

Rehs Contemporary Galleries, Inc.

5 East 57th Street

New York, NY 10022

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www.rehs.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

REHS CONTEMPORARY GALLERIES, INC. IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE '**THE BIG GAMBLE**' ... AN EXHIBITION FEATURING THE ASTONISHING TALENT FROM THE ANI ART ACADEMIES FAMILY OF ARTISTS.

Rehs Contemporary Galleries in New York City will be hosting an exciting exhibit from April 6 – May 3, 2013 which carries the intriguing title of "THE BIG GAMBLE". This will be the first significant concentration of works in New York City from The Ani Art Academies instructors, alumni and current apprentices.

Does art have to shock to be good? In the contemporary art world there is great emphasis placed on shock value – but is this really representative of the good, creative and talented artists of today? What happened to the days when talent and skill were important; when the ability to paint the human figure was considered an artist's ultimate goal? The art community needs to embrace, celebrate, appreciate, collect and support GOOD academic art and artists; those who not only have the talent to translate onto paper or canvas what they see, but have the ability to create unique, interesting and thought provoking works of art in the representational style.

Our ultimate goal is to celebrate the good, the talented, and the skilled through a series of exhibitions featuring established and up and coming contemporary artists in the academic field.

We begin this series with an exhibition entitled "THE BIG GAMBLE." We chose this theme for a number of reasons: The whole idea of an exhibit in today's art world that is academic in nature is a gamble in and of itself. Will people respond? Will they react? Will they come? More importantly, we felt it was important to give the works in the exhibition a common thread. The participating artists (currently 27 in number) were asked to use the phrase "THE BIG GAMBLE" as inspiration for their work. Some chose to explore the theme quite literally, others took a humorous approach, and still others explored ideas that were more personal which reflects a big gamble in their life (a choice or turning point that make life more interesting and fulfilling, or not ☺). Whichever road the artist chose to explore the theme, we know you will be intrigued by the stories that inspired them.

Among the roster of artists who will be participating in this inaugural exhibit are 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), Brian O'Neill, Omar Rodriguez, Helen Crispino and many others (a more complete list of artists is included).

We know you will find this exhibit not only filled with beautiful and skilled works of art; but intriguing, inspiring, thought provoking and we hope that each will bring a little laughter and enjoyment into your life ... because, in the end, isn't that what art is all about?

Be sure to visit www.rehs.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.rehs.com. And for more information on the Ani Art Academies please visit www.aniwaihulius.com and www.aniaartacademies.org.

Images of some of the paintings have been attached. For high-resolution images, please contact Amy@rehs.com.

List of Scheduled Participating Artists:

Erin Anderson

Erika Baez

Justin Balliet

Jason Brady

Helen Crispino

Jay Davenport

Rodney Davis

Edward Dillon

Joe Dillon

Brandon D. Drake

Chelsea Herron

Emma Hirst

Sharon Hourigan

Timothy Jahn

Alicia Lang

Roger C. Long

Ricardo Martinez

Kevin Moore

Brian O'Neill

Max Reynolds

Tim Reynolds

Omar Rodriguez

Terese Rogers

Kate Sammons

Anthony Waichulis

Leah Waichulis

Kierstin Young

Details of Select Works from the Show:



Detail: Anthony Waichulis's *The Primary Gambit*



Detail: Timothy Jahn's *Doc's Take*



Lynne Garlick's *Odds on Favorite*



Detail: Brian O'Neill's *The Proposal*



Detail: Brandon Drake's *Dangerous Speculation*