

## **For Immediate Release**

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# **Winter White**

## **Eight Artists Visually Explore the Nuances of White**

### **December 10, 2009 – January 21, 2010**

**December 10, 2009 - New York, NY:** Tria Gallery presents a group exhibition featuring painting and mixed media by artists Serena Bocchino, Sue Contessa, Alexandre Guillaume, Howard Kalish, Michela Martello, Jenny Nelson, Daniel Rosenbaum and Francine Tint.

For this exhibition, Tria challenged eight artists to come up with their own interpretation of the expression “winter white.” The resulting painting, sculpture and mixed media vary in style and form, yet have the unifying theme of color which creates a harmonious scene that bursts with variety and energy. The artists bring their own skill set and aesthetic to their work, so the effects range from calming to provocative to thrilling. The full spectrum of white is represented, so the exhibition does not feel monochromatic or one-dimensional, but rather rich, textured and layered.

**Serena Bocchino** has a Masters Degree in Painting from New York University. Bocchino has been recognized by many art institutions for her work and is the recipient of numerous awards including the Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant, the PS 1 International Studio Residency, the Artists Space/Artists Grant, The New Jersey State Council on the Arts, the Art Matters Grant, the Brodsky Center Printmaking Residency and the Basil Alkazzi Award. Her work is included in prestigious private, public and corporate collections throughout the world. Her work has also been selected for inclusion in the Brodsky Print Center's 25th Anniversary Exhibition at The Museum of Modern Art in New York in 2011.

**Sue Contessa** was educated at the C.W. Post Campus of Long Island University and at Boston University's School of Fine Arts. She has had six solo exhibitions in New York, and dozens of groups exhibitions throughout the U.S. and the U.K. The focus of her paintings is the process and ritual of repetitive mark making. The layers of accumulated marks create independent fields, marking time and space. Each layer reveals evidence of marks beneath, showing a history of the painting's creation and suggesting endless possibilities.

**Alexandre Guillaume** is a self taught artist. After a career as a graphics and website designer, he began concentrating on his creation of paintings, photographs and videos in 2002. Since then his work has been exhibited in galleries throughout the U.S. as well as in France, the United Kingdom and Canada. His current paintings come from his Materialism Series and are based on Plato's Myth of the Cave.

**Howard Kalish** states that most of his sculptures are open – that is, they can be seen through, and “the juxtaposition of the forms against each other, and the background, changes as one walks around them.” Since the pieces are polychrome, the colors overlaps, intertwine and generally play off of one another. The fact that this aspect of his work is dependent upon the setting is gratifying to Kalish, since he says it is “serendipitous and unplanned.” Trained at Cooper Union and the New York Studio School, Kalish has

been a teacher at the National Academy of Design for over 15 years, and at NYU for six years. Over the past three decades he has participated in countless gallery and museum exhibitions throughout the country.

**Michela Martello** was born in Grosseto, Italy. She received her Bachelor of Arts in illustration from the Europe Institute of Design. In the ensuing years she traveled extensively, dividing her time between Milan, London and New York, and became a prominent illustrator, publishing work in over thirty books. In 1996 she turned her focus to painting, and by 1997 she had her first exhibition in both Milan and New York. The strong Asian influence in Ms. Martello's painting is self-evident; she explains that Asian philosophies and spirituality have had a profound impact on her work. Ms. Martello's work has been exhibited regularly over the past decade, both in the U.S. and abroad, and is held in both private and public collections worldwide.

**Andrew Millner** hand-draws his original works on a computer using a pen and an electronic tablet. Later they are printed as part of a whole garden or as a stand-alone print. The digital media allows the drawing to extend over months, and in the garden's case, possibly years, without any set scale or date of completion. To Millner the garden is an ongoing work that can be added to indefinitely, seasonally. Millner received his BFA in Painting and Sculpture from the University of Michigan. His work has sold into private and corporate collections across the country.

**Jenny Nelson** explains that, although her early artistic training was focused on the classical and representational, it has always been her natural instinct to depict her surroundings in abstract forms. More of her paintings evolve as "intuitive reactions to her surroundings, be it interior space, or landscape." She applies many layers of paint, using gesture and her internal color sense to evoke a kind of sensory memory in her work. Traces of previous layers remain visible, allowing colors to interact in ways she had not anticipated. The product is, therefore, both conscious and unconscious, with a "very personal abstract language" emerging. Nelson attended Maine College of Art and received her BFA from Bard College.

**Daniel Rosenbaum** states that he "learned a lot from dynamic debates with Elizabeth Murray and Jennifer Bartlett at the School of Visual Arts" where he received his BFA. He then moved to Colorado, where he immersed himself in nature and transformed his art making process significantly. He later received his MFA from Brooklyn College. Over the past ten years he has exhibited his drawings, painting and sculpture in exhibitions throughout the country and Europe. His work has also been shown at PS 1 Contemporary Art Center in New York.

**Francine Tint's** colorful abstract paintings seem to have a universal appeal. They are sensual, decadent and luxurious, yet highly accessible. Her brushwork, slathering, scraping and pouring of layers of acrylic yields work that suggests both chaos and a kind of natural order all at once. Through use of cool through high key colors and exhilarating texture, Tint's paintings evoke feelings of harmony and discord, movement and stillness, and ultimately, joy. Tint is one of our leading abstractionists. Championed by Clement Greenberg, she has been referred to as "one of the strongest and most communicative of the current color field painters" by Phyllis Herfield in the New York Review of Art. Her work has often been shown alongside that of Olitski and Poons. Her list of collectors, both public and private, has been said to "resemble a small phone directory," and includes twenty museums throughout the country as well as corporations and private collectors around the world.

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**Tria Gallery** was founded in 2006 by Carol Suchman, Paige Bart and Latifa Metheny. Tria's mission is to exhibit a balance of established artists with impressive resumes with exciting young talent working in a variety of media. Showing both figurative and abstract work, painting, sculpture, mixed media and installations, the common denominator is that Tria artists have unique, authentic voices and compelling bodies of work that the directors feel should be given a public audience.

Tria is located in the heart of Chelsea, at 531 West 25<sup>th</sup> Street, ground floor suite 5, and is open to the public Tuesday-Saturday, 11:00-6:00. **Winter White** runs from December 10, 2009 through January 21, 2010. For more information please visit [www.triagallerynyc.com](http://www.triagallerynyc.com).