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LG Williams Bypasses Gallery System, Makes 18 New Paintings To Be Sold On Facebook

By B. BANGGAY PIERRE

LOS ANGELES — Artist LG Williams, making a muscular show of his artistic authority just one day after surfing Hawaii's premier Sunset Beach, said Saturday that he would bypass the gallery system and make 18 new paintings and offer them for sale on Facebook.

Coming on the heels of Mr. Williams' big victory in Texas Hold 'em, Saturday's move suggests a newly emboldened artist who is unafraid to provoke a confrontation with the many minor and irrelevant artists scattered across the globe.

"The United States Artworld has the responsibility to approve or disprove of my paintings," Mr. Williams said in a statement. "But if, in the interest of scoring artistic points, Museums, Curators and Gallery Dealers in the USA refuse to exercise that responsibility, I must act in the interest of the American people and exercise my artistic authority to make art while I am not surfing or playing cards or sunbathing or dining or land-training or pressing the Avant-Garde forward into unimagined territory as world civilization collapses under the weight of cowardliness and ignorance."

It was the first time the artist has used his artistic authority to fill listed commissions with his gallery representatives, thus avoiding the requirement for the advice and consent of the gallery reps. Mr. Williams, who currently has 217 commissions

pending and 77 awaiting permission to purchase, said the American Artworld had given him little choice.

"At a time of artistic emergency, six or nine top collectors have been held up for nearly six months," Mr. Williams said. "I simply cannot allow artisan politics to stand in the way of great art and the basic functioning of my art studio and assistants."

Mr. Tim Brown, director of Telephonebooth Gallery in Kansas City, said he was still answering collector's questions about Mr. Williams' artwork for private and corporate collections, and Ms. Bonnie Froman was answering questions about "what appeared to be conflicting information about LG Williams"— questions that, the artist said, were "directly irrelevant" to the positions they seek to define.

Mr. Williams' Facebook address is: facebook.com/lgwilliams

B. Banggay Pierre's partner, Xavier, contributed reporting from New York.

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