

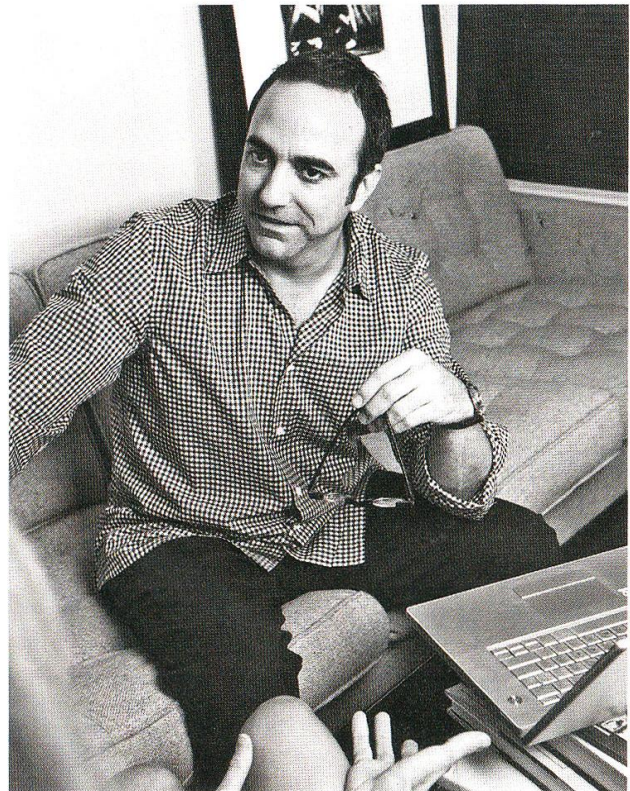


LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHER

What do you get when you mix visionary art dealers, wild video-art exhibits and Ruinart? Answer: this year's amazing Dallas Art Fair, which starts Thursday, April 7, with a Preview Gala that benefits both the Dallas Contemporary and the Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts. Last year's gala opening night was truly one of the most exciting events of the year. I'm not sure what was more A-list: the art or the people. This year's gallery roster has grown by more than 50 percent to more than 70 dealers, with the addition of international dealers from as far as Rome to complement the London delegation. Along with the myriad New York dealers, this Fair is becoming a bit more geographically diverse, with several important West Coast galleries weighing in. Seems gallerists were signing on up to the last minute. (We know, as we're the official media sponsor, and we were commissioned to publish the Dallas Art Fair special section, contained in this issue and available at the

Fair. We were making copy additions up until press time — a very good problem to have!) Everyone is rushing to Texas to get in front of the 8,000-or-so expected collectors who come from around Texas and throughout the States. Finally, who knows where to buy a piece of Ruinart? Answer: the liquor store. It's a very, very fine champagne, if you didn't know. I never considered champagne as art — until now.

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