



# INTRODUCING THE ARTISTS

Art is a very personal experience. It is a creative and basic way to connect with oneself and with the greater world at large. For as long as humans have walked the earth, art has formed an important part of our history. It provides a lasting forum that can make us laugh with good humor or irk us with bad humor. Or it can serve to elevate our spirit. But whatever the case may be, art should force us to think about things in a different and perhaps more meaningful way. It should be able to challenge the mind, inspire the spirit and lead the viewer to a different place from whence he started. Paul Cezanne said it best, "the day is coming when a single carrot, freshly observed, will set off a revolution." Art is that inner revolution frozen in time. It is a snapshot of the artist's soul applied to a brush and forever captured on canvas for all to see and feel. Art begs to be understood. Artists will tell you there are few things more rewarding than

seeing a person connect with a painting, snapshot or sculpture that they have created. The artists selected for the First Annual Overture Benefit, Dawn Hough Sebaugh, Enrique Mora, Bill Mathews and Tatiana A- Baki, are stylistically very different but all embody certain key elements. For instance, each artist has a certain innovative approach which sets them apart. Once you view their art you will be able to recognize their paintings anywhere. As individuals, there is a certain generousness of spirit which is ever-present. These qualities once dabbed in paint and expressed on canvas transcend the boundaries of the ordinary to create a powerful art experience.

*Overture Foundation wants to thank haut> art for their tireless effort in identifying and organizing our emerging artists.*

## BILL MATHEWS

**Picasso once said, "The artist is a receptacle** for emotions that come from all over the place; from the sky, from the earth, from a scrap of paper, from a passing shape, from a spider's web." This is perhaps the best way to introduce first-time viewers to the works of Bill Mathews. Mathews is one of the most versatile painters on the New York art scene today. His versatility extends not only to the wide range of subjects he depicts or the diverse styles he elegantly

weaves together but also to his symbolic portrayal of feelings and ideas. His highly sophisticated sense of color and form seems to flow effortlessly from the brush beautifully combining multiple images simultaneously. You may be looking at a smudge of yellow on a brilliant cobalt blue background and realize suddenly that it is a lemon. Or you may find yourself staring at a depiction of a female figure that seems to fade in and out of the canvas

creating a seamless transition from realism to impressionism. In one of his paintings, for example, Mathews captures the anticipation and feeling of a warm summer day at the shore with a sentimental portrayal of a pile of bicycles off to the side of a sandy sidewalk. In another painting the smell of salty sea sprays is captured through the nostalgic portrayal of sailboats in a quaint Rhode Island harbor. No matter what he paints, the viewer is left

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# DAWN HOUGH SEBAUGH

**Dawn Hough Sebaugh began her career twenty years ago as an abstract painter** who has since then created a large repertoire of works which now grace the walls of numerous renowned corporations and private residences throughout the world. As an artist she is best known for her bold brush strokes and vivid color combinations which easily awaken the spirit of the viewer. Her art has an almost Zen-like quality that effortlessly transports the viewer to a particular mood or thought - all conveyed with the sonorous use of color and texture. Born in Mooresville, North Carolina, Dawn received her Bachelor's degree in Marketing from Pfeiffer College in North Carolina and then a degree in Color and Design from the highly regarded Parson's School of Design in New York City. Dawn is recognized in her community and among many foundations and non-profit organizations as an artist who is making a difference in the world. She has contributed paintings to numerous charities such as the children's wing of the Sherman Oaks Burn Center in Los Angeles, California, UNICEF, Global Giving, Artists with Brain Injuries in Los Angeles, California, The Fund For Women Artists in Florence, Massachusetts, Burn Survivors Throughout The World Inc in Sarasota, Florida, Autism Research Institute in San Diego, California, and Mended Little Hearts in Dallas, Texas to name just a few of the many organizations with which she has been actively involved. Dawn has exhibited extensively throughout the late 80's and early 90's but has recently begun representing her own art. Her enthusiasm, innovative use of color and unbridled love of life is overwhelmingly evident in all that she paints. Today Dawn lives and paints in San Diego, California.



"Her art has an almost Zen-like quality."

wanting for more. In an interview with PaintingsDIRECT, Mathews addresses the question of style: "There is no doubt in my mind that my strongest paintings are those that achieve the illusion of something I might have seen before, that flirt with perspective and that have a certain photographic complexity. Those particular paintings were arrived at by applying paint in unorthodox ways and by keeping my eyes wide open for the precise moment to bail out. My natural inclination is to tamper with them in an effort to improve them, refine them, control them, even....the result is something that is truly an illusion." Born and raised in Morristown, New Jersey, Mathews went on to receive his Bachelor's degree from Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut. Upon graduation he operated a successful, Manhattan-based general contracting business that he ultimately abandoned to devote his life to painting. Today he still lives and paints in Manhattan. His works may be found in corporate and private collections around the world, and his shows are virtual sell-outs as he appeals to a broad audience.





# ENRIQUE MORA

**Enrique Mora is best known for his** extraordinarily passionate use of bold, vibrant colors, which hark back to his rich Caribbean heritage. He was born and raised in the magical city of San Juan, Puerto Rico during the 1960's. When one considers the importance that San Juan holds in the art world today, it is no wonder that Mora grew into the high caliber painter that he is. Mora comes from a family heavily steeped in painting, music and sculpture. By the time he was five, his father had established Galeria Mora in San Juan. This inevitably led to Enrique's first real exposure to the art world. Much of his early

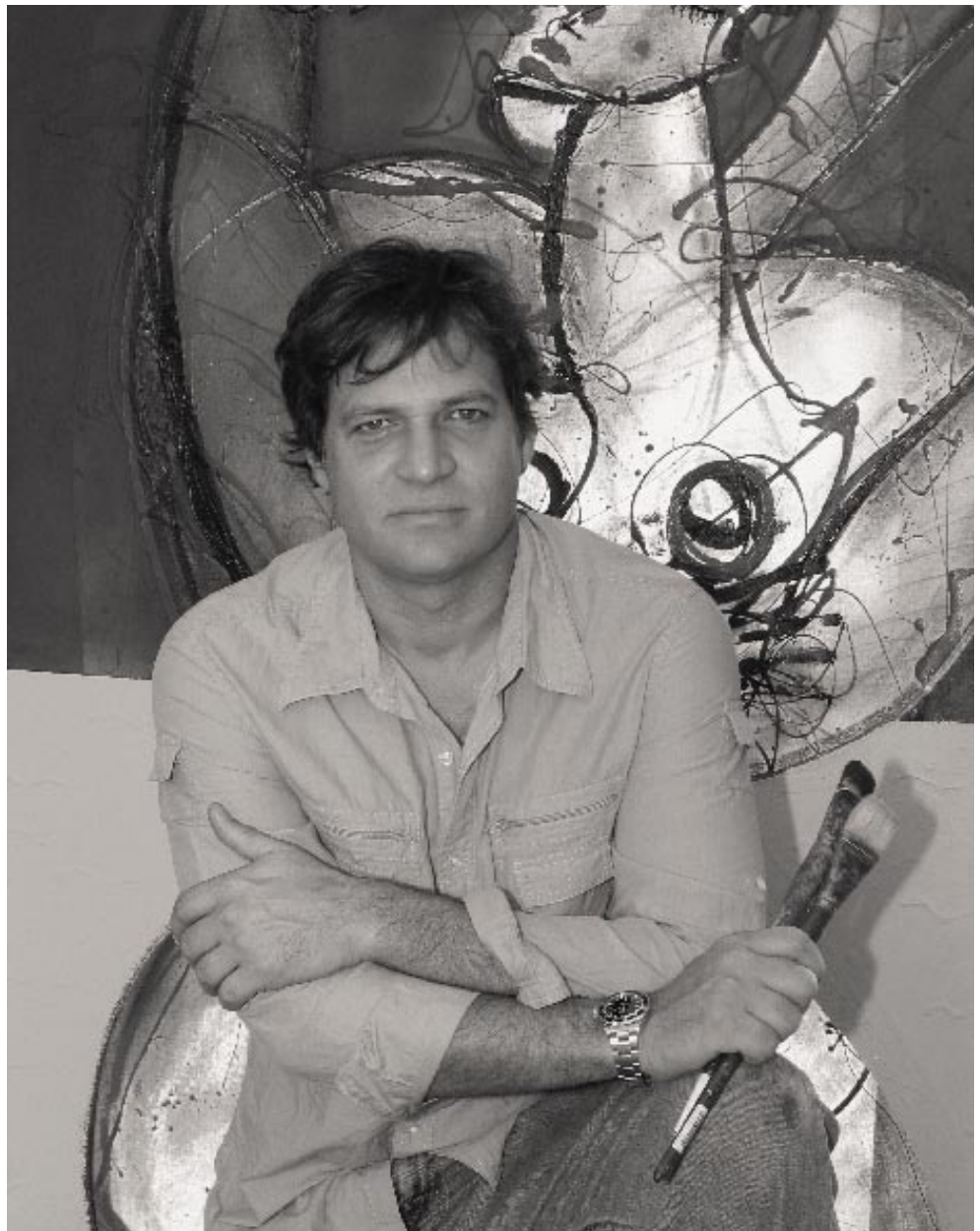
life was spent interacting with fellow artists and gaining exposure to some of the top Caribbean works of the time. Although there is at times a stylistic similarity to the great Italian painter Amadeo Modigliani and even a nod to Pablo Picasso, it would be wrong to infer that Mora is not of his own design. It is perhaps his portrayal of the female form which most captivates me and makes it hard to look away. It is not only the elegantly rounded proportions of a hip, face, breast or leg but the palpable spiritual quality of the women he paints that resonates with me. Simply put his paintings speak. Whether it is a

loving embrace or the indescribable blueness of the Puerto Rican ocean that appears over and over again as a central theme in his paintings, those who view his work frequently exclaim how hard to look away from a Mora piece. There is an almost mesmerizing and hypnotic quality to all that he paints.

Today Mora lives in Florida and has been very active in the Miami art scene. He has participated in numerous art shows and his works are displayed in both private and corporate collections around the world.



“Mora comes from a family heavily steeped in painting, music and sculpture.”



# TATIANA A-BAKI



“Tatiana was exposed to great art and languages at a very early age.”

**As a painter and a poet, Tatiana A-Baki** has quickly established herself as a formidable force on the art scene today. Born in Beirut, Lebanon to an Ecuadorian mother and a Lebanese father, Tatiana was exposed to great art, diverse cultures and many languages. She began painting and writing at a very early age. Her mother, Ivonne, is no stranger to the world of art either; she is an well-known painter who began her career at the tender age of 16 and went on to win numerous recognitions including the prestigious Van Gogh award. So it is no wonder that her own daughter would grow up to be such an accomplished artist in her own right with her own highly personal style. After finishing her secondary studies in Lebanon, Tatiana moved to Cambridge, Massachusetts where she obtained her Bachelor's degree in Philosophy, Germanic

Languages and French Literature from Harvard University. As a member of the Arts Foundation at Harvard, she was involved in many artistic and cultural events which sought to bring greater understanding and rapprochement among nations and people through the arts. Her paintings are instantly recognizable for their intensity of color. Her boldly beautiful shapes and frequent female forms burst forth from the canvas with a power and life of their own. Tatiana once wrote, “Whenever I paint, I am transported to another dimension. I feel one with the universe, with God. There is a sense of euphoria, of joy, of deep love – so deep that it’s overwhelming, almost unbearable. It is hard to define because it’s something that cannot be defined, that goes beyond words and understanding. It has to be felt. Art cannot be

explained. It has to be felt. What is seen with the eye is not as important or powerful as what is felt with the heart. Art speaks to the heart. It is the language of silence – and yet it can be so loud. It is the language of love, because it is the language of truth.” Tatiana’s works have been exhibited at Harvard University, the International Monetary Fund in Washington, D.C., the National Press Club in Washington, DC, Trump Towers in New York City, St. John’s Church in Cambridge, Massachusetts and Galerie D’Art Nader in Miami, Florida to mention a few. Her paintings appear in numerous private collections such as those of President Bill Clinton, Bo Derek, David Murdock, Senator Christopher Dodd, Josef Issa, John and Christina McLaughlin, Mack and Donna McLarty to name a few.