



Anderson Contemporary
180 Maiden Lane / 917-575-5972

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FIRST ART GALLERY TO CALL NYC'S FINANCIAL DISTRICT "HOME"

Internationally acclaimed photographer RUSSELL JAMES to be featured.

October 15 - November 15, 2015.

NEW YORK CITY (September 23, 2015) - Anderson Contemporary (art gallery) will soon join the new 'hip' frontier of New York's Financial District when it opens its doors mid October.

This waterfront downtown financial district, aka "FiDi", has quickly gained much attention by its recent resurgence. Once considered a "ghost town", over \$30 billion has been spent rebuilding the area, creating an influx of development; including residential buildings, restaurants, high-end shops and hotels.

Ronni Anderson, founder of **Anderson Contemporary**, chose to branch out from traditional art districts, and carve a niche in FiDi culture by bringing Contemporary art to the trending area. The gallery will be located in the expansive lobby space of **180 Maiden Lane**. Anderson Contemporary is proud to play a significant role in what has already been deemed as, one of the most talked about neighborhood comeback tales in New York City!

ABOUT THE SHOW

Russell James merges his deep understanding of light, shape and form to create a medley of stunning and provocative images. This exhibit is a portrait of his unique and ever-evolving photographic style, displayed through **Angels**, **Seminole Spirit** and **Nomad Two Worlds**, three highly esteemed and diverse bodies of work.



ANGELS offers an unprecedented view into James' most intimate portrait sittings. Through his personalized approach to the creative process, James enables his subjects to expose their natural beauty and playful femininity with confidence and an ebullience that radiates through his imagery. As the artist states, "It is in this environment of trust, as opposed to sexuality, where the images become the most powerfully intimate and sensual." **ANGELS**, while undeniably provocative in its varied depictions of the contemporary nude, is inherently a celebration of female beauty, strength and individuality.

SEMINOLE SPIRIT presents an artistic interpretation of The Seminole Tribe of Florida. In 2012, with the blessing of Chief James E. Billie, Russell James embarked on a two-year exploration and artistic interpretation of The Seminole Tribe of Florida. Inspired by James' collaboration, supermodel Behati Prinsloo agreed to become an artistic partner in 2013. Ms. Prinsloo appears as the 'Seminole Spirit,' a metaphor for the strength, vision, beauty and cultural relevance that James says, "emanates from The Seminole Tribe of Florida." The project's outcome is a stunning visual interpretation of The Tribe's cultural progression and modern day relevance, in sensual and dramatic themes.

NOMAD TWO WORLDS offers a collaboration between James and several indigenous artists from Australia, Haiti and Florida. This collaborative art initiative was inspired after James heard the famous "apology" in 2008 by the then Prime Minister of Australia to the Indigenous Australians. The artists who collaborated used James' sensuous photographic imagery as a canvas upon which to paint their story. The result is a striking combination of the painters' color, geometric shapes, dots and swirls and James' dynamic images of figures and landscapes.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Internationally renowned photographer **Russell James'** strongly idiosyncratic style is heavily influenced by the light, shape, and form of the stunning landscapes that surrounded him growing up in Western Australia. James has used this natural inspiration to create diverse fine art and photography collections that include striking portraits, landscapes, and explorations of ancient and modern culture. His collections have been exhibited around the world including Tokyo, Berlin, Stockholm, Sydney, New York, Los Angeles, and Aspen. His fashion spreads and celebrity portraits have appeared in and on the covers of *Vogue* and a vast array of international art, fashion and photography journals. In 2009, he joined the prestigious ranks of Irving Penn and Helmut Newton as a resident artist of CAMERA WORK, the world's leading gallery for contemporary photography



and vintage master works, based in Berlin, Germany.

Anderson Contemporary represents a diverse group of visionary artists who work in painting, photography, mixed media and sculpture. Future exhibitions will continue to incorporate solo and group shows, in addition to select collaborative exhibitions.

*** Private media appointments can be scheduled with Ronni Anderson at 917-575-5972

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