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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Balancing Contemporary Artists and Modern Masters,
Ruiz-Healy Art Debuts at World's Premier Latin American Art Fair**

San Antonio, Texas - March 12, 2007 - Ruiz-Healy Art has announced its participation in the fifth annual Merrill Lynch Arteaméricas, being held March 16-18th at the Miami Beach Convention Center. The San Antonio-based gallery, located at the fair in Booth # 1002, will be featuring many cutting-edge artists, while their “booth within the booth” will house a selection of traditional works by modern masters.

Arteaméricas features the best of Latin American art, as presented by a juried selection of 50 international galleries. Ruiz-Healy Art will be joining the fair this year for the first time, and is proud to represent an impressive group of artists.

One of the artists the gallery will be featuring this year, Ray Smith, who was recently honored with a retrospective in Spain, is known for his works inspired by the Surrealist tradition. Echoes of Dalí's clocks and the parlor game “*Cadavre Exquis*” reveal Smith's interest in exploring the subconscious through art. The gallery is also proud to bring the work of Ángel Rodríguez-Díaz to Miami. A Puerto Rican artist who lives in San Antonio, Rodríguez-Díaz was one of only a few contemporary artists selected by the curators of *Retratos: 2000 Years of Latin American Portraits*. This artist's technique is also fueled by traditions of the past. Baroque influences characterize the artist's portraits, which are technically flawless and feature theatrical combinations of color, light, and visual texture. Another prominent artist whose work will be on display is Pedro Friedeberg, who was recently given a retrospective exhibition by Museo Carrillo Gil in Mexico City. Friedeberg's signature works include his sculptural chairs, which will be on display as well as his works on paper.

Paintings by Shinzaburo Takeda and Ameríco Hernández will bring color and light to the event. Takeda's signature grid outlines pastel-toned scenes from the jungles of Mexico, while Hernández's abstracted forms vibrate with color.

Featured photographers will be Sergio Fasola, Cristina Fresca and Sandro Pereira. Although both Fasola and Fresca employ digital techniques, the two artists approach their subjects from different angles. Fresca delves into the timeless reflections of childhood carnivals while Fasola explores the artistic traditions of portraiture and still life through a distorted lens. Pereira manipulates his photographs physically rather than digitally, by piercing, folding, and bending his landscapes to create depth.

Mixed media works by artists Leomar, Olga Bettas, and Florencio Gelabert bring a lighthearted note to the event. Exploring the theme of the fleeting beauty of nature, Leomar's butterflies made from paper currency seem to float within their shadowboxes and Gelabert's sculpted landscapes promote a message of environmental preservation. Olga Bettas' amusing vests evoke the tradition of fiber arts, yet are crafted from papier mache.

Sculptural pieces in both marble and bronze by Felipe Castañeda and Cecilia Miguez will be shown. Each of these artists approaches the female form; while Castañeda creates images of women adorning themselves and modeling traditional garments, Miguez takes her figures into dimensions that are simultaneously futuristic and timeless.

The "booth within the booth" will feature traditional works by modern masters Rodolfo Morales, Francisco Toledo, and Graciela Iturbide. Morales' colorful collages provide a touch of humor with their colorful figures. Toledo's mixographic technique results in printed works with amazing texture and depth. Iturbide's works are iconic views of rural Mexico that blur the lines between documentary and art.

Ruiz-Healy Art began with the promotion and display of Mexican art, mainly in the realm of Magic Realism. Today, the gallery offers a wide array of artists and styles from various countries of the Americas, and provides services not only to private collectors, but also continues to form corporate collections such as those at South Texas Money Management and Clarke American.

By fusing an understanding of business, her academic studies, and a passion for the arts, the gallery's owner, Patricia Ruiz-Healy, is able to present this expertise directly to the public as an enhanced service and artistic experience for collectors. According to Ruiz-Healy, "by taking our works out of the gallery and exposing them at these kind of events, we further promote an understanding of Latin American art and culture."

For additional information, please visit www.ruizhealyart.com or contact Katy Alexander at katy@ruizhealyart.com.