

## DAVID CASTILLO

With his signature bowtie and spectacles, David Castillo plays the part of dapper gallerist well. But in a scene that thrives on skin-deep pretension, Castillo is a hipster with actual clout. His namesake gallery in Wynwood is one of the largest in South Florida with 6,000 square feet of space. And some of the artists he represents, like 2008 Whitney Biennial recipient Adler Guerrier, have gone on to exhibit and participate in residences all over the world. His secret? "The work [which includes painting, drawing, installation, sculpture, sound, photography, collage and performance] must always interest me in some level directly and then be informed by larger concepts and ideas beyond my initial interest," says Castillo, who was an art dealer prior to opening his space in 2005. Said mantra has served him well. He's been one of a handful of South Florida gallerists to actually exhibit at Art Basel Miami Beach, the Holy Grail of art fairs in North America (although he's not part of the show this year), and he was recently selected for a choice spot on the main floor The Armory Show in New York in March of next year, one of the most important events on the international art calendar. "So long as we continue building upon the art itself and the careers of the artists," he adds, "that is wonderful enough for me."

