



**PGARTVENTURE GALLERY  
2130A BOSTON POST ROAD  
LARCHMONT, NY 10538**

**PRESS RELEASE/FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**PGARTVENTURE GALLERY PRESENTS**

**ROLF SAINT-AGNÈS  
“UNPLUGGED”  
Paintings and Installation**

**November 5 to November 28, 2009  
Opening Reception: November 5 from 6-8PM**

PGartventure Gallery is pleased to announce **UNPLUGGED**, an exhibition of paintings by the French artist Rolf Saint-Agnès. The exhibit will run from November 5 to November 28, 2009 at the PGartventure Gallery in Larchmont, NY. The public is invited to an opening reception on November 5<sup>th</sup>, from 6-8 PM.

What's Unplugged? Rolf Saint-Agnès offers this definition, “Unplugged is a state of being mentally free in a world full of questions which tie us to ourselves.”

On the theme of current events, mixing humor with social awareness, Rolf Saint-Agnès' paintings, full of color and movement, portray his sensitivity and imagination. The paintings will be covered with newspapers and unveiled by the public during the opening.

In this exhibit Rolf Saint-Agnès tries to break all the barriers that hold us to the past. He says, “The aim is to reach a state of being out of touch from anything surrounding oneself, a state of freedom, of being ‘unplugged’.” PGartventure Gallery owner Pascale Goldenstein continues, “Save energy, unplug yourself and come discover Rolf's work. Taste the ‘French Kiss,’ visit ‘Silicone Valley’ and have ‘Breakfast in America,’ among many other unplugged pieces.”

The gallery will be open to the public Wednesdays through Saturdays from Noon to 5 pm and by appointment.

### **About Rolf Saint-Agnès**

Rolf Saint-Agnès, a French artist, moved to New York City in 1991 and spent nine years living in Soho where he chose to express himself through pop art, portraying different aspects of his adopted city with a mixture of irony and affection, using his scathing sense of humor to depict the shortcomings of a consumer society. At that time the AIDS epidemic was raging in New York and Rolf offered his services to several anti-AIDS campaigns including the NYC Department of Health and the Arthur Ashe Foundation. According to the artist, the message had to be optimistic so he created two happily embracing condoms that were reproduced on post cards and circulated throughout New York by the thousands. The campaign was a great success. Rolf built a solid reputation in New York. Exhibits of his work were much remarked, from Gallery One, Soho to a show sponsored by Japan Airlines at JFK Airport. Other shows were held at the Jacob Trapp Gallery in Summit, New Jersey, at 450 Broadway Gallery and at the Art Expo in the Jacob Javits Center. The New England Center for Contemporary Art selected one of his drawings for their permanent exhibition. He collaborated with New York Cares by doing a mural in Washington Irving High School for their second Coverall Ball, and illustrated various magazine covers. Over an almost 10-year period, he acquired a faithful group of American clients. At the time he also became known in Sweden where he had numerous shows at the Alex Wiberg Gallery in Stockholm and was chosen to participate in Stockholm's Art Fair.

Rolf has always been interested in environmental issues and gradually, as he became more concerned about the state of the planet, his style evolved and became distinctly surrealist. At this point he abandoned his New York lifestyle, retreating to live in a wood cabin without electricity or heat in northern California near the Mendocino National Forest. He lived there for a year, drawing inspiration from his surroundings and assessing his artistic activity during his stay in the United States.

He has since moved back to France, first to Paris, and now lives near Toulouse in Southwestern France. He continues to be very active, with shows taking place in museums and cultural art centers both in Paris and Southern France. Rolf's style has evolved significantly from the pop art style he favored in New York. He has totally abandoned the very detailed way he had of painting and now paints in a more liberated fashion. His paintings, full of color and movement, portray his sensitivity and imagination. They have become an important mode of expression, allowing him to communicate his deepest emotions, and leaving no one indifferent.