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Alexey Steele gives a painting demonstration with live music in front of his painting "The Dawn" at LA Art Show

Steele Makes a Splash at Recent Art Show

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The LA Art Show recently held its 18th annual event from January 23 to 27, and among the highlights were Los Angeles figurative artist Alexey Steele's unveiling of his latest large-scale



painting, "The Dawn," which was accompanied by live demos and a classical music performance.

LA Art Show 2013 was bustling with more than 100 participating galleries and dealers

The LA Art Show has been bringing together a diverse range of blue-chip galleries, dealers, artists, industry experts, and media sponsors for the last 18 years, and this year's event did not disappoint in any of those departments. Known for being the longest-running art fair that incorporates both historic and contemporary art in its "fair-within-a-fair" presentation, inspired by the public-art-museum model, LA Art Show 2013's four distinct sections – Modern & Contemporary, Historic & Traditional Contemporary, Vintage Posters, and the IFPDA Los Angeles Fine Print Fair – allowed viewers to see a big-picture view of contemporary/modern art in the context of historic and contemporary-traditional works.



Alexey Steele, "The Dawn," 2012, Oil on linen, 77 x 186 in.

Complementing the diverse viewing experience was Dialogs LA, a series of informative and thought-provoking discussions led by various industry experts. One of the most impactful presentations was the unveiling of Alexey Steele's 7-by-16-foot multi-figured painting "The Dawn." The painting was on display in a highly visible area adjacent to the Dialogs LA lecture hall and drew much attention and comment from the bustling and diverse crowd. Steele was on hand to discuss the allegorical meaning behind this monumental work, specifically how the subject symbolizes the quickly transformative nature of our time.

In addition, Steele presented two live drawing demonstrations – of fellow painters Peter Adams and Tony Pro – which also drew large crowds. Steele was accompanied on stage by one of the top cellists in Los Angeles, Evgeny Tonkha, as well as an alternative fashion designer, Victor Wilde of Bohemian Society. The display and program were skillfully planned and executed by American Legacy Fine Arts. This type of integrated arts performance is certainly nothing new to Steele, who is the founder of

Classical Underground, a monthly performance gathering of some of the top classical musicians and vocalists in Los Angeles. He has been holding this event in his sprawling Carson warehouse/loft studio for more than three years, and has received much critical praise and media attention for that and other forward-thinking inventions.



More than 100 gallerists and dealers exhibited in LA Art Show 2013, and, although the majority of those exhibitors hailed from Los Angeles and New York City, several traveled from China, Japan, London, France,

and other parts of the international art world. Each exhibitor was curated into a specific section by the LA Art Show's event planners to give collectors an immersive and integrated viewing experience. The artists represented in each section were readily recognizable to their respective audiences – such as Picasso, Dalí, Damien Hirst, and David Bailey in the Modern & Contemporary section and historic works with their contemporary counterparts in the Historic & Traditional Contemporary section – and everything from paintings and sculptures to installations and performance pieces were on display throughout the spacious Los Angeles Convention Center. American Legacy Fine Arts, Arcadia Gallery, Galerie Michael, Praxis Galleries, Redfern Gallery, Rehs Galleries, and S.R. Brennen Galleries were just a few of the participating exhibitors familiar to *Fine Art Today* readers.

Fine Art Connoisseur and PleinAir magazines were proud media supporters of the LA Art Show 2013.