

MEDIA RELEASE

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Luis Arsenio Gonzalez
Dreams of a Diva

August 19, 2009 through September 12, 2009
Public Opening Reception: Saturday, August 22, from 6:00 to 9:00 pm

Deborah Colton Gallery is pleased to announce the debut of *Dreams of a Diva*, an exhibition of works by Luis Arsenio Gonzalez. The public opening reception will be Saturday, August 22, 2009 from 6:00 to 9:00 pm.

Puerto Rican born painter, Luis Arsenio Gonzalez grew up in the Spanish Harlem of New York during a time when the streets were full of violence from street gangs and drugs. His escape from this harsh reality became old movies from the 40's and 50's with female stars such as Greta Garbo, Audrey Hepburn and Ava Gardner.

Luis soon found himself an active participant in the New York downtown club scene in the golden era of the early 1980's, surrounded by femme fatales and other celebrity personalities like Andy Warhol, Boy George and Annie Lennox. Simultaneously, Luis entered the fashion world by working at Saks Fifth Avenue and traveling the world, applying his creativity through collaborations with designers like Karl Lagerfeld, Jean Paul Gautier and Thierry Mugler.

Luis continues to draw inspiration from these early, influential settings and experiences as well as from William de Kooning and other great artists that have come to mold the twentieth century. Luis feels a need to capture the dynamic beauty of the woman that haunts his dreams. That look, as if from a Federico Fellini movie, that glance, that one dream like moment...

Luis manifests his expression of his vision of the synergy between art and fashion on canvas with mixed media. His work is dominated by vivid, bold colors and the female form.

Deborah Colton Gallery is founded on being an innovative showcase for ongoing presentation and promotion of strong historical and visionary contemporary artists world-wide, whose diverse practices include painting, works on paper, sculpture, video, photography, performance and conceptual, future media installations. The gallery aspires to provide a forum through connecting Texas, national and international artists to make positive change.