

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JULY 28, 2005

CONTACT: Donna Rosenblum
(505) 983-7791

OLYMPIC FIRE IN THE NEW MEXICO DESERT

International Artist Will Debut Live at Eclectic Treasures' Santa Fe Gallery on August 5 & 6

Santa Fe, NM--The recent heat wave is not the only thing that has mercury rising. The art of international Olympic Artist **Euripides "Rip" Kastaris** will also ignite creative passions at **Eclectic Treasures Gallery LLC**, Santa Fe's newest and most unique art venue. The artist will be at the downtown gallery, located at 123 Galisteo Street, to meet collectors during a reception and debut of his new series, "Art Fresco," on Friday, August 5 and also on Saturday August 6 from 6 PM to 9 PM for his showcase called "Face to Face: Euripides Kastaris in Santa Fe" (link to invitation listed at the bottom).

Mr. Kastaris--uniquely credited as an official artist for both the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) and Greece--has created original art for Salt Lake 2002, Athens 2004 and Torino 2006. A Valedictorian graduate from Washington University's School of Fine Arts in St. Louis, he has been commissioned as an artist and creative director by corporations, cultural organizations and foundations.

The award-winning artist was also commissioned to create an epic mural, which became the focal point of the VIP suite at Athens preeminent Olympic stadium, "Spyros Louis," the historic amphitheater used for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the XXVIII Olympiad. The mural-- "KYKLOS-Circle of Glory," a panoramic Michelangelo like fresco with sculptures--was permanently installed just before Athens 2004 and remains as a museum type tribute for generations to come.

"I first discovered the art of Rip Kastaris exhibited just below the Acropolis in Athens shortly after the Olympic Games. I was mesmerized, and knew our customers in Santa Fe would be also," said **Donna Rosenblum** of Eclectic Treasures. "In spite of traffic being soft this summer, Kastaris has been selling in this market at a record pace. We placed eight of Rip's pieces in the last few weeks alone," she added.

Eclectic Treasures is also known for its uniquely large assortment of original European paintings, quality bronze, jade and ivory sculptures priced competitively, along with rare jewelry and collectibles.

Kastaris' newest series "Art Fresco," will be featured at the August 5-6 debut taking attendees on a hero's mythic journey using a wet-on-wet technique developed thousands of years ago, which he will demonstrate using rich paints and real gold leaf to design two new creations. Also featured during this special debut will be **Buddy Lee** and his exclusive jewelry designs showcased at this gallery.

Featured on the PBS special "The Greek Americans," Kastaris weaves unique contemporary images out of ancient myths and classical forms. These creations range from an image on a DVD for the rock star "Sting" to sacred Byzantine Icons to original art used for the worldwide environmental movement.

While New Mexico has always been a Mecca for great art, Kastaris' world-renowned images will add another facet to the Santa Fe marketplace at Eclectic Treasures. Attending the debut and reception is free, but reservations are needed by calling (505) 983-7791. Just specify the date you wish to attend. For the media: Please also identify your news organization and any special interview requests.

The link for the invitation to this event is www.petrafineart.com/presentation/santa_fe.jpg. More information on the artist is available at www.petrafineart.com or www.kyklos.org, and the online link for the gallery is www.santafestation.com/eclectic_treasures. Guests, collectors and media are all welcome at the debut.