

[ART ROUNDTABLE]

Time to Buy?

WITH THE ECONOMY DOWN, IS NOW A GOOD TIME TO PURCHASE ART?
BY BRETT CALLAHAN

which continues to hold its value as opposed to “the returns,” on other investments, such as bonds/stocks/real-estate.

My background, 20 years of national and international gallery experience, knowledge in the “modern classics” and familiarity with the secondary/resale contemporary print market, including understanding and hands-on consignment experience of art to the auction houses, Sotheby’s and Christies, prepared me well to keep a strong gallery profile, foster relationships with artists, galleries and art dealers, and offer unique art

exhibitions, all the while watching the most recent trends and issues develop.

November auction update and sales results show confidence and a rebound in the contemporary art market. Even in difficult times, good art always sells!

Art for sale from collectors is an opportunity for the new collector to secure a piece that would not have been

available for purchase at other times. The new collector, before having made any purchase with capital appreciation in mind, needs to realize that art as “investment” only offers the possibility of financial gain over several years.

upfront

PLACES | PERSPECTIVES | HAPPENINGS



Laguna Beach Magazine recently caught up with four gallery owner/directors in the art community to ask them: *Why buy art now? The economy is down, why is art still a good investment (or is it)? As collectors may be dispersing some of their collection, how does this affect the new collector?*

Marion Meyer,
Marion Meyer Contemporary Art

All art (including visual, dance, theater, film, poetry, music) enhances our daily lives and enriches our souls. During turmoil and difficult times, the escape art provides becomes more essential if not a necessity.

I advise my clients to acquire an artwork based on the aesthetic value, value measured in enjoyment being surrounded by the original piece in their home/office on a daily basis, as opposed to securing art as an investment potential. Capital appreciation of art is an additional bonus.

The recent downturn in the market since October 2008 actually added financial value benefit to having acquired and enjoyed art,

PHOTO: CYNTHIA TERRELL

MARION MEYER