



Julius Cæsar

3144 West Carroll Avenue, 2G
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<http://juliuscaesarchicago.com>

Sunday, March 9, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Diego Leclery

IGARBO

March 9-30, 2008

Julius Cæsar is pleased to inaugurate its space with a solo exhibition by Diego Leclery. The artist has provided the following statement for release:

I thank you all for your support and understanding. Let me worry about the attacks and the slanders. You do what you need to do, talk to your family and friends, talk to your neighbors and your coworkers about what's at stake. Ask them to see this not as my campaign, but ours, all of ours. Make a contribution of time or money.

We have 23 days left: it's not a lot of time to change the course of our state, but that is what's at stake. Meanwhile I will not engage in the politics of fear, I will not.

And that's because fear is poisonous. All through history, it's been used to hold back progress and limit fundamental fairness. Only hope defeats fear. It always has.

At a forum last week, the moderator asked each of us to say something nice about the other. Kerry Healey rather grudgingly said, "Well," she said about me, "he can give a good speech."

But her dismissive point, and I hear it a lot from her staff, is that all I have to offer is words, just words.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, all men are created equal." Just words, just words.

"We have nothing to fear but fear itself," just words.

"Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country," just words.

"I have a dream," just words.

And let me say it before any of you do: I am no Dr. King, I am no John Kennedy. I am no Franklin Roosevelt or Thomas Jefferson. But I do know that the right words—spoken from the heart with conviction,—because of a vision of a thing beyond our reach and a faith in the unseen, can be a call to action.

When you hear my words, or when you speak your own to your neighbors, hear and speak them as a call to action, as a time to take back our civic and political life, as a time to stop acting like partisans and start acting like citizens again.

Diego Leclery, 2008

Hours are by appointment only, please visit <http://juliuscaesarchicago.com> for details.