

For Immediate Release
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Wade Wilson Art opens *Raw Beauty: Recent Paintings by Zachariah Rieke*

(HOUSTON, January 2012; source: Juice Consulting LLC) – Wade Wilson Art is pleased to announce an exhibit of new and recent paintings by **Zachariah Rieke**. The exhibit opens with a reception for the artist from **6 - 8 p.m.** on **Thursday, January 26, 2012** and will remain on view through February 25, 2012. Wade Wilson Art is located at 4411 Montrose Blvd. Suite 200, Houston, Texas, 77006.

Zachariah Rieke was born and raised in Kansas and has a prolific resume in studies and teaching including institutions such as University of Alberta. During his forty-five-plus years of painting, Rieke has been featured in many galleries across the United States including a retrospective at the New Mexico Museum of Art where his wife's work, Gale Rieke, was also featured.

In this new series of paintings, Zachariah Rieke uses his predominately monochromatic aesthetic that speaks through movement of the paint and medium. The artist thins much of the pain so that it stains directly into the surface of the canvas. In large part, the forms are created by the alluvial action of pigment deposited on tides of water. His work has always focused on the metaphysical, a never-ending inquiry into the nature of the universe around him and his role within this universe. His painting is propelled by the pursuit of an unreachable sublime, a profound paradox strongly centered in Kiekegaard's "leap of faith."

Each movement on the canvas is indelible and a recording of the journey of the paint. The result is paintings that are vibrant and full of life. The artist writes: "My work is, and has always been, about discovery. On occasion I have spoken of the act of painting and the resultant completed work in terms of cartography: If painting is truly an act of exploration, then no map is followed, but rather the painting

itself becomes the map, recording the paths that one has taken to its completion. My own method of painting entails finding the image in the course of working. The current body of work is purposefully rough and direct. There is a certain 'poetry' hopefully. The dichotomy is between the forceful application of the major movements and the subtle nuances resulting for the most part from incidental (as opposed to accidental) markings."

Authenticity and the act of dialogue are two important factors in Rieke's work. The authenticity is born out of the work due to an inner necessity which in turn allows it be experienced on a personal level. This experience is the dialogue with the painting being not just about an ideal or belief, but being an entity in themselves. From the very first mark the artist makes on the canvas, he engages in a dialogue and as each new mark appears on the canvas the dialogue deepens.

"Poetry surpasses philosophy. Ultimately words cannot speak to the heart of painting. Any attempts I've made here merely trace around the outline." - Zachariah Rieke *THE Magazine*, September 2010

Zachariah Rieke's paintings are a part of the collections of The Albuquerque Museum New Mexico Museum of Art, Santa Fe Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, Lincoln New Mexico Arts Permanent Collection, Santa Fe Warner Brothers Studios, Hollywood Mountain Bell, Denver Andrews & Kurth, Houston St. Vincent Hospital, Santa Fe Security Pacific National Bank, Los Angeles Caliber Bank, Phoenix University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, University of Florida, Gainseville Sheraton Hotel, Singapore Malaysia.

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For additional information, please visit our website at www.wadewilsonart.com or contact Wade Wilson Art Director Ken General at 713 521 2977.

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