



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS
351 West University Boulevard | Cedar City, UT 84720

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 01/28/2015

Michael French
Marketing and Public Relations Coordinator
College of Performing and Visual Arts
Southern Utah University
Office: 435-865-8667
michaelfrench@suu.edu

SUU's ART INSIGHTS SPOTLIGHTS
PAINTER MARIO ANDRES ROBINSON
FEBRUARY 5, 2015

Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah: Strongly influenced by 19th and 20th American artists, painter Mario Andres Robinson's technique reflects the styles of a bygone era yet his work has an intimate accessibility. This respected artist shares his affinity to work by American masters during his Art Insights' presentation. Robinson's appearance at SUU's weekly art series is scheduled for **Thursday February 5, 2015** in SUU's **Auditorium Theatre**. The presentation begins at **7pm** and is **free and open to the public**.

Mario Andres Robinson was born in Altus, Oklahoma, where he resided with his family before relocating to New Jersey at the age of twelve. His artistic gift was discovered by a fifth grade teacher and a creative explosion was sparked in the pre-teen. Robinson studied at the prestigious Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, New York.

Early in his development, Mario began looking to the great masters for inspiration and technical insight. An avid student of realism, he studied the elemental principles of painting by exploring the work and technique of Old Masters such as Rembrandt, Vermeer and Degas. However, it was the work of 19th and 20th century American artists that provided Robinson with the strongest stylistic foundation, helping him forge and define his own artistic sensibility.

The work of Mario Andres Robinson fits squarely within the tradition of American painting. Robinson's finished works bear a close affinity to the masters of the realist tradition, Andrew Wyeth and Thomas Eakins. Containing few references to modern life, Robinson's work has a timeless and universal quality, and exhibits a distinct turn-of-the-century stylistic aesthetic. The images he chooses, which refer to a bygone era where solitude and reflection were abundant, also provoke frequent allusions to the paintings of Winslow Homer and Edward Hopper.

Beginning in 1994, Robinson's work began to extensively incorporate rural subjects primarily located in the state of Alabama. Each subject is very personal for the artist in both selection and execution. As the work progresses, his relationship with the sitter develops and a uniquely personal story begins to evolve. Robinson frequently depicts subjects framed within the context of their daily lives. The underlying narrative counters sentimentality and serves as the underpinning for his figurative images.

Mario Andres Robinson is an Exhibiting Artist Member (EAM) of The National Arts Club, an Artist Member of The Salmagundi Club and a Signature Member of The Pastel Society of America. His work has been featured several times in *The Artist's Magazine*, *The Pastel Journal*, *Watercolor Magic*, *American Art Collector*, *Fine Art Connoisseur* and on the cover of *American Artist* magazine. In the February, 2006 issue of *The Artist's Magazine*, Mario was selected as one of the top 20 realist artists under the age of 40.

Robinson's work is widely collected by private and public collectors.

Art Insights is a weekly program hosted during the fall and spring semesters by SUU's Art and Design faculty. Students and community members meet to experience presentations and discussions by visiting artists and art educators from around the nation who share their work and insights and attend gallery openings. Admission is free, and the general public is invited to attend.

Discover the wonders of chemistry and its uses in art by attending this remarkable Art Insights presentation.

ABOUT THE COLLEGE

Southern Utah University's College of Performing and Visual Arts is home to nationally-accredited departments of Art and Design, Music, Theatre Arts, and Dance. The College offers 17 degrees, including liberal arts Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science, professional Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Fine Arts in art and theatre, and Arts Administration Master of Arts and Master of Fine Arts. It houses the Center for Shakespeare Studies, which offers a degree minor. More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff teach and mentor over 550 arts majors. Over 1100 students enroll each year in more than 195 arts classes. The College presents 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions annually. Its affiliate organizations include the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery, Utah Shakespeare Festival, and the SUU Ballroom Dance Company. For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, contact the Office of the Dean (435) 865-8561, or by e-mail at cpvamktg@suu.edu.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS: ART INSIGHTS MARIO ANDRES ROBINSON

WHAT: Strongly influenced by 19th and 20 American artists, painter Mario Andres Robinson's technique reflects the styles of a bygone era yet his work has an intimate accessibility. This respected artist shares his affinity to work by American masters during his Art Insights' presentation.

WHO: Art Insights, Southern Utah University, Department of Art and Design

WHEN: Thursday, February 5, 2015, 7pm,

WHERE: Auditorium Theatre

INFORMATION: Visit: www.suu.edu/pva/arts

PRICES: Free Admission and the General Public is encouraged to attend.