



Patricia Ruiz-Healy, Director Ruiz-Healy Art Gallery: 210-804-2219

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Straight from Mexico City

Opening Reception, Thursday, March 24, 2016 6:00-8:00pm Ruiz-Healy Art 201-A East Olmos Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78212 **Presented in collaboration with Galería Karen Huber in Mexico City** The exhibition will be on display at Ruiz-Healy Art March 24 - April 23, 2016

Ruiz-Healy Art is pleased to present **Straight from Mexico City**--in the same collaborative spirit as past RHA programming---Straight from Berlin (with Galerie EIGEN + ART in Leipzig/Berlin March 2014) and Straight from Spain (with Blanca Berlín Galería in Madrid October 2014)---Straight from Mexico City partners with another respected international gallery- Galería Karen Huber in Mexico City. The exhibition will open with a reception on Thursday, March 24th 6:00-8:00pm and will be on display through April 23, 2016.

Straight from Mexico City questions the cultural context of our time and the history of painting itself with a critical construction of identity set forth in a pictorial practice. Organized by guest curator Octavio Avendaño Trujillo, guest artist's Eugenia Martínez, Kanako Namura, Manuel Solano, and Rafael Uriegas are selected from Galería Karen Huber's roster. In June of this year, four artists from the RHA roster will be included in an exhibition at Galería Karen Huber in Mexico City as part of this exchange: Nate Cassie, Constance Lowe, Cecilia Biagini, and Jesse Amado.

In Straight from Mexico City, Eugenia Martínez, draws from Novohispanic painting and its Baroque codes, a tension is created that puts into question cultural perspectives through writing as a critical exercise. Martínez incorporates salvaged photographs and juxtaposes repetition of text in an overlay to both conceal and emphasize different portions of the pictorial platform. Martinez has exhibited internationally and is in many collections, including The Red Bull-Salzburg, Austria; Colección Jumex, México; Museo de la Secretaria de Hacienda y Crédito Publico, México and Luciano Benetton, Italy.



A different approach to painting is taken by Kanako Namura, Born in Osaka, Japan and currently residing in Mexico City, she generates a relationship that can either be distant or kin to the mental compositions of two opposing societies as the artist identifies with both Japanese and Mexican cultures. Namura has exhibited in numerous solo and group exhibitions in Japan, Mexico, and the United States.

Through painting, Manuel Solano is influenced by familiar and popular characters engaging the subject matter in a postmodern context. In his paintings, he provokes the viewer to reveal themselves as the subject before historical and contemporary conditions. Solano has exhibited in the United States, Mexico, France, Italy and Guatemala, notably at Biquini Wax, Mexico City; WUHO Gallery, Los Angeles; The Luciano Bennetton Foundation at Palazzo Cini, Venice; Zona MACO, Mexico City and the Venice Biennale (2011, 2015).

Finally, Rafael Uriegas is engaged in the Latin American School of Painting, especially that of landscape as an abstraction close to modernity that reveals itself before a sensual mysticism. Born in Malaga, Spain, Uriegas received his BFA at "La Esmeralda" (ENPEG) in Mexico City, and MFA from the Universdad Autonoma of the State of Morelos, Mexico. He currently lives and works in Mexico City.

About Galería Karen Huber

Galería Karen Huber is a platform of contemporary art that engages with the production of curatorial projects that incorporate emerging artists in the national sphere. The Gallery has a residency program for artists around the world with the intention of extending the artistic panorama of the country and bringing an understanding of existing overseas paradigms to the Mexican public. Galería Karen Huber is located Bucareli 128 (Edificio Vizcaya) 06600, Mexico City. www.karen-huber.com

<u>About Guest Curator, Octavio Avendaño Trujillo (Mexico, 1985)</u> was director co-founder of the *Ibero-American Colloquium of Art Criticism* in 2014. He was associate curator of the *Museum of Modern Art* in Mexico City in 2010 and from 2013 to 2015. He was a member of the seminar *Zonas de Disturbio* taught by Ph.D. Mariana Botey and Ph.D. Cuauhtemoc Medina. In 2014 he published *Mitos Oficiales* (Periferia / RM) in which 34 young Mexican artists and cultural agents in the 1990s in Mexico participated. As a curator he has presented exhibitions in Mexico, the Netherlands and Italy and currently works as an independent curator and art critic.



About Ruiz-Healy Art

Founded in 2004, and located in the historic Olmos Park District of San Antonio, Ruiz-Healy Art specializes in contemporary with an emphasis on Latin American and Texas connected artists. To request high-resolution images and more information about the exhibition, please contact the gallery at 210-804-2219. Gallery hours are Tuesday – Saturday 11:00 -4:00 p.m. and by appointment. www.ruizhealyart.com