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## **Duality: Opposing Forces by André Desjardins**

**La Jolla, CA, May 24, 2017** - Monarch | Arredon Contemporary is delighted to present *DUALITY*: new works by French-Canadian artist André Desjardins opening to the public on Thursday, June 15th with a reception from 6-8pm at Monarch | Arredon Contemporary, located at 862 Prospect St, Suite A, La Jolla, CA 92037.

*In Duality*: Desjardins speaks of balance between the push and pull of our everyday lives. Balance between anxiety, dissolution, peace, and fulfillment. *“Whether it is through painting or through sculpture, I endeavor to transcend the mere representation of a subject to approach the interiority, the spirit. I question the mysteries of life, love, and the world in which we live. The serenity with which I infuse my subjects is my way of denouncing the demanding world in which we live, a world that encourages performance at any cost, rampant consumerism, pollution, stress, and the over-exposure of violence and human stupidity in the media. I offer a pause. My artistic work can be considered as a celebration of slowness, of the sweetness of life, of the simple pleasure of being here, alive, of existing.”* – André Desjardins

Using charcoal, oils and acrylic paints, Desjardins mainly features faces. The heavily textured backgrounds, loose lines and generous use of color direct the viewer away from the physical reality of the subject and into a contemplation of the emotion portrayed. Both his paintings and bronze sculptures are androgynous and nonracial displaying complex emotions.

André Desjardins was born in 1964 in Hauterive, France and earned his bachelor’s degree in Art from the University of Montreal Canada in 1986. In 2005, Desjardins began dedicating himself full-time to his art and has since added bronze sculptures to his vision. A culmination of 30 years of artistic exploration, Desjardins’ work has garnered an international following with private and corporate collectors. His paintings and sculptures can be found in the permanent collections and archives of; Museum of the Americas, Doral, Florida; The Latino Art Museum, Pomona, California; Andrews Art Museum, Andrews, North Carolina; MOCA Museum, Hotsprings, Arkansas; and the Shanghai Duolun Museum of Modern Art, Shanghai, China.

Duality will be on view from June 15th – July 15th.

Monarch | Arredon Contemporary will be hosting a Media Preview and opportunity to meet the artist prior to opening. Please contact gallery owner, Elsie Arredondo at Elsie@MonarchFineArt for details.

**MONARCH | ARREDON CONTEMPORARY** is La Jolla’s small and exclusive gallery of emerging and mid-career artists founded on respect, passion and trust. MONARCH | ARREDON CONTEMPORARY offers high-quality crafted artworks along with the category expertise and individual-focused approach to collectors, art professionals, and art enthusiasts. We are open Thursday through Sunday 11 am to 5 pm, and by appointment Monday through Wednesday.

Monarch | Arredon Contemporary | 862 Prospect St, Suite A, La Jolla, Calif. 92037  
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