

For Immediate Release

November 10, 2011

Contact: Myken Pullins, Public Affairs Coordinator or Kim Webb, Gallery Manager

614.225.0980 or pullinsm@southeastinc.com or freshairgallery@gmail.com

Fresh A.I.R. Gallery

Presents

They say she is bipolar and he's got OCD.

The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM) of Mental Disorders Text Re –Revised and Related Texts

Pierre Leichner

Columbus, Ohio – (43215) – Fresh A.I.R Gallery is pleased to present **They say she is bipolar and he's got OCD. *The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM) of Mental Disorders Text Re-Revised and Related Texts*** featuring the artwork of **Pierre Leichner**.

Please join us for the **artist's talk** on **Wednesday, December 7, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.** and the **opening reception** also on **Wednesday, December 7, 2011 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at the Fresh A.I.R. Gallery**. The exhibition will run through February 3, 2012. The reception is free and open to the public. Gallery hours are Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Fresh A.I.R. Gallery is located at 131 N. High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

Over the past five years, Pierre has been transitioning from a thirty-year career as an academic/administrator psychiatrist to that of an artist. This desire is fueled both by a lifelong dream and by his dismay with the direction our health care system has been taking. During the past few years, he has become aware of many of the similarities between Science and Art. At their core, they share the pursuit of meaning... Both can embrace the same multi-factorial approaches to

understanding, which includes biological, psychological, social-cultural, and spiritual factors. Furthermore, in the past couple of years he has seen an increase in his understanding that Art is not only about creating aesthetic emotion in an audience, but also about socio-political and philosophical issues.

In this body of work I have altered used DSM's, DSM Training Guides, DSM Case Books and Compendiums of Pharmaceutical Specialties (CPS). Despite giving some acknowledgement to cultural factors and claiming to be atheoretical, the DSM's categorical system favors biological research, which is often funded by the pharmaceutical industry.

This body of work is not anti-DSM, anti-psychiatry, anti-diagnosis or anti-pharmacotherapy. It is not against books per se as instruments for the dissemination and control of knowledge. But it is against the unquestioned, unbalanced use of any mode of interventions by health care providers and their blind acceptance by their clients. It is against any theories or treatment approaches that diminish the importance of the unquantifiable humanness necessary in health care. It is against providing health care as a for profit business.

Further information and images of others altered texts are available at www.leichner.ca and Pierre's blog *Shrink in Transition*.

For more information please contact Kim Webb at freshairgallery@gmail.com or 614.394.4159.

Fresh A.I.R. Gallery's mission is to exhibit the works of these individuals affected by mental illness and/or substance abuse disorders. Through art, we educate the community and work to break down the stigma of mental illness by bringing focus to the artistic vision.

Fresh A.I.R. Gallery is operated by Southeast Inc. Southeast Inc. is a comprehensive provider of mental health, chemical dependency, physical healthcare and homeless services that has been serving Columbus since 1978 and five surrounding counties. Southeast's telephone number is (614) 225-0980 or Fax (614) 225-0986 or visit <http://www.southeastinc.com/freshair>

#