

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Dallas Design District**

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HUNT SLONEM

F A U N A

Laura Rathe Fine Art Announces Debut Solo Exhibition & Lecture by Internationally Known Artist in Dallas, Texas

(Dallas, TX, August 5, 2016) – For its Fall season premiere, Dallas Design District gallery, Laura Rathe Fine Art (LRFA), announces an introductory solo exhibition featuring works by world-renowned artist Hunt Slonem with an opening reception on Saturday, September 10th from 5-8pm. “*Fauna*” will feature works from Slonem’s popular series of rabbits, butterflies, and birds and will be on view through October 8, 2016.

Thursday, September 8th at 6pm, LRFA will also present a lecture and book signing with Slonem. Moderated by gallery owner, Laura Rathe, the artist will be joined in conversation by two members of the Dallas community: award-winning interior designer, Mary Anne Smiley, and noted art adviser, author, and educator, Gail Sachson. Co-sponsored by *PATRON* magazine, the event will be the first in a series of lectures and conversations organized by LRFA as part of their *Create.Curate.Collect.* lecture series. RSVP required.

Slonem will be signing copies of his books *When Art Meets Design* (2014) and *Bunnies* (2014). The former celebrates Slonem’s approach to art, collecting, design, and life, featuring interior photography of the marvelous spaces he’s decorated and restored. The latter offers an exciting overview of what is arguably the artist’s most popular series. The result of a daily painting ritual, Slonem’s *Bunnies*, as they are affectionately known and referred to by the artist, have delighted viewers and captivated collectors the world over.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Born in Kittery, Maine, in 1951, New York-based artist Hunt Slonem is an American painter, sculptor, and printmaker, well-known for his Neo-Expressionist works featuring butterflies, rabbits, and tropical birds. Considered one of the great colorists of his time, Slonem’s gestural and extraordinarily vibrant portraits of wildlife immortalize and celebrate each species while honoring the exuberance and diversity of life itself.

Slonem is also an accomplished designer, decorator, and restorer of homes. Championed as works of art in their own right, these spaces include not only the artist’s East Village loft and his 30,000 square-foot Brooklyn studio, but also the two plantation houses he’s restored in Louisiana and Cordts Mansion located in the Hudson River Valley. Slonem’s work on these transcendent and colorful spaces has been featured in *House Beautiful*, *Architectural Digest*, and *The New York Times*.

Slonem studied painting at the Skowhegan School of Painting & Sculpture, Vanderbilt University, and Tulane University. His work has been the focus of over 300 solo exhibitions worldwide and is held in the collections of more than 100 museums, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum.

ABOUT LAURA RATHE FINE ART

With over 25 years’ experience in the industry, gallery owner, Laura Rathe, started her career working as a private art dealer before establishing Laura Rathe Fine Art (LRFA) in 1998 in Houston, Texas. LRFA now operates out of two locations in Houston and a third gallery in Dallas on Dragon Street, the city’s premiere arts district destination. Since the gallery’s inception, LRFA has established itself as a leading contemporary art venue, offering an impressive range of exhibitions and programming to its patrons in both cities.

LRFA represents a dynamic roster of established and mid-career contemporary artists working in a variety of media, many of whom have been acquired into world-renowned private, corporate, and museum collections. Various clientele include BBVA Compass, HKS Architects, Wells Fargo, W Hotels, UT Southwestern, and Halliburton. LRFA also participates in a number of prominent art fairs including CONTEXT Art Miami, Art Southampton, Art Wynwood, the Houston Fine Art Fair, Texas Contemporary, and the Dallas Art Fair.

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For additional information, details or to schedule an interview, please contact

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