

# David Findlay EST 1870

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Press Release: February 4, 2003

## **David Findlay Galleries Expand Gallery Focus with Landmark Exhibition: Nina Meledandri “The Color Within” March 7 - 28, 2003**

The David Findlay Galleries are proud to announce an exhibition of paintings by Nina Meledandri, March 7 - 28, 2003. The show is composed of approximately thirty paintings on canvas, the majority of which are a combination of oil paint, wax medium and graphite. This is the artist's inaugural solo exhibition at David Findlay Galleries, located at 984 Madison Avenue at East 77<sup>th</sup> Street.

“The Color Within” is a milestone exhibition for the gallery, launching it into its latest incarnation. Never before in the 130-year history of The David Findlay Galleries has an exhibition ever been devoted to the paintings of an abstract artist. Nina Meledandri's show of recent abstract paintings heralds an important and dramatic shift in the focus of the gallery.

Two years ago, Michael Findlay assumed the role of President and Director of The David Findlay Galleries. Although it bears his grandfather's name, the gallery was established by his great-great-grandfather. Findlay's goal is to expand the reach of the gallery while continuing to exhibit the French artists that remain the foundation of this enterprise. He plans to promote an exciting consortium of new artists from both the United States and abroad, exhibiting a variety of painting styles.

Throughout its existence, The David Findlay Galleries has changed with the times. It was originally founded by William Wadsworth Findlay in 1870 in Kansas City, Missouri. At that time, the gallery was known for showcasing Western artists, such as Frederic Remington and Charles Russell. However, when David Findlay, grandson of the founder, brought the gallery to New York in the late 1930's, a significant transformation occurred.

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In New York City, the Findlay name soon became synonymous with fine French art. The gallery concentrated on the work of major French Impressionists and Post-Impressionists, with paintings by Modern Masters eventually being included as well. At that time, masterworks by artists such as Renoir, Vuillard, Matisse and Picasso were passing through the gallery on a daily basis.

The art market flourished in the 1950's; however, this surge in demand also created a rapidly dwindling pool of available masterpieces. David Findlay anticipated this shortage and viewed it as an opportunity for his gallery to evolve.

In the early 1960's he decided to focus the gallery's attention on the lesser-known yet promising Paris School artists, as well as other contemporary French artists. Mr. Findlay's keen eye would launch the careers of many fine young artists at that time. Artists such as Brianchon, Bardone, Cathelin, Genis and Mühl soon became pillars of his establishment, and many remain so today.

Michael Findlay is now heeding the call to recruit a new stable of artists just as his grandfather did forty years earlier. He recognizes the fact that the art world is in constant flux; and, that the success of the gallery is based on its ability to adapt.

Rick Novakovich, Director of Exhibitions, has undertaken the task of seeking out new talent and creating exhibitions that are relevant to today's world. Along with Rebecca Senior and Philip Smith, Vice Presidents at the gallery, a new vision is being forged.

Nina Meledandri's "The Color Within" is a perfect example of what the future holds for this enterprise. The David Findlay Galleries will continue to grow and evolve as it has for the past five generations. A new era has arrived.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:**  
**Rick Novakovich, Rebecca Senior or Philip Smith**  
**Gallery Hours: Monday through Saturday, 10-5 PM**