

GALLERY SPACE AT WAGNER

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Ahora lo Tuyo No te Pertenece (60 x 48 in;
acrylic & mixed media on canvas; 2011)

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GALLERY SPACE AT WAGNER / SPRING 2012

New York University's Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, in partnership with the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, is pleased to announce the opening of *I will show you fear in a handful of dust: An Earth Day Exhibit*. Curated by NYU Steinhardt faculty Ann Chwatsky and NYU Wagner's Frankie Crescioni-Santoni, this dynamic, environmentally-focused series features paintings and installation work by New York City artist Erick Sánchez. It is staged in commemoration of international Earth Day and Earth Week at New York University. The exhibition is co-presented by the Wagner Environmental Policy & Action (WEPA), with promotional sponsorship by NYU Sustainability/Earth Week and the Student Network Exploring Arts & Culture (SNEAC). An opening reception will be held on **Wednesday, April 4th, 6:00-8:00pm**, and is open to the public via RSVP at wagner.nyu.edu/events.

Conceived as a continuation of Sánchez' critically acclaimed *Dangerous Land* project, *I will show you fear in a handful of dust* was created for the Gallery Space at Wagner as a visual manifesto—a consciousness-raising display about the urgency for environmental protection and the perils of man-originated ecological disturbances. With this series the artist gives shape to a fragile space threatened by globalization, industrialization, global warming, and other consequences of human behavior and the concomitant natural disasters which extinguish life and nature. The four semi-figurative landscapes resulting from these explorations are impactful, deliberately cautionary in tone, and executed with assertive brush stroking and inventive medium combinations. To achieve the distinctive, rich textures that have come to characterize his current practice, Sánchez experiments with both traditional and non-conventional materials, including acrylic, liquid and powder pigments, recycled rubber, and black magnum rock, among others.

Born in Ponce, Puerto Rico, Erick Sánchez is a painter and studio artist based in New York City. He studied at the San Juan Art Students League in Puerto Rico and the Art Students League of New York and has been the recipient of such awards as the Artist in the Marketplace from the Bronx Museum of Art, The Fantasy Fountain Painting Grant, and the Jean Gates Foundation Painting Award. His artist residencies include The Ruth Katzman Vytlacil Residency in Sparkill, NY, and The Marchtz Residency Summer Program at the Institute for American Universities in Aix-en-Provence, France. Sánchez artwork is part of the permanent collection at the Tucson Museum of Art and his solo shows include: *Dangerous Land* at the 2011 Governors Island Art Fair in New York; *The Journey: Point of No Return* at the Museum of the Americas in Puerto Rico; and *Alternate Routes* at Rhode Island University. Selected group exhibitions include: *Paralelos Imposibles: Sánchez-Edwards* at the Abrazo Interno Gallery in New York; *Glimpse: Enigmatic Visions* at the Williams Bennett Gallery in Soho, New York; and *Diálogo 365* at the Ice Box Gallery in Philadelphia. Additional samples of his work may be viewed at ericksanchez.net.

I will show you fear in a handful of dust: An Earth Day Exhibit runs April 4 through May 31, 2012. The Gallery Space at Wagner is located on the 2nd floor of the Puck Building, at 295 Lafayette Street, corner of Houston Street (B/D/F/M trains to Broadway-Lafayette, 6 train to Bleecker, or N/R/W trains to Prince Street). Viewing hours are Monday–Thursday 9:00am–9:00pm, Fridays 9:00am–7:00pm, and Saturdays 9:30am–6:00pm (closed on Sundays). For more information, including adjusted holiday hours, please contact Frankie Crescioni-Santoni at 212.998.7400.

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Erick Sánchez and a detail from *I will show you fear in a handful of dust* (108 x 60 in; acrylic & mixed media on canvas; 2012). Photo by Kate Daigneault.

For information on purchasing artwork, please contact the artist directly at ericksanchezart@gmail.com

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