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Confessions of an art dealer

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My secret passion...
cooking shows on televi-
sion. I love watching how
people describe two
senses that media can't
capture—taste and
smell—while demonstrat-
ing skill and creativity.
**The museum I'd like to
lead...**

the Chinati Foundation in
Marfa. Seeing Judd's
vision for art in the spec-
tacular desert landscape
changes everything.

**The artist I should have
signed...**

Felix Gonzalez-Torres. His
artistic life, cut way too

short, embodied how the
personal and the political
can be expressed with
elegance, poetry, and
visual impact.

I last cooked for...
the art-fair team: a
breakfast of scrambled
tofu, multi-grain toast
and fresh fruit.

**Dealers are
misunderstood because...**
we are educators more
than we are salespeople.
We provide unique expe-
riences with contempo-
rary art through free
exhibitions, performing
the roles of curator and
teacher.

Fairs are important...
because they convene
people with a shared pas-
sion for art and artists,
not just for commerce or
trade, the way an auction

room does. The best ones
reinforce that art is
constantly in flux.

I enjoy the company of...
walking our Welsh terrier,
Felix, early in the
morning in Central Park.
He provides uncondi-
tional love.

**The most under-rated
art movement is....**
activist-oriented art from
the late 1980s and early
1990s. While not a move-
ment per se, the diverse
range of works that
emerged amidst the Aids
crisis, third-wave femi-
nism, and the unrest of
the Reagan-era fore-
shadowed the pluralistic
globalism of today's con-
temporary art scene. I
am grateful my values
were shaped during this
dynamic period.

The next big thing...
re-emergence of artistic
careers tied to scholar-
ship, rather than emer-
gence and discovery
motivated by
speculation.

**My favourite
person in the art
world is...**

Laura Donnelley,
the gracious
benefactor
behind [New
York-based]
Art Matters.
Laura's philan-
thropy is
focused on
process rather
than product.

**My Art Basel
Miami Beach
dream is to...**
keep coming back.

Interview by Gareth Harris

