

JACK RUTBERG FINE ARTS

357 N. La Brea Avenue · Los Angeles, CA 90036 · Tel (323) 938-5222 · www.jackrutbergfinearts.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RUTH WEISBERG: LOVE, SACRED AND PROFANE
at Jack Rutberg Fine Arts, Los Angeles
March 7 - April 30

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Love, Sacred and Profane serves as the subject and title of an exhibition of paintings, drawings and monotypes by Los Angeles-based artist Ruth Weisberg at Jack Rutberg Fine Arts opening Friday, March 7, 2003.

In this exhibition entitled *Ruth Weisberg: Love, Sacred and Profane*, the artist extends her explorations to the convergence of art history and personal or collective history through layered images which express both time and memory. The exhibition derives its title from Titian's 16th century masterpiece, *Amor Sacro e Profano*.

In the centerpiece of the exhibition, Weisberg echoes Titian's painting, but disrupts its Italian landscape by inserting a large scale modern-day couple passionately embraced in dance. Weisberg says that in creating these dancers "...I also became fascinated with the history of the Tango, which like Jazz arose out of a culture of exile. Tango is the embodiment for us of attraction and passionate engagement... Overall I hope for a collision of worlds; an encounter between a Renaissance paradise and dancers in the modern world in which a core of mystery and longing persists."

The exhibition will also include several drawings from *Canto V: A Whirlwind of Lovers*, a series of works especially created for The Huntington Library's recent exhibition, in which Weisberg was the first contemporary painter ever to be commissioned for a solo exhibition at that institution. Invited to create an exhibition inspired by a work in the Huntington's collection, Weisberg selected William Blake's engravings for Dante's Inferno, in which condemned lovers are endlessly buffeted in a whirlwind; close but never able to touch.

Ruth Weisberg's work has been exhibited and represented in national as well as international museum collections such as The Whitney Museum, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; National Gallery, Washington, DC; Biblioteca Nazionale of France, Paris; and Istituto Nazionale per la Grafica, Rome, Italy. Weisberg is currently Dean of Fine Arts at the University of Southern California.

Ruth Weisberg: Love, Sacred and Profane opens with a reception for the artist on March 7 from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. and extends through April 30 at Jack Rutberg Fine Arts galleries located at 357 N. La Brea Avenue in Los Angeles. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For further information phone (323)938-5222.

Images for press available upon request