



Pelham Art Center

2011 Alexander Rutsch Award and Exhibition Pelham Art Center announces the 6th Alexander Rutsch Award and Exhibition For Painting

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 of public and private collections throughout the US 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 Sceaux 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 in 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, exhibit in galleries and museums worldwide.

Rutsch's work as seen through his mastery of various art forms, sculpture, painting, print-making, and drawing, and a wide variety of media 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. Rutsch's creations suggest 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 to learn more about him.

Previous Winners:

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

For Listing Purposes:

Alexander Rutsch 2011 Award and Solo Exhibition for Painting.

Solo Exhibition May 6 – June 25, 2011 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 4, 2011. For prospectus download form on our website www.pelhamartcenter.org or contact rutschaward@pelhamartcenter.org or 914.738.2525.

The Pelham Art Center is a multi-arts center that provides a place and opportunity for 16,000 area residents to see, study, and experience the arts in a community setting. Pelham Art Center receives funding from New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency; Westchester Arts Council, through county government; Westchester Jewish Community Services; Nurse's Network; Comer Family Fund, The Chicago Community Trust; Town of Pelham; Legislative Grant from New York State Department of Education through State Senator Jeff Klein; YellowBook USA, Inc.; Target; Junior League of Pelham; Robin's Art+Giving; Members; and Annual Fund Donors.



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**6th ALEXANDER RUTSCH AWARD
AND EXHIBITION FOR PAINTING**
Exhibition Dates: May 6 – June 25, 2011

Exhibition Guidelines

Application: All entrants must complete an entry form.
An online entry form or mail in entry form is available.

Entry Fee: \$25 for up to five images of available work.
Payment maybe made using the online entry form or by mail in entry form.
Entry fees are non-refundable.

<u>Calendar:</u>	Entry Receipt Deadline:	February 4, 2011
	Finalists Notified:	February 25, 2011
	Winner Notified:	March 14, 2011
	Exhibition Dates:	May 6 – June 25, 2011
	Opening Reception & Award Presentation:	Friday, May 6, 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 up to five (5) high-resolution digital images (300dpi, no larger than 1200 x 1800 pixels). All image file names must list the artist last name and title of work.

Work Size: All paintings must not exceed 84" x 84".

Finalists: Finalists are required to submit an artist's statement, resume and 10-15 additional digital images of available work.

Accepted Work: All accepted work must be ready to install. No substitutes of accepted work.

Receiving 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.

Agreement: Receipt of any entry is understood to convey agreement by the entrant to all conditions set forth and inferred in this form.