



Wynwood art walk revs up for Art Basel

By **Carlos Suarez De Jesus** *Thursday, Sep 8 2011*

The new art season is upon us. Wynwood art dealers, wringing their sweaty palms, are in a sniff over who did or didn't make the cut for Art Basel.

The galleries are cranking out dozens of fresh shows like the conveyer belt at **Krispy Kreme**. The food trucks will be out in droves this weekend, eager to feed the throngs to the delight of starving culture vultures and the dismay of dealers tired of choking on exhaust fumes, sweeping chicken and rib bones off their stoops, and flushing the drunks from their bathrooms.

Stop complaining, folks. You've got it made in a floundering economy. Selling art when the average mook can't pay for a tank of gas is a sweet deal. For us average drones living paycheck-to-paycheck, we depend on you for the monthly ration of free booze and entertainment.

After all, that's why the Second Saturday Art Walk has turned into the one night of the month when South Floridians of all strata turn out for the big show.

Beginning at 6 p.m. this Saturday, Wynwood galleries are back to the full-time business of elevating our city's cultural eminence, and business is booming. Here are our picks for this month's edition of the rollicking affair.

David Castillo, one of two Miami art dealers chosen to represent the 305 at Art Basel Miami Beach this year — the other dealer is Fredric Snitzer — has plenty of reason to rejoice.

The **David Castillo Gallery** (2234 NW Second Ave., Miami) is celebrating its sixth anniversary in Wynwood with "Crushed Candy," a group show featuring top talent from Castillo's stable of artists.

The exhibit includes work by Jonathan Ehrenberg, Shara Hughes, Meredith James, and the TM Sisters (Tasha and Monica Lopez de Victoria).

Castillo says the works displayed "test their mettle against the sweet ease of perception" and that their premise is "a studio practice as steadfast as iron and finished forms as urgent and fantastical as the future state of candy."

We're not sure what that means, but it's evident that Castillo is gearing up for his season-opening bash with a head of steam and that he gives good press release.