

May 1, 2026

Honorable Jed S. Rakoff
United States District Judge
Daniel Patrick Moynihan
United States Courthouse
500 Pearl St.
New York, NY 10007-1312

Re: United States of America v. Carl Erik Rinsch, 25 CR 85 (JSR)

Dear Judge Rakoff:

I am writing in support of Carl Rinsch in connection with his upcoming sentencing. I do not know the details of this case. But based upon what I do know about Carl, I did want to take the opportunity to write on his behalf, in the hope that his sentence might be tempered with measures of leniency and mercy as well as justice.

I have known Carl for about fifteen years. He directed me in a film titled "47 Ronin" in 2011, and we stayed in touch after production, later becoming friends.

I attended his wedding in Uruguay in 2014. Over the years I would periodically visit with Carl and his wife at their Los Angeles home and catch up on and discuss life and art. During one of these visits Carl showed me a project he was working on called "White Horse," which he was hoping to bring to market. In my opinion Carl is an exceptional artist, and White Horse, in the form in which I saw it, was a superb and visionary work of art, although unfinished.

I am, of course, not a therapist or psychologist. I write instead as an artistic peer of Carl's, and as a friend. In my opinion, Carl can self-sabotage by amplifying the scale, scope and landscape of what had been negotiated, accordingly placing himself and his counterparties at odds.

I do not intend to share this as an excuse or diminishment of what he has been found to have done, but offer this solely as perhaps an insight into why.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I have seen Carl bring exceptional joy and warmth to the people around him. I have seen him bring creative inspiration to others through his creativity and vision. I have seen and been a part of wonderful artistic environments where exceptional work was done with him. I hope you are able to find leniency for this man. To the extent you deem appropriate, I believe such leniency would be a healing act, to go along with the punishment he will live with.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Signed by:

Keanu Reeves

Submitted via Counsel

Matthew S. Rosengart
Greenberg Traurig, LLP