



Ink and Pencil Drawings by

## Nelson Gutierrez

### Mediating Dissent

February 14, 2014 - March 16, 2014

Opening Reception: Friday, February 14, 2014, 7 to 9 pm

Gallery Talk: Sunday, March 16, 2014 at 5 pm

*Nelson Gutierrez's* ongoing project, *Mediating Dissent*, is made up of two bodies of works: "*The Death of Fear*" and "*Mandalas*." His drawings isolate a single subject and focus on fragments of the broader context in which they may inevitably get lost.

*Mediating Dissent* is made up of about 90 individual ink and pencil drawings on paper. Gutierrez follows the latest social uprisings taking place worldwide. He has been intrigued with the powerful form of collective human dynamic that has led to major societal changes in our modern history. He has followed the civil wars, revolutions and coups d'état that have taken place in Egypt, Libya, Turkey, Brazil, Chile, Greece, Ukraine and other states facing massive social discontent.

"*The Death of Fear*" looks at the connection between individual and collective identity; passive spectators versus active engagement; it focuses on people who are likewise passionately engaged. "*Mandalas*," are circular images made through the repetition of a single image, usually one of individual characters, creating an integrated structure organized around a unifying center; this includes the idea of reflecting on and portraying universal patterns of behavior based on the frequency and recurrence of global unrest.

His work addresses issues of longing, fear, grief and vanity. He juxtaposes materials such as charcoal, ink, wood, metal, blood, wax, water, glass, light and photographs. When brought together his work also has a symbolic relevance to the issue he is exploring.