



Press Release

Well-known American sports writer Dan Rafael, considered the world's leading boxing journalist, will be writing for the website of Wegerich Fine Art Collection

1 November 2021: Dan Rafael, who is followed by nearly 300,000 boxing enthusiasts from all over the world on his social media channels, particularly Twitter, will be writing for the Wegerich Fine Art Collection, where he will draw on his boxing expertise to write the background texts for artworks portraying great boxing matches and famous boxers.

Dan Rafael, who was described by UFC megastar Connor McGregor simply as "the boxing guy," has been working as a sports journalist since 1993. Rafael has written exclusively about boxing since 2000, first at USA Today until 2005 and then for ESPN from 2005 to 2020. In 2013, Rafael received the Nat Fleischer Award from the Boxing Writers Association of America for career excellence in boxing journalism. Since leaving ESPN, Rafael has been writing for various outlets, including The Ring – known as "the bible of boxing," World Boxing News and others, and also publishes his own daily boxing newsletter, "Fight Freaks Unite" at danrafael.substack.com.

Ingo Wegerich, an attorney, art collector and namesake of the Wegerich Fine Art Collection, commented as follows: "We are very pleased that we have been able to bring in Dan Rafael to write for our website. It is very important for these wonderful artworks, which document great fights and fighters, to be introduced by someone with extensive and detailed knowledge. We could not have found a better boxing expert for this purpose than Dan Rafael." "Ingo is a great boxing fan and his devotion to the sport has led to his incredible collection of artwork portraying so many of the greatest fighters and fights. It is an honor to write about them for his website," Rafael said.

The first artwork for which Dan Rafael has written the explanatory text is a painting by the well-known British boxing artist Richard T Slone for the WBC/IBF welterweight world championship bout between the defending champion, the American boxer Errol Spence Jr, and Filipino boxing legend Manny Pacquiao, which was to take place on 21 August 2021 at T-Mobile Arena in Las Vegas. Slone's piece was to be the official artwork for the bout and was slated to appear on the cover of the program. However, Spence Jr was unable to fight due to an eye injury and Pacquiao faced off against Yordenias Ugas instead for the WBA welterweight belt. "Pacman" lost the fight by unanimous decision. Many details and insider information about the cancelled mega-bout can now be found in the very informative accompanying text by Dan Rafael.

About the art collection: the Ingo Wegerich Fine Art Collection

The Ingo Wegerich Fine Art Collection is an art collection specializing in contemporary boxing-related art. What makes this collection unique is that its pieces, all of them originals, are not only of high artistic quality but also have relevance as contemporary history, as they show major historic bouts and fighters who have inspired many. One need think only of the boxing matches in the 1930's, when Joe Louis faced off against Max Schmeling and millions of people sat in front of their radio sets following the match. Many of the originals were also featured on the covers of international boxing magazines or in the official programs for the fights. In other words, these pieces not only tell a story, but are themselves contemporary history. The collection is one of the most extensive of its kind and includes artwork from the 1930's to the present. Many of the more recent pieces were signed by the fighters themselves, in some cases right after the fights they portray, making them even more historic and valuable.

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