

HUDSON VALLEY CENTER for CONTEMPORARY ART

**1701 Main Street
Peekskill, New York 10566
(914) 788-7166 www.hvcca.com**

*Press Release
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The Language of Reverence: A Series of Conversations on Art and Spirituality

Peekskill, NY Can an artist achieve a deeply felt sense of awe without the trappings of iconography? **reverence**, the latest exhibition at the Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art (HVCCA) in Peekskill, New York, explores the transcendent, the elegiac, perhaps even the divine without ritual or doctrine.

As part of the exhibition, HVCCA is sponsoring a series of conversations about art and spirituality. The Language of Reverence series will feature artists, religious leaders, scholars, and others who can provide engaging insights, opinions and perspectives on the role of art in spirituality, the influence of spirituality on art, and the effects of art on those who experience it.

On Sunday June 11 at 6 pm, HVCCA will host the first Language of Reverence conversation featuring internationally renowned artist and educator Tim Rollins+K.O.S., founder of K.O.S. (Kids of Survival). Rollins and K.O.S. collaborated on *The Temptation of Saint Anthony*, -- *the Nicolaitans*, which is included in the **reverence** exhibition. The conversation moderator will be Helio Fred Garcia, Chair of the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Neuberger Museum of Art, and member of the associate faculty of the Starr King School for the Ministry in Berkeley, CA.

WHAT The Language of Reverence: A Conversation on Art and Spirituality

WHO Artist, Educator and Preacher **Tim Rollins+K.O.S.** (Kids of Survival) and conversation moderator **Helio Fred Garcia**, Chair of the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Neuberger Museum of Art, and member of the associate faculty of the Starr King School for the Ministry in Berkeley, CA.

WHEN Sunday June 11 at 6:00 pm

WHERE Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art
1701 Main Street Peekskill, NY 10566

COST Members \$8, non-members \$12.

In the early 1980s, Rollins established K.O.S. when he was a special education teacher in a public school in the South Bronx. There he established the Art and Knowledge Workshop for students with learning disabilities. K.O.S. is based on an intensive mentoring relationship with youth. Through rigorous visual arts training, exhibitions and immersion in art history, students prepare themselves for long-term involvement in the arts and education. Youth attend studio classes as often as 15 hours each week. "K.O.S. offers an alternative family format when so often male relationships are relegated to street gangs," says Rollins. "Our all-male group has a close-knit relationship and the active approval of the community." All of the current K.O.S. young people are completing high school and preparing for college. Five former students are now in college, and two have had professional art exhibitions.

Other Language of Reverence conversations are planned for September, October, and November.

The Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art is located at 1701 Main Street in Peekskill, New York. The Center is open Saturdays and Sundays, from 11am - 6pm. Group tours are available by appointment throughout the year. Admission: \$5.00 adult; \$1.00 student; Members free. For more information on the HVCCA's exhibits and programs, www.hvcca.com, e-mail info@hvcca.com or call 914-788-7166.

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