



For Immediate Release

CONTACT:

Myken Pullins, 614.225.0980

pullinsm@southeastinc.com

Fresh A.I.R. Gallery presents

My Blessing, My Curse
Charles Wince

Columbus, Ohio – (September 21, 2016) Fresh A.I.R. Gallery cordially invites you to *My Blessing, My Curse* by legendary Columbus artist Charles Wince. Please join us for an opening reception on Wednesday, October 5, 2016 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. *My Blessing, My Curse* will be on view at the Fresh A.I.R. Gallery through November 18, when a closing talk from the artist will be held from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Through his vibrant, provocative paintings, Wince channels hyperactivity into hyper-focus and visual expression. His paintings are described as provocative with strong narratives that sometimes involve social commentary and self-introspection. Critics have identified anxiety, sexism, and consumerism as prominent themes in his work, also suggesting that his paintings offer a darkly humorous twist on familiar imagery.

Wince states “As much as my paintings involve sociopolitical critique and religious critiques and narratives, they also reflect my frustrations with learning disabilities, and the accompanying bouts of depression. Visually, they are influenced by my fiery childhood trauma. I have come to realize that my maladies are the key components in what make me who I am. They are my curse, but they are also my blessing.”

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P. 2 My Blessing, My Curse by Charles Wince

Fresh A.I.R. Gallery (Artists in Recovery) met a milestone in 2014 by celebrating 10 years as a nonprofit art gallery with a mission to exhibit the works of individuals affected by mental illness and/or substance use disorders. By bringing focus to the artistic vision, we educate the community and work to break down the stigma of these conditions.

Since opening our gallery doors in September 2004, Fresh A.I.R. Gallery has shown 60 exhibitions, displaying the artwork of more than 200 artists, and sold more than 250 pieces of artwork totaling over \$60,000. Many exhibits demonstrate the courage and struggles of the artists as they combat stigma and address social issues.

Fresh A.I.R. Gallery is a project of Southeast Healthcare Services, a comprehensive provider of mental health, chemical dependency, physical healthcare, and homeless services that has served Columbus since 1978, and has since expanded to serve seven surrounding counties. Fresh A.I.R. Gallery is located in downtown Columbus at 131 North High Street. We are open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Fresh A.I.R. Gallery's hotline is 614-744-8110. Visit our website at www.southeastinc.com/freshair.php.

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