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Press-quality photos available upon request

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Exchange by Marko Remec, 35" x 55" x 2", 2011

POWER & ART: CONCEPTUAL CONTEMPORARY SCULPTURE BY MARKO REMEC **Four Works on Display at the Fernando Luis Alvarez Gallery**

STAMFORD, CT – The Fernando Luis Alvarez Gallery is proud to announce the representation of conceptual sculptor Marko Remec, whose work is currently on view at the gallery's three year anniversary exhibition.

Using a variety of mediums from paper and wood to metal and currency, Marko Remec is an NYC-based artist who creates intellectualized pieces that converge issues of power and representation. The works speak to structures of influence with a playful wit, communicating the inherent struggles that these structures produce in our everyday lives. Currently exhibiting in the gallery's group exhibition, Remec presents four sculptures that draw simultaneously upon contemporary issues and the artist's own personal history.

Mantel My Father Never Finished consists of a shaped section of oak, cut over 30 years ago from a tree at the artist's childhood home. Remec's father originally planned to construct a mantel for the living room fireplace but abandoned the project. Reclaiming the object after decades of nonuse, Remec has assembled a sculpture the exact height of the intended mantel using no screws or connectors. Instead the piece fits together like a jigsaw puzzle—a powerful statement of generational continuity and filial recognition.

The artist also exhibits work from his ongoing totem series, which examines the indigenous art form as a way of marking events and interpreting cultural histories. *You Talking To Me? (Baby Totem)* is the third work in the series to utilize convex safety mirrors. Figured into a cube rather than the traditional totem pole, the commonplace objects evoke a strange and alien organism. The work extends Remec's investigation into the abject paranoia of the modern suburban condition, transforming the mirrors from devices of

security into instruments of disorientation.

Equally timely, *Wall Outlets, Power Series* features 32 duplex electrical outlets arranged in a minimalist grid. The work plays on Remec's longstanding interest in "systems of power," while also questioning energy dependency from an environmental perspective.

While *Wall Outlets, Power Series* may suggest potential viewer participation, Remec's *Exchange* straightforwardly demands it. Viewers are expected to replace one of the 64 dollar bills signed by the artist with a bill of equal or greater value drawn from their own wallets. The bills are displayed in a wooden frame against green felt, reminiscent of a gaming board one might find in a casino or gaming hall. The gamble lies in whether Remec's signature will one day be worth more than the monetary value of the bill—a wry comment on his history as an investment banker, as well as the speculative nature of today's art market and its fetishism of the artist's gesture.

Remec's work is available through the Fernando Luis Alvarez Gallery located at 96 Bedford St. Stamford, CT. The current show will be on display until February 12th, 2013. The artist is currently preparing for two solo shows in 2013 at MASS MOCA and at the Fernando Luis Alvarez Gallery.

About Marko Remec

Marko Remec visualizes the oft-invisible aspects of the global political machine—threat, negotiation, and compromise. Having spent twenty-five years as a Mergers & Acquisitions specialist at two of the leading financial institutions on Wall Street, he is well versed in "corporate warfare" and the inextricable link between economic and actualized conflict. A keen observer of the tactics used to coerce, pacify, outmaneuver, and outright bamboozle in high-powered transactions, Remec translates his firsthand experience to conceptual sculpture with wry yet playful wit. Remec graduated with degrees in Studio Art and Chemistry from Williams College and earned his MBA from Stanford University's Graduate School of Business. His work will be part of the Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art's Peekskill Public Art Project in Fall 2012, and he will have a solo installations exhibited at Mass MOCA and the Fernando Luis Alvarez Gallery in Summer 2013.

About the Fernando Luis Alvarez Gallery

The Fernando Luis Alvarez Gallery was founded by contemporary artist Fernando Luis Alvarez with the goal of providing other artists with what he always yearned from a gallery, yet which he never received. The Gallery's mission is to curate, exhibit, sell, and promote contemporary artists that incite intrigue and empower its patrons, collectors and communities. We are committed to:

- the advancement of the Arts in economic, cultural, and philanthropic ventures
- creating a dialogue between artists and collectors, and providing them with a meeting ground and marketplace through our gallery
- selecting artists who not only exemplify astounding creative talent, but also have the capacity to grow and develop within our brand
- recognizing the importance of telling a story, and only choosing artist who can contribute in profound ways to that story.

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