DAVID CASTILLO

Gallerist, Wynwood

Three years of 14-hour workdays and tir curating finally paid of f for David Castillo this past December when the powers that be at Art Basel Miami Beach awar ded his eponymous gallery a much-coveted spot in its Art Positions program (a satellite offshoot of the main Basel show that takes place inside art containers in Collins Park). Castillo was one of only a handful of Miami gallerists chosen for the honor (much to the chagrin of many of his Wynwood neighbors). And luck had nothing to do with it. Since 2005, Castillo has been resolved to exposing emerging and mid-car eer artists whose concepts relate contemporary art to historically important work. His 5,000-squar e-foot gallery represents an international roster of artists and curates works in all media through group and special project exhibitions. It's a job the unassuming Castillo is ridiculously well schooled for. The gallerist has degrees in history and art history from Yale University and the Angelicum in Rome and has worked at galleries and museums all over the world. His secr et success formula? "Everything I show or r epresent ar e works I respond to," he says. Next up for Castillo: mor e traveling, a show curated by 2008 Whitney Biennial artist Adler Guerrier (whom Castillo represents) and perhaps a New York City location in the not-too-near yet not-too-distant future.

