



Press Release

50th anniversary of the Ali vs. Frazier fight of the century - the prestigious Wegerich Collection has acquired two highly regarded works of art in commemoration of the fight.

March 06, 2021: The March front pages of the well-known boxing magazines "The Ring" and "Boxing News" feature the legendary first fight between Muhammad Ali and Joe Frazier 50 years ago. The Wegerich Fine Art Collection, which specializes in contemporary art related to fighting sports, has acquired both originals, painted by Las Vegas-based artist Richard T Slone.

March 8, 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 belts of the WBC and WBA took place in the legendary Madison Square Garden in New York. With their March issues, both, the well-known U.S. boxing magazine The Ring and the British boxing magazine Boxing News would like to once again commemorate this historic boxing match between two legends. Both covers are painted by the well-known boxing painter Richard T Slone. The front page of Ring Magazine is in the style of the time - as a tribute to LeRoy Neiman, the first great U.S. sports painter, who painted the front pages for all major boxing fights in the seventies and eighties. Characteristic for LeRoy Neiman are the bright colors and light tones. The front page of the British Boxing News, on the other hand, is painted in Slone's own style - very dynamic and realistic.

The artist has a very special relationship with the artwork. Slone once learned to box under the great Joe Frazier before deciding against boxing for a career as an artist. Frazier was like a 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 these very historic works of art for our prestigious collection. I know that interest has been expressed in the two originals from all over the world. It doesn't get more historical than this. Joe Frazier, Muhammad Ali, Madison Square Garden, Ring Magazine, Boxing News, LeRoy Neiman and Richard T Slone. These two artworks will have a very special place in our prestigious collection. We will show the originals to the public via exhibitions as soon as this pandemic is over. The paintings are so historical and so fantastically painted - everyone must see them," says collector Ingo Wegerich.

The parties have agreed not to disclose the purchase price.





About the Art Collection - Ingo Wegerich Fine Art Collection

The Ingo Wegerich Fine Art Collection is an art collection specialized in contemporary art in connection with fighting arts. 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 relevance, depicting great historical fights or fighters that inspired a generation. Just think of the 1930s, for example, where 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 contemporary history. The 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

British painter Richard T Slone, born in 1974, lives in Las Vegas, Nevada for many years. For the past 24 years, Slone has painted the greatest boxers for the International Boxing Hall of Fame. He has been asked to paint the front pages of the official fight programs for nearly every major boxing fight. He was the official artist of major boxing fights such as Mayweather vs Pacquiao, Mayweather vs McGregor or Canelo vs Golovkin. But Slone also paints beyond boxing. 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. His clients include international companies and world-famous celebrities.

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