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It wasn't easy... : by David Gonzalez

David Castillo Gallery
"It wasn't easy..."

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When the tempestuous neon of Miami Art flickers, who will be there to keep the light on? David Castillo shares his thoughts on his gallery and what he thinks it means to Wynwood.

Among the ever-evolving stable of galleries dotting the Wynwood Arts District, there are few that have managed to cement their position as quickly and prominently as David Castillo has. But what may appear to have been a slick sleight of hand for such a young space took years of preparation.

"It wasn't easy, and most definitely not overnight," Castillo points out. We're seated in his office, a slim little hallway bordered by artwork on one side and a compact but powerful library on the other, and talking about what has gotten him this far. He speaks of his education at Yale indirectly. The real education, it seems, had taken place through his years as a private art dealer.

"It wasn't simply a matter of knowledge or education that was involved in handling art works of that magnitude. It required much more. Maybe you can call it being delicate, or sensitive to the needs of the situation, but in that time I found that it was important to communicate equal parts respect and admiration for the artist and the work, as well as for the individual who believes they want to live with a particular work of art and the individual parting with it after many years of ownership."

And just like that we had arrived at the core of the David Castillo Gallery. His eye for emerging artists mimics a similar standard. By striking a balance between the dynamic upstart energy of art in Miami and the historic relevance of early and mid 20th century Latin American art, Castillo has extended his talents to both the community that raised him since infancy and the art & history that inspired him towards this profession.



David Castillo Gallery

Andrew Guenther
2007
Smash Through This
acrylic and wooden sticks
on canvas
78 x 65 in



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