

STATEMENT
NAMASTE: AN HOMAGE
Bogota, Colombia
February, 2005

“Namaste” is an ancient Indian greeting that pays homage to the inner Light in each of us. With hands pressed together, before the heart, the head bows to honour the Spirit that dwells within. In this gesture, the aligned hands are also said to represent a knife that severs differences, thereby embracing the shared ground that is common to people of all cultures.

The left fingers represent the five senses of Karma, while our right fingers represent the five organs of Knowledge. This duality symbolizes that our Karma, or action, must be in harmony and guided by rightful Knowledge, so that we may think and behave in alignment. In a 2001 lecture, Professor N.V. Chandrasekhara Swamy, former Director of the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, said of ancient wisdom, “...there is a greater, transcendental reality that can be understood only when we look inward”.

I chose this title as an homage to my late mentor and friend, Keith Muller. He shared his intuition and creativity, his compassion and guidance, his grace, wisdom and love with those open to it and these are the qualities I attach to Lightness. He was a profound part of my artistic maturation and his energy is still palpable in the paintings. In honour of the impact his presence had in my life as my friend and mentor, I humbly and lovingly dedicate this body of work to him.