & Legends*** is well over 60 artists with close to 70 works. We are pleased to welcome back most of the artists from The BIG Gamble, including as the highly esteemed, Anthony J. Waichulis (director of The Ani Art Academies, Waichulis), Timothy W. Jahn (director of The Ani Art Academies, Anguilla), Ed Dillon (director of The Ani Art Academies, Dominican Republic), Tim Reynolds (founder of the Ani Art Academies project), Helen Crispino, Jay Davenport, Erika Baez, Brandon Drake and Brian O'Neill, along with many other established and young up-and-comers: Joel Carson Jones, Stuart Dunkel, Patricia Diaz, Jaiden Fleming, Elena Green and Victoria Steel.

We know this exhibit will be filled with exceptional works of art that will intrigue, fascinate and inspire you ... and a few may even bring a smile to your face.

Be sure to visit [www.rehscgi.com](http://www.rehscgi.com) for additional information regarding this special event in the coming months. Rehs Contemporary Galleries, Inc. is located at 5 East 57th Street, New York, NY 10022. For more information regarding the gallery, call (212) 355-5710 or visit their website [www.rehscgi.com](http://www.rehscgi.com). And for more information on the Ani Art Academies please visit [www.aniswaichulis.com](http://www.aniswaichulis.com) and [www.anartacademies.org](http://www.anartacademies.org).

Images of some of the paintings have been included. For high-resolution images, please contact [Alyssa@rehs.com](mailto:Alyssa@rehs.com).

List of Scheduled Participating Artists:

Abew, Jonah	Frometa, Jonathan
Acosta, Catherine	Garlick, Emily
Amy, Kelsey	Garlick, Lynne
Anderson, Erin	Green, Elena
Baez, Erika	Herron, Chelsea
Brady, Jason	Hirst, Emma
Caraballo, Roneidy	Hourigan, Sharon
Crispino, Helen	Jahn, Tim
Davenport, Jay	Johnston, Beverly
Davis, Rodney	Jones, Joel Carson
Diaz, Patricia	Jose, Lissandra
Dillon, Edward	Judd, Andy
Dillon, Joe	Keating, Maureen
Drake, Brandon	Lang, Alicia
Dunkel, Stuart	Lloyd, Deborah
Edwards, Lois	Long, Roger
Fleming, Jaiden	Lopez, Wellington

Martin, Tom  
Martinez, Ricardo  
Martinez, Soul  
Mojica, Elizardo  
Moore, Kevin  
O'Neill, Brian  
Pena, Eduard  
Porembo, Bernard  
Richardson, Romaro  
Richardson, Shanicia  
Rodriguez, Augsto  
Rodriquez, Omar  
Rogers, Terese  
Rojas, Jorge

Rosario, Felix  
Ruan, Canita  
Skalka, Deanna  
Shemo, Lucy  
Steel, Victoria  
Vargas, Eddy  
Waichulis, Anthony  
Waichulis, Leah  
Wallace, Susan  
Wood, Zack  
Yavorski, Stephen  
Young, Kierstin  
Zagropski, Blayze



Anthony Waichulis – *Hi-Yo Silver* (7 x 5 inches)



Elena Green – *Mata Hari* (detail)



Stuart Dunkel – *The Mediator* (detail)



Susan Wallace – *Sir Vantes, The Ingenious Gentleman* (detail)