



Press Release concerning the 50th anniversary of the fight of the century between Joe Frazier and Muhammad Ali

The renowned Wegerich Fine Art Collection has acquired the original artwork depicted on the cover of the current issue of the well-known US boxing magazine "The Ring".

The cover of the international boxing magazine depicts the legendary first fight between Joe Frazier and Muhammad Ali. The artwork is painted by the famous British painter Richard T Slone.

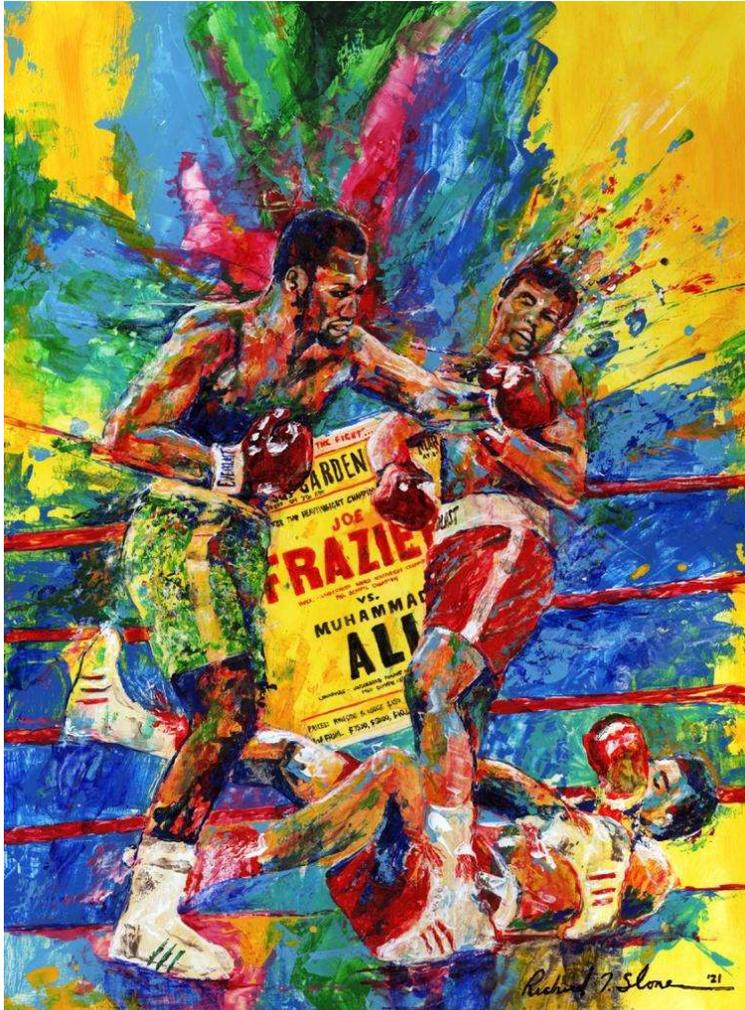
March 08, 2021 marks the 50th anniversary of the historic first fight between Muhammad Ali and Joe Frazier, which went down in the history books as the "Fight of the Century". Both boxers were undefeated at the time. The world stood still as the fight for the world heavyweight championship belt took place in the legendary Madison Square Garden. With its current March issue, the well-known U.S. boxing magazine, which itself has its hundred years anniversary next year, would like to commemorate this historic boxing match between two legends. The cover artwork was painted by Richard T. Slone in the style of the time - as a homage to LeRoy Neiman, the first well-known major US sports painter, who painted the cover pages for all the major boxing fights in the seventies and eighties. Characteristic for LeRoy Neiman are the bright colors and bright tones that outshine everything.

In this case, the artist has a very special relationship with this artwork. Slone once learned to box under the great Joe Frazier before deciding against boxing for a career as an artist. Frazier was a sort of second father to Slone in this regard. Slone also met Muhammad Ali many times during his lifetime. He was once praised by him as "the greatest artist of all time."

"We are very proud to have been able to acquire this very historic work of art for our prestigious collection. I know that interest in the original has been expressed from all over the world. It doesn't get more historic than this: Joe Frazier, Muhammad Ali, Madison Square Garden, Ring Magazine, LeRoy Neiman and Richard T. Slone. This artwork will have a very special place in our prestigious collection. The Wegerich Fine Art Collection will make the original available to the public through exhibitions. This painting is so historic and so fantastically painted - everyone must see it," says collector Ingo Wegerich.

The parties have agreed not to disclose the purchase price.

The artwork*



*Upon special request, the image will be made available in high resolution for publication purposes.

About the collection – Ingo Wegerich Fine Art Collection

The Ingo Wegerich Fine Art Collection is a fine art collection with a special focus on the fighting art genre.

What is special about this collection is that the works of art, without exception originals, are not only artistically convincing, but also have a contemporary historical relevance, depicting great historical fights or fighters that inspired a generation. Just think of the 1930s, for example, when Joe Louis and Max Schmeling boxed while millions of people followed the fights on the radio. Most of the original artworks were also featured on the front pages of international boxing magazines or

the official fight programs. These artworks thus not only tell a story, but are themselves a piece of contemporary history.

This collection is one of the most extensive of its kind, ranging from the thirties to the present. The contemporary works of art are often signed by the fighters, sometimes directly after the depicted fights, making them all the more historical and valuable.

About the artist – Richard T. Slone

The British painter Richard T. Slone was born in 1974. He has lived in Las Vegas, Nevada for many years. For 24 years now, Slone has been painting the greatest boxers for the International Boxing Hall of Fame. He has been asked to paint the official covers of the official programs for nearly every major boxing match. He has been the official artist of major boxing matches such as Mayweather vs Pacquiao, Mayweather vs McGregor or Canelo vs Golovkin. However, Slone also paints beyond boxing. For example, he was the official artist for the South African national soccer team at the 2010 World Cup. In addition to his sports paintings, Slone is also known for his wildlife artwork. Richard T. Slone's clients include many celebrities.

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