

**Dear Friends,**

It is with great pleasure that I announce 2013 to be Blue Rain Gallery's 20th Anniversary. Anniversaries are a time for celebration and recognition, but they are also a time for reflection. We have far exceeded the expectations that we had two decades ago, and as I reflect upon that time passed, I can honestly share that I am quite proud to be the owner of Blue Rain Gallery and I am very excited at what the future holds for us.

In the past 20 years, Blue Rain Gallery has grown leaps and bounds from our humble beginnings in a second-floor space of our family home in Taos, New Mexico to two current prominent locations, one in Santa Fe, New Mexico and the other in Scottsdale, Arizona. Throughout the manifestations that the gallery has experienced, we have successfully adapted to each new bend in the road and we have strived to be a platform of stability, upon which many of us have built our lives and careers. Blue Rain Gallery has represented numerous artists over the years, many of which continue with us today, and we have gone to great lengths to ensure real progress for them. With their talents and our dedication, together we have achieved great success, of which the most important accomplishment is that the gallery is a well-known and respected art destination in the Southwest. We are, quite simply, one of the longest running, and locally-owned, contemporary art galleries in New Mexico.

This year, we celebrate a founding principle that collectors who have been with us for years already know all too well: artists that have a deep passion for creating will inevitably attract those people who also have a deep passion and commitment to living with great art. It seems like a simple concept now, but this is an exemplary model of "art sustainability," where a symbiotic relationship exists between the artist, the gallery, and the collector—hard-work, dedication, and passion rewards all involved. I have met countless art collectors and enthusiasts from all over the world and the gallery has helped them to touch upon emotions, memories, and life's milestones with concrete and tangible works of beauty. In essence, Blue Rain Gallery has assisted these collectors in enriching their lives and homes. As stewards of great art, we have always regarded this position with great responsibility. I would like to pay tribute to our artists and those collectors who have supported Blue Rain Gallery's development over the years and I would, furthermore, promise them that we will continue to develop in directions that are responsive to an ever-changing art market.

Our work here at the gallery continues to be crucial; we have drawn the line on innovative and high quality artwork—and our commitment to this principle is not up for negotiation. Naturally, we will not remain idle on staying cutting edge, as we are responsible for ensuring the future of our artists and the availability of important art for our collectors to acquire. We are living in a new era, where technology makes everything and everyone more accessible than ever before. The internet, emails, websites, blogs, and social media are all avenues that we are actively harnessing. In the years to come, we will certainly face new challenges but we will also be presented with new opportunities for growth. Since we have the most at stake in terms of maintaining a healthy and thriving art community, I say to the future: "Bring it on, we're ready" because Blue Rain Gallery is open to all possibilities.

In honor of our 20th Anniversary, Blue Rain Gallery will present an entire year of special programming, including new exhibitions, monthly artist spotlights, and, of course, the very best in art. We invite you to celebrate with us and welcome you to participate in our "story," which only continues to unfold.

With Great Respect,

**Leroy Garcia,**

*President*

*Blue Rain Gallery | Blue Rain Contemporary*