



Rafael Anteby's Meditative Mandalas VIP Cocktail Reception



Israeli-born Rafael Anteby is one of the most inspirational artists to grace Los Angeles and is quickly being celebrated worldwide. He is most famously recognized for his unique jewelry line, *Bullets4Peace*, which recycles used bullet casings and repurposes them into handcrafted pieces. This effort has garnered national and international support in the ongoing battle to curb gun violence. Rafael is also the founder of Reloading Life, which works to support orphaned children affected by warfare in Southeast Asia. As part of that initiative, Mr. Anteby travels and spends several weeks a year working with schools in that region to distribute instructional and educational material aimed at overcoming trauma and building overall self-esteem.

Rafael recently hosted a *Meditative Mandalas VIP Cocktail Reception* that will be open Thursday–Sunday from 11 AM–6 PM July 1 through July 30th, 2017. In case you are curious about what Mandalas are: they're ritualistic symbols representing the universe in both Hinduism and Buddhism. A mandala is essentially a microcosm of the universe that "represents the cosmos metaphysically or symbolically." According to Rafael, mandalas, "...are the most ancient art form created by human beings."

"ACCORDING TO THE ANCIENT HISTORY ENCYCLOPEDIA, "A MANDALA CAN BE DEFINED IN TWO WAYS: EXTERNALLY AS A SCHEMATIC VISUAL REPRESENTATION OF THE UNIVERSE AND INTERNALLY AS A GUIDE FOR SEVERAL PSYCHOPHYSICAL PRACTICES THAT TAKE PLACE IN MANY ASIAN TRADITIONS, INCLUDING MEDITATION."

Rafael Anteby is serious about meditative mandalas and wants to share his spiritual philosophies with the public. The meditative mandalas displayed at a Los Angeles VIP cocktail reception incorporate minerals such as Mojavi Desert yellow sand, Ramon Mine purple and red sand, Hawaiian green sand, Zion Canyon Yellow River sand, 23-karat gold, acrylic, Ficus tree sap and using adhesive over canvas. Other than being an integral part Tibetan Buddhism, meditative are a revered form of meditation that the pursuit of precision and patience.

The recent event was attended by renowned art collectors, spiritualists, and Hollywood VIPs including Matthew Postlethwaite (*Peaky Blinders*), June Zahdi (*Ride Along 2*), Celeste Thorson (*Treasure Hunter*), Alon Moni Abutbul (actor), and Karen Bystedt (Artist). Rafael showed his gratitude by stating "We had a wonderful evening with an enthusiastic turnout of friends, family, and guests. I feel blessed to have been able to

share my mandalas and techniques with such a receptive audience. I'm always humbled by everyone's curiosity and eagerness to learn"

At the art reception, Anteby mentioned the intricate process involved in creating his unique mandala masterpieces. Rafael utilizes ancient techniques to fabricate intricate designs out of sand, 24-karat Thai gold, crushed diamonds, and other semi-precious stones. In honor of his mandalas, his Holiness Adzom Lama Jurmey Jamsto Rinpoche came all the way from Tibet to lead a spiritual chanting ceremony at the opening reception on June 4th.

A portion of the proceeds from the exhibition will be donated to Lama's Buddhist Institute in Nepal that has 360 students from underprivileged families from remote villages in the Himalayas. Additionally, Anteby showcased his incredible jewelry line, *Bullets4Peace*. The incredible event was sponsored by Hint Water and Villa San Juliette Winery.

The gallery is located at 929 East Second Street (unit 103) in the Arts District in downtown Los Angeles. The exhibition will be open Thursday–Sunday from 11 AM–6 PM through July 30st, 2017. Private viewings can be arranged by appointment through SZ Advisory at info@sharonzoldan.