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Contact Erin Cluley Gallery
press@erincluley.com

Erin Cluley Gallery Opens *RENÉ TREVIÑO: CODEX* on Saturday October 15th

[Dallas, Texas – October 4, 2016] **ERIN CLULEY GALLERY** will open an exhibition of new paintings by Baltimore-based artist **RENÉ TREVIÑO** on Saturday October 15th, 2016 at 414 Fabrication Street. The exhibition will open with a reception for the artist from 6:00-8:00 pm. Treviño's exhibition will open in conjunction with Art Walk West – a self-guided tour of artist studios, galleries, and public art in West Dallas.

In his second solo exhibition with Erin Cluley Gallery, René Treviño continues to use symbols from Ancient Mexico and Aztec calendars. For his exhibition of all new work titled **CODEX** – Treviño has been researching imagery specifically from ancient Mexican codices – books written by Pre-Columbian and colonial-era Aztecs.

Treviño takes this research into his artwork and creates iconic reinterpretations addressing a personal quest for heroism, bravery and a need to define a place in the world. Treviño consistently works with themes of identity throughout his work – challenging traditional ideas of race and sexual orientation. The artist states, “While we have made great strides, we are still lacking the representation of fully diverse voices so I feel compelled to make thoughtful and beautiful work that confronts societal assumptions and gives new insight into our human experience.”

In his series of new paintings titled *Renaming the Constellations*, Treviño reinterprets the star charts by stripping them of their Greek/Western mythos and replacing them with names from Ancient Mexico and personal family ancestry. In the renaming process, the artist feels that he is honoring the stars which had different names than the ones we know now – and will have different names long after we are gone.

The majority of Treviño's work is made with acrylic on Mylar – a plastic based, translucent paper. The process creates images that take on the look of crisp reproductions but are painstakingly made by hand.

About René Treviño

René Treviño was born in Kingsville, Texas. He received his BFA in Fine Arts from the School of Visual Arts (SVA) in 2003 and his MFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) in 2005.

He has shown at the Wadsworth Athenaeum in Hartford, CT; the Baltimore Museum of Art, Goliath Visual Space in Brooklyn, NY; White Box in New York; the Delaware Center for Contemporary Art; the Arlington Arts Center in Arlington, VA; the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture in Baltimore, MD; and Pentimenti Gallery in Philadelphia, PA. He was also included in the 2007 WPA/Corcoran OPTIONS Biennial in Washington DC and was awarded a 2009 Baltimore Creative Fund Individual Artist Grant and won the 2009 Trawick Prize.

He was an artist-in-residence at the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, MA and the Creative Alliance in Baltimore, MD and has been invited to participate in the AIR Serenbe program in Serenbe, GA in 2015.

His work has been featured in Art Papers, New American Painters, Baltimore Sun, Baltimore City Paper, Philadelphia Enquirer, Washington Blade, Washington Post as well as several online publications.

Treviño currently resides in Baltimore, MD.

About Erin Cluley Gallery

Erin Cluley Gallery is a contemporary art gallery representing emerging and mid-career artists from Dallas and the United States. The gallery presents a provocative program of artists working in both traditional and alternative forms including painting, sculpture, new media, photography, sculptural installation and public intervention.

The 2000 square foot space joined a creative movement in the West Dallas/ Trinity Groves development at the foot of the Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge in West Dallas and has been in operation since 2014.

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For more information or images please contact:

Erin Cluley, Erin Cluley Gallery

press@erincluley.com + 214 538 1148

414 Fabrication Street, Dallas Texas 75212, United States of America