

## Groundbreaking New Gallery Project Names Distinguished Artists for First Run of Exhibitions

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**WASHINGTON, DC** - April 11, 2008 - Hamiltonian Artists, a new artist-centric fellowship program for aspiring innovative artists in Washington, DC, has named 10 local talented artists to anchor its inaugural year of exhibitions through 2009. Housed in a sustainably designed exhibition space on U Street, NW, Hamiltonian Gallery is the first green gallery in the District. The Hamiltonian project is a part of a larger social entrepreneurship effort that aims to spur community revitalization with an emphasis on environmental responsibility and art. The distinguished group of 10 emerging talents, known as the So-Hamiltonian Fellows, and the groundbreaking exhibition space will make this synergetic project one of the most exciting new entrants in the D.C. art scene in years.

Hamiltonian Gallery proudly presents the 10 inaugural So-Hamiltonian Fellows:

- Christian Benefiel
- Anne Chan
- MacLean Davis
- Leah Frankel
- Alex Gutierrez
- Linda Hesh
- Al Miner
- Youngmi Organ
- Bryan Rojsuontikul
- Michael Enn Sirvet

About the Selection Process: The So-Hamiltonian Fellows were chosen from a pool of over 125 applicants by an External Review Panel which includes some of the guiding lights of DC's art scene: Philip Barlow, Linda Day Clark, Annie Gawlak, Nevin Kelly, John Penny, Foon Sham, Tim Tate. Hamiltonian Artists deeply appreciates their enthusiastic participation in this endeavor.

**About HAMILTONIAN ARTISTS:** Hamiltonian Artists is a 501c (3) non-profit organization dedicated to support the professional development of emerging visual artists. Its mission is to build a dynamic community of forward-thinking artists and effective visual art leaders by providing professional development opportunities for these aspiring new artists and by advancing their entrepreneurial success. Hamiltonian Artists offers an annual national competitive fellowship program for ten promising innovative artists. All So-Hamiltonian Fellows will be provided with: a stipend, representation by the Hamiltonian Gallery, an annual focused exhibition, seminars and mentorship programs led by arts and business leaders, and career placement assistance. Along with traditional representation, Hamiltonian Artists also offers two live/work studios in Washington DC.

(<http://www.hamiltonianartists.org>)

With guidance from its Board of Directors, Hamiltonian Artists is led by its Executive Director, Dale Ihnken, a Pratt and MICA alumnus and a founder of the Current Gallery of Baltimore City. Baltimore native and Corcoran College of Art + Design graduate Jacqueline Ionita, is the Gallery Director for the Hamiltonian Gallery.

About HAMILTONIAN GALLERY: Hamiltonian Gallery is a new, dynamic art space in the heart of the burgeoning 14th and U Street cultural district in Washington DC, home to many of the city's best contemporary art galleries. With an anticipated opening date of July 2008, the Hamiltonian Gallery will feature the So-Hamiltonian Fellows as well as other established Gallery artists.

About the Founder: Paul So is the visionary founder for both the Hamiltonian Artists and the Hamiltonian Gallery. He is a painter and a physics professor at George Mason University. As a scientist in a highly competitive field, he appreciated the tremendous benefits of the post-doctoral training opportunity that he received at the beginning of his career. At the same time, as an artist, he understands the transformative power of art and the need to nurture new artists. The Hamiltonian Artists and the Hamiltonian Gallery were founded to create a new institutional structure in Washington DC to support emerging artists, broaden cultural dialogue within the community and make visual art accessible to a diverse audience.

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