

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Shaye Remba, Lea Remba

Telephone: 310-657-1101 Fax: 310-657-1153

FRITZ SCHOLDER: PAINTINGS AND PRINTS

The Remba Gallery is pleased to present *Fritz Scholder: Paintings and Prints*. The exhibition will take place at 462 N. Robertson Boulevard in West Hollywood from April 21 – June 2. An opening reception will be held on Saturday, April 21 from 6-8 p.m. in conjunction with the West Hollywood Galleries.

Fritz Scholder was born in Breckenridge, Minnesota in 1937. The artist attended various schools in the United States, where he studied under the California pop artist Wayne Thiebaud, and came into contact with the Sioux painter Oscar Howe. Although Scholder spent the majority of his life in the American Southwest, his artwork combines a wide array of influences: the early masters of modernism, the contemporary West Coast painters and the pop artists, to name a few.

The paintings and monotypes in the current exhibition show why Scholder has steadily become one of America's most celebrated figurative artists. In *Indians Preparing*, the artist provides the viewer with a subtle glance into an Indian ritual. The loose, yet controlled brushstrokes mask the identity of the subjects making the viewer feel like a voyeur, while his exquisite command of color determines the nuances of the mood. Another oil painting, *Man with Blue Ear*, has the same sensibilities. The variety of colors used to compose the small portrait seem to serve as a psychological map of the man's persona.

While the artist is well known for his paintings, he is also acclaimed for his monotypes. In *Mystery Woman*, the artist takes a simple subject matter and uses his mastery of line, color and mass to generate unique images. The artist depicts women partaking in everyday activities like standing, undressing and sitting, however her face is hidden leading one to question her identity. To draw the viewer further into the artwork, the figures are colored in an out of the ordinary way suggesting fantasy rather than naturalism, sparking even more intrigue about the woman's presence.

Fritz Scholder's attentiveness to the subject of his artwork and his ability to use the expressive qualities of color, endow his creations with a spirit of their own, propelling the work beyond its formal aspects.