

PRESS RELEASE

Eric Siemens: *Raveling Relic*

September 8 – October 6, 2018

555 20th Street, Pier 70, San Francisco, CA  
Exhibition Hours: Monday - Saturday, 11 am - 6 pm



*Settle in the Cornice Downs*, 2018, acrylic on canvas, 72 x 144 inches (182.9 x 365.8 cm)

San Francisco, CA -- Gallery Wendi Norris is pleased to announce its third off-site exhibition, *Raveling Relic*, featuring new paintings by Eric Siemens. The exhibition will take place in the 10,000 square foot atrium of 555 20th Street, Building 113, in the Historic Pier 70 in San Francisco. The exhibition is accompanied by a publication with a contribution by Kevin Killian, celebrated poet and writer, winner of the 2010 Lambda Literary Award and the 2009 American Book Award.

*Raveling Relic* marks the solo debut exhibition for Eric Siemens, who was formerly represented by Gallery Wendi Norris as part of the collaborative artist duo Kate Eric. These thirteen new paintings represent a long journey of return to painting, after a five-year hiatus, an untangling of revered images and ideas stowed away in the artist's mind.

# GALLERY WENDI NORRIS

Currently residing in Camogli, a small fishing village on Italy's Ligurian coast, Siemens pulls from cartographic and ecclesiastical references to aid his conceptual navigation, such as Portolan Charts and ex voto paintings. Siemens's mental excavation simultaneously venerates and questions the veracity of these artistic paradigms.

Siemens's paintings feature elusive landscapes with abstract backgrounds that leave the viewer disoriented, yet awestruck. Scenes range from apparitional figures that flit against the thick, impasto foreground to sharp landmasses that dissipate and reemerge at different angles. The work harkens back to fifteenth century shipwreck paintings but uses surreal color palettes and expressive washes of acrylic paint.

The installation of the artworks will conceptually mimic the psychological journey represented. Gallery Wendi Norris will construct an intimate sculptural installation environment, enhancing the dramatic interplay of light and shadow, while embracing the grandiose architecture of the building's atrium.

This site-specific exhibition appropriates the 10,000 square foot atrium within the 20th Street Buildings at the Historic Pier 70. Building 113 was designed by civic engineer D. E. Melliss in 1885 and previously housed the Machine Shop. Located on the San Francisco waterfront, Pier 70 is comprised of eight historic office and industrial buildings known as the Union Iron Works which served for 150 years contributing to the industrialization of the west coast and both World Wars. The renovation of the building, led by Orton Development, preserves the site's history and repurposes the space for a community of modern, innovative companies. The site was chosen for its intersection between past and present, honoring the city's maritime past, while also revitalizing the space for future arts and culture events.

## ABOUT ERIC SIEMENS

Eric Siemens is represented by Gallery Wendi Norris. As a self-taught artist, Siemens's work makes reference to the psychological, exemplified by his kinetic painterly technique, which fits into the Gallery's contemporary and modern program. Formerly with Kate Eric, Siemens has been reviewed and featured in *ARTnews*, *Art in America*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, among others. Kate Eric exhibited in Europe, the Middle East, Asia, the United States, culminating in a solo exhibition at the Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum. Their artwork is also included in numerous public and private collections including the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco.

## ABOUT GALLERY WENDI NORRIS

From its global headquarters in San Francisco, Gallery Wendi Norris represents Modern and Contemporary artists working in a variety of media around the world. The gallery specializes in re-contextualizing the work of Modern artists while providing connections to contemporary art, artists, and culture. Active on both the local and international stages, Gallery Wendi Norris mounts exhibitions where they are most relevant, and also works with individual collectors and museums in both the primary and secondary markets. Founded with an emphasis on scholarship and education, the gallery produces highly researched exhibitions and catalogues, sponsors artist talks, hosts visiting academics, and engages in public art projects. Learn more at [gallerywendinorris.com](http://gallerywendinorris.com).

GALLERY  
WENDI NORRIS

Along with Eric Siemens, Gallery Wendi Norris represents: Firelei Báez, Val Britton, Leonora Carrington, María Magdalena Campos-Pons, Ana Teresa Fernández, Chris Fraser, Chitra Ganesh, Marcel Jean, Julio César Morales, Ranu Mukherjee, Yamini Nayar, Wolfgang Paalen, Miguel Angel Ríos, Eva Schlegel, Dorothea Tanning, Remedios Varo, and Peter Young. For more information on these artists visit [gallerywendinorris.com](http://gallerywendinorris.com).

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