



## Pelham Art Center

155 Fifth Avenue Pelham, NY 10803 tel: 914.738.2525 fax: 914.738.2686 www.pelhamartcenter.org

### **2013 Alexander Rutsch Award and Exhibition for Painting - PROSPECTUS -**

#### **Pelham Art Center announces the 7th Alexander Rutsch Award and Exhibition**

Alexander Rutsch (1916 – 1997) was an artist who actively supported Pelham Art Center for more than 25 years. After his death, friends and supporters of Alexander Rutsch and his family established a generous and significant fund. The fund supports a bi-annual open, juried competition in painting. A \$5,000 cash prize and a solo exhibition at Pelham Art Center are awarded to the winner. This program continues Rutsch's belief that art transcends all of our humanity. Rutsch saw art as "the stone in the water sending ripples throughout the universe." His extraordinary work, rich in the celebration of life and our shared human experiences, is included in many public and private collections throughout the U.S. and Europe.

#### **About Alexander Rutsch**

Alexander Rutsch was born in Vienna, Austria. After studying voice in Austria, he became an opera singer like his parents, but after WWII, Rutsch's love for visual expression propelled him to change careers. He was a painter, sculptor, philosopher, musician, singer, and poet. His life as a romantic is reflected in his work, as he sought to perfect his soul and humanity. "I paint my dreams," said Rutsch. "My dreams are color and life. They soar in my head like millions of symphonies. I can never stop building dreams."

In 1952, after studying under Josef Dorowsky, Josef Hoffmann, and Herbert Boeckl at the Vienna Academy of Fine Arts, Alexander Rutsch received a scholarship to study in France, where he made contacts and began collaborations with his contemporaries Picasso and Dali, among others. Rutsch said of his experiences with Picasso, "Picasso played a short but important moment in my life in Paris that affected my entire artistic future. I learned from him that it is not important if art is not aesthetically finished. It can be raw uncooked, rough. If an artist feels he has said it – it is not important to polish or finish it. Because of Picasso, I learned that if I don't feel the need to finish – I don't have to." In 1954, he exhibited his work at the Salon Artistique International de Saxeux and won first prize for abstract painting, the first of many awards during his prolific career.

During the 13 years he lived in Paris, Rutsch exhibited in many prominent galleries there and throughout Europe. In 1958, the City of Paris awarded him with the prestigious Arts, Science and Letters Silver Medal. In 1966, Jean Desvilles presented his prize winning film "Le Monde de Rutsch" at the Cannes Film Festival and the Venice Biennial. In 1968, Rutsch moved to Pelham, New York, where he continued to work in his studio and exhibit in galleries and museums worldwide.

Rutsch's work, as seen through his mastery of various art forms – sculpture, painting, print-making, and drawing – has been described as "vibrating showers of lines, bold geometries, wounded anatomically rambling scrap-wood skeletons, enigmatic totem figures, and congregations of fetishized, domesticated, and recycled rubbish heaps [that] conspire to a fantasy of Expressionism, Cubism, Dada, Fauvism, Cobra, and Primitivism." His pieces, as described by Emily Genauer, impart silence and the monumentality of primitive statuary. His sculptures are stylized to abstract construction made of "found" objects, welded and reshaped into bronze figures and animals of uncommon wit, airy grace, and individuality. His portraits are crisp, intense, spare linear characterizations that convey empathy. Pelham Art Center is proud to sponsor a competition and award to honor the memory and artistic achievement of Alexander Rutsch. Visit [www.alexanderrutsch.com](http://www.alexanderrutsch.com) to learn more.

#### **Previous Winners**

2011 – Nina Rizzo	2005 – Dorothy Robinson
2009 – Tracy Miller	2003 – Mitchell Marco
2007 – Liang Guo	2001 – Frank Trankina

#### **About Pelham Art Center**

Founded in 1970, the Pelham Art Center is a multi-arts center that provides a place and opportunity for 18,000 area residents to see, study, and experience the arts in a community setting. Offering high-quality free and affordable art programs year round, Pelham Art Center is committed to the belief that the public's access to and participation in the arts strengthens communities and fosters life-long engagement in the arts.

#### **For Listing Purposes**

Alexander Rutsch 2013 Award and Solo Exhibition for Painting.

Solo Exhibition May 3 – June 29, 2013, and \$5,000 cash award.

U.S.-based artists, 19 years of age and older. All work submitted must be available for exhibit.

Entries must be received by February 1, 2013. Download prospectus and apply online beginning November 1, 2012, at [www.pelhamartcenter.org/rutsch](http://www.pelhamartcenter.org/rutsch). Questions: [rutschaward@pelhamartcenter.org](mailto:rutschaward@pelhamartcenter.org) or 914 738 2525 x113.



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### **2013 Alexander Rutsch Award and Exhibition for Painting**

**Exhibition Dates: May 3 – June 29, 2013**

#### **Application**

To apply, all entrants must complete the entry form on the web at:

**[www.pelhamartcenter.org/rutsch](http://www.pelhamartcenter.org/rutsch)**

**All entries must be submitted through the website.** Entries will be accepted starting November 1, 2012, through February 1, 2013. Only U.S.-based artists, 19 years of age and older, are eligible to apply.

#### **Entry Fee**

\$30 per applicant, for five images of available work. Pay by credit card through the secure online entry form. Payment must be made through the entry form. Entry fees are non-refundable.

#### **Calendar**

Entry Receipt Deadline: **February 1, 2013, 11:59pm MST** (i.e. 1:59am EST, 12:59am CST, 10:59pm PST)  
Finalists Notified: February 13, 2013  
Winner Notified: March 8, 2013  
Exhibition Dates: May 3 – June 29, 2013  
Opening Reception &  
Award Presentation: Friday, May 3, 6:30-8:00pm

#### **Awards**

The prize winner will be awarded a solo exhibition at Pelham Art Center and a cash award of \$5,000.

#### **Images**

Submit five (5) digital images through the online entry form. Only JPEG files accepted. Images must be 1920 pixels on the longest side and no greater than 1.8 megabytes each.

#### **Work Size**

All paintings must not exceed 84 x 84 inches.

#### **Finalists**

Finalists will be contacted and required to submit an artist's statement, résumé, and images of 10-15 additional available works.

#### **Accepted Work**

All accepted work must be ready to install and available during exhibition dates. No substitutes of accepted work.

#### **Receipt and Removal of Work**

Work may be delivered by hand or shipped. No COD in-bound shipments will be accepted. Pelham Art Center will pay up to \$750 for out-bound shipping only. Return packaging is required.

#### **Liability and Insurance**

All work is insured while in the possession of the Art Center and during out-bound shipping.

#### **Sales**

Pelham Art Center retains a 33% commission on work sold during the exhibition.

#### **Artist Information**

Pelham Art Center will not use any artist information and images beyond the purposes of this art competition.

#### **Agreement**

Receipt of any entry by Pelham Art Center is understood to convey agreement by the entrant to all conditions set forth and inferred in this document.

#### **Contact**

Rutsch Award | Pelham Art Center  
155 Fifth Avenue Pelham, NY 10803  
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