

PRESS RELEASE from the Association of Women Art Dealers 23rd November 2011



AWAD announces an exciting new business collaboration between two Founder Members

Francesca Fiumano, a specialist in contemporary Italian art, has run her own gallery since 2001, and Barbara Stanley, a dealer in contemporary Irish art, has run The Barbara Stanley Gallery since 2002. Both art dealers continue to run their respective independent specialist art entities - with an innovative twist.

Francesca and Barbara met at an event with the Association of Women Art Dealers (AWAD), a trade networking association that facilitates business and collaborations between art dealers, gallerists and art consultants. The two dealers joined in 2010 as Founder Members. In line with the collaborative nature of AWAD and in the midst of unprecedented economic times, the two business owners with 19 years' combined experience running art galleries between them, have teamed up forces to jointly operate out of Francesca's premises at 27 Connaught Street near Marble Arch.

"When I first met Francesca Fiumano at a meeting of the Association of Women Art Dealers (AWAD) last year, we explored the possibility of finding a mutually beneficial way of reducing overheads and operational costs. I wanted to retain a dedicated space – preferably in the West End – in which to provide continuity to my existing clients and encourage new collectors to acquire Irish art. So I was ready to seize the opportunity that sharing a space with Fiumano Fine Art's West End gallery presented."

-Barbara Stanley



"I am delighted to be working alongside Barbara Stanley. We are both able to maintain our own unique identities whilst having the support and encouragement of a fellow art dealer. In addition to reducing our individual overheads Barbara and I are able to spend more time outside of the gallery visiting clients and artists and participating in British and international art fairs and exhibitions."

-Francesca Fiumano

Francesca and Barbara are working together on the annual exhibition plan; they will each stage a number of solo and group exhibitions under their independent identities of Fiumano Fine Art and the Barbara Stanley Gallery. Twice a year (at Christmas and in the summer) they will hold a joint exhibition in which both dealers will curate and present art, and each will invite their mailing lists to attend.

The First Annual Collaborative Christmas Show runs from 9th December to the end of the year, with a Private View on Thursday 8th December from 6.30-9.00pm. Journalists wishing to attend the private view or who would like to arrange an earlier appointment as well as interviews should contact:

Fiumano Fine Art: 020 7402 6241 <http://www.fumanofineart.com/>

The Barbara Stanley Gallery: 020 7262 2410 <http://www.irishartinlondon.com>

For general press enquiries and to find out more about the Association of Women Art Dealers (AWAD), contact Susan Mumford, Founder/Owner, or Maria Marro-Perera, Administrator, on 020 7748 2340 or info@womenartdealers.org . Also see <http://www.womenartdealers.org>

Facilitating business & collaborations between women art dealers, gallerists & consultants
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