

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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RICHARD HAMBLETON (1952-2017): **ETERNITY**

June 14 through October 6, 2018



Rodeo (Rust), 2006, Acrylic on canvas, 81 x 64 ½ in.
Courtesy ACA Galleries, New York.

New York, NY – ACA Galleries is pleased to announce **Richard Hambleton: Eternity** on view June 14 through October 6, 2018 (529 West 20th Street, NYC). This exhibition showcases major paintings and works on paper from Hambleton's signature series – **Shadowmen**, **Rodeo** and **Horse & Rider**. Widely considered the “Godfather of Street Art” his contemporaries included Jean-Michel Basquiat and Keith Haring.

Exhibition highlights include: a colossal un-stretched canvas with five life-sized trademark Shadowmen figures; several large single Shadowmen; and Rodeo paintings on canvas – these prime examples demonstrate Hambleton’s ability to expressively combine representation and gestural abstraction. Coming out of private collections the majority of these works have never been exhibited before.

Initially recognized for his **Mass Murder Series** where he created bloody “crime scenes” with splattered red paint outlining the forms of “homicide victims”; and **I Only Have Eyes For You**, a series of stenciled self-portraits wheat-pasted throughout the city. The printed images were fragile and impermanent, eventually fading into “white shadows”. He went on to cover the streets with his legendary **Shadowmen** - quickly executed black painted silhouette figures which lurked in unexpected corners and alleys and became synonymous with 80s New

York. Later he translated these figures to canvas and paper and developed his popular *Horse and Rider* - *Rodeo* themed artworks.

Hambleton is another contemporary artist whose works seems intent on changing the way we look at the heroic abstract paintings of the 1950s and 60s. - Michael Brenson (New York Times, 1985)

About Richard Hambleton:

Richard Hambleton, born in Vancouver, Canada moved to New York in the late 1970s. Along with Keith Haring and Jean-Michel Basquiat, Hambleton established himself as one of the top artists working in New York City in the 1980s. Hambleton considered his work to be public art where the city itself served as both canvas and subject matter. He was included in the Venice Biennale in 1984 and 1988. In 2009, a major exhibition, "Richard Hambleton - New York" opened in collaboration with Armani in London. The exhibition toured to multiple venues including the Moscow Museum of Modern Art. Recently, Hambleton was featured in the exhibition, *Club 57: Film, Performance, and Art in the East Village, 1978–1983*, at the Museum of Modern Art in New York. A feature length documentary about Richard Hambleton's life and work premiered last year at the Tribeca Film Festival, titled "Shadowman", before being bought and distributed worldwide by Amazon.

About ACA:

American Contemporary Art Galleries (ACA) was established in 1932 by Herman Baron. Artists Stuart Davis, Yasuo Kuniyoshi were early members. At the time, ACA was one of only three galleries in New York primarily dedicated to exhibiting the work of American artists. For over 85 years, ACA has supported artists in diverse disciplines with singular points of view. The gallery has presented over 800 exhibitions and published over 400 books and catalogues. ACA continues its tradition of featuring artists whose talent transcends their nationality, gender or race. Today ACA continues to break new ground by representing and exhibiting distinguished artists and estates. The artistic and humanitarian mission of the gallery still endures, and ACA is committed to upholding this tradition by continuing to support artists from around the world in their commitment to making significant and brave contributions to the field. www.acagalleries.com | [@acagalleries1932](https://twitter.com/acagalleries1932)

Summer Hours:

Tuesday through Friday | 11am - 6pm
Saturday through Monday | open by appointment

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