JACK RUTBERG FINE ARTS

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Extended through May 19

George Nama – Inspired by Poetry:

Sculptures, Etchings and Gouaches

Collaborating with Poets Alfred Brendel, Yves Bonnefoy & Charles Simic



Los Angeles, CA - The works of New York artist George Nama is featured in an exhibition of sculptures, gouaches, and etchings inspired by the poetry of his friends and collaborators Yves Bonnefoy, Alfred Brendel, and Charles Simic. Their poetry, accompanied by Nama's works, serves as the basis of a collaborative art exhibition at Jack Rutberg Fine Arts in Los Angeles, entitled "George Nama - Inspired by Poetry: Sculptures, Etchings and Gouaches," which opened with a reception on March 14, has been extended through Saturday, May 19.

The exhibition focuses on the work of two portfolios: "Poems: Yves Bonnefoy, Alfred Brendel, Charles Simic" with twelve original Nama etchings, and "Charles Simic: Wonders of the Invisible World and Other Poems," with ten etchings by Nama. In addition to the etchings especially created for these poetry collections, the exhibition will include a number of related unique gouache drawings and bronze sculptures by Nama.

George Nama's works are in the collections of major institutions both here and abroad. Working in expressive abstract figures in different media, he has long collaborated with major writers in creating artist's books. He has previously partnered on seven books with **Yves Bonnefoy, the important French poet and literary figure** whose writings on art and literature, including books on Miro, Goya and Giacometti, have informed whole generations of post-WWII cultural audiences.

Nama has previously collaborated with Alfred Brendel, the world-famous concert pianist who performed in Los Angeles at Disney Hall on March 13. Brendel, who in recent years has been celebrated for his poetry, wrote a suite of poems entitled "Devil's Pagaent" for which Nama created a series of accompanying etchings and sculptures. Their collaboration was the subject of an exhibition at Jack Rutberg Fine Arts in 2002. In 2004, Nama and Brendel followed with "Thirteen Angels," exhibited at the Rutberg Gallery 2004.

Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Charles Simic has also worked extensively in collaboration with George Nama. Simic is currently the poetry editor of *The Paris Review* and the author of more than sixty books. Simic has won, among many other honors, a MacArthur 'Genius' grant.

An opening reception for "George Nama - Inspired by Poetry: Sculptures, Etchings and Gouaches" was held March 14 with George Nama and Alfred Brendel in attendance, and featured an informal reading and catalogue signing. The fully-illustrated exhibition catalogue with introductory essay by Elisabeth Kashey was originally published for the inaugural show in 2006 at Shepherd & Derom Galleries in New York.

The exhibition has been extended through Saturday, May 19. Jack Rutberg Fine Arts is located at 357 North La Brea in Los Angeles. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday 10 AM to 6 PM; Saturday 10 AM to 5 PM. For further information contact (323) 938-5222.

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Visuals available upon request