

SCOTT
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RY ART

ROSS BLECKNER

Paintings

November 19 – December 21, 2011

Opening Reception: Saturday, November 19th, 2011, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

(San Diego, California) - For Immediate Release

EXHIBITION SUMMARY:

Scott White Contemporary Art is pleased to present *Paintings*, a solo show by world-renowned painter Ross Bleckner in conjunction with the **Grand Opening** of Scott White Contemporary Art's new location in La Jolla.

The opening reception will take place on Saturday, November 19, 2011 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Cocktails featuring Pink Pigeon Rum created by Snake Oil Cocktail Co. and light hors d'oeuvres provided by Crush Restaurant will be served.

A portion of the proceeds from works sold during the exhibition will benefit Invisible Children, a non-profit organization that uses film, creativity, and social action to end the use of child soldiers in Joseph Kony's rebel war. Invisible Children aims to restore LRA-affected communities in central Africa to peace and prosperity.

EXHIBITION DETAILS:

Paintings, a solo exhibition by New York-based painter Ross Bleckner will feature work created specifically for Scott White Contemporary Art and for the new gallery's debut. Bleckner's most recent paintings focus on dissolving flowers and birds in both bright and muted colors. The tonality and compositions of these paintings are dreamlike and communicate a prevalent theme of fleeting beauty and the loss of permanence, often addressing subjects dealing with health and the human condition. Bleckner uses symbolic imagery rather than direct representation to convey the repeated themes of loss and memory. His work is visually elusive, containing forms that shift the focus of the viewer revealing additional dimension. Bleckner's recent work has been called spiritual, luminescent, and even scientific. Alex Coles of *Art Monthly* in 2001 has noted Bleckner's skill in representing light saying that "Bleckner is a master a manipulating it." Ten years later, Bleckner continues to paint with luminous mastery. *Paintings* will showcase 13 paintings ranging from small to monumental in size, as well as 2 prints. The exhibition will also

feature a wall-sized installation of *Falling Birds* paintings. It has been nine years since Bleckner has had an exhibition in San Diego.

ARTIST INFORMATION:

Born in New York City and raised on Long Island's East End, Bleckner studied painting under the advisory of Chuck Close at New York University. He went on to earn his Master of Fine Arts from the California Institute of the Arts, which has produced talents such as Tony Oursler, Tim Burton, and Kaari Upson. Hailed by critics at notable outlets including *The New York Times*, *Art in America*, and *Art Forum*, to name a few, Bleckner established himself as an up and coming artist to watch in the 1980's and early 1990's. In 1995, Bleckner's significance in the art community was acknowledged by the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum of Art, where he was honored with a solo retrospective. Today, Ross Bleckner's luminous paintings are an awe-inspiring presence in the international landscape of contemporary fine art.

As a well-known humanitarian, Ross Bleckner has enabled many global and community organizations to perform crucial work to further their endeavors. He is on the board of AIDS Community Research Initiative of America (ACRIA), a non-profit community-based AIDS research and treatment education center. In May 2009 he was the first fine artist to be awarded the title of Goodwill Ambassador by the United Nations for his efforts.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REQUEST VISUAL MATERIALS, PLEASE CONTACT KATHLEEN CRAIN AT 619-501-5689, or email kathleen@scottwhiteart.com

GALLERY INFORMATION:

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Hours:
Mon – Fri, 9:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Sat, 11:00 – 5:00 p.m.

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