



Media Inquiries:

Cheryl Strichik: Cheryl@themacctn.com
(615) 293-3767

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**CONTEMPORARY ARTIST KRE8 PRESENTS HIS SINGULAR VISION AT THE
MONTHAVEN ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTER IN HENDERSONVILLE,
TENN.**

HENDERSONVILLE, Tenn. (April 12, 2024) – Monthaven Arts and Cultural Center is pleased to welcome **Kevin “Kre8” Vigil** as the featured artist for its **Fifth Annual Moonlight and Magnolias Gala**. The celebrated contemporary artist will also showcase some of his most vibrant paintings in an exhibition titled *Kre8: Attributes of a Visionary*. The exhibit will run **April 28 to June 2, 2023** at Monthaven.

“We are thrilled to introduce Kre8’s strikingly original artwork to our Tennessee audience,” says Cheryl Strichik, the MACC’s executive director. “In his paintings, Kre8 has combined the sensibilities of a street artist with the sophistication of an artistic master. The result is artwork that is both immediately appealing and incredibly thoughtful. Needless to say, both the art novice and the connoisseur will find much to admire.”

Born in Germany in 1980 to a German mother and a father of Mexican descent serving in the Army, Kre8 first gained prominence as a graffiti and tattoo artist. He later shifted his focus to painting, becoming popular with art collectors after his breakthrough showing at the 2018 Art Basel contemporary art fair in Miami, Fla.

Kre8’s unique artistic style, known as Kre8tizm, captivated collectors, drawing admirers from all walks of life and age groups. Described as a blend of modern, contemporary, abstract and surrealism with elements of pop and street art, Kre8tizm is a visual representation of the

artist's philosophy. Notably, all of Kre8's characters are faceless, a deliberate response to the judgment he experienced due to the tattoos on his own face. He implores others not to judge him based on appearances but rather by his outlook on life and his artistic vision.

In his artwork, Kre8 employs black-and-white to symbolize the stark reality between truth and lies that permeate our world. Color, on the other hand, represents us, emphasizing the diversity and vibrancy that each individual brings to the world. Kre8's style has garnered tremendous acclaim, leading to more than 30 sold-out exhibitions across the globe.

Kre8 will lead an Artist Talk from 3 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, April 28. The event is part of the MACC's Moonlight and Magnolias weekend, which raises money for the MACC's education and outreach programs. Admission to the event is free but space is limited. Call (615) 822-0789 to reserve your space today.

Monthaven Arts and Cultural Center (MACC) is a jewel-box art museum and education facility housed in one of Tennessee's most spectacular antebellum mansions. A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, the MACC has staged exhibitions featuring everything from the ceramic art of Pablo Picasso to the evening gowns of Princess Diana. The artwork of local artists and military veterans are also on frequent display. As an art school, the MACC offers classes to more than 900 children and adults each year. The MACC also provides free arts outreach and healing arts to underserved children, families and military veterans. For more information, visit www.monthavenartsandculturalcenter.com or call (615) 822-0789.

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