



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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“The Rites of Spring” Invitational Group Exhibition and Celebration in East Harlem
Opening Event May 17 Features Studio Tours and Pianist Gustave Casenave in Concert

The Villa America Fine Art is pleased to announce a NYC season finale exhibition by resident and guest artists at Art 345 Gallery, 345 East 104th Street in East Harlem. Free to the public, the Gala May 17th opening cocktail reception from 6-8 PM features artist's studio tours at 7PM, and is followed at 8 PM by a solo piano performance from Steinway Artist Gustave Casenave, presenting compositions from his Latin Grammy nominated CD.

Curated by Susan Nelly, The Rites of Spring will present works from a grand to a small scale of painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, installation and architecture, from the studios of a select group of NYC artists including Dana Adams, Helene, Awad Wahba, Vicky Barranguet, Mati Bracha, Braden Burgon, March Chadwick, Paul Ching-Bor, Lorin Cole, John De Soto, Anne De Villemejeane, Hollie Heller, Chizuru Morii Kaplan, Michael Katz, William King, Louise Laffaille, JJ Li, Carole McClintock, Hugh Millar, Todd Monaghan, Lindsey Nobel, Fabienne Ricard, Simon Rigg, Bolek Ryzinski, Liz Schneider-Cohen, Shane Townley, Preeti Varma and Norbert Waysberg. The exhibition remains on view, by appointment, through June 19th.

A dynamic mainstay of the New York auction and gallery community, Susan Nelly is a founding New York member of AWAD, The Association of Women Art Dealers, and was elected in 2009 to ARTTABLE, The Leadership Organization for Professional Women in the Visual Arts. A recognized expert in acquisitions in the secondary market, she is also a strong supporter of contemporary artists. Her keen eye for the finest work, coupled with her energy and enthusiasm, continue to connect her with many of the most important painters, sculptors and photographers in practice today, in New York and Internationally.

The Villa America Fine Art conjures the passion, energy and community-building of Sara and Gerald Murphy, talented and free-spirited Americans who moved to France in the 1920's and attracted a remarkable constellation of the era's luminaries to the Villa America, the name the Murphy's gave to their home on the Riviera. These kindred spirits of the Lost Generation undeniably influenced the art and culture of their times. The art world is still filled with charismatic characters and adventures waiting to happen -- The Villa America Fine Art brings you exceptional art and the brilliant people who make and live it, with a signature style evoking the authentic spirit of the salons and cafes of a bygone era.

www.thevillaamerica.com