



CHARLOTTE CULOT / BILLY SHERRY

April 7 - May 1, 2011

Opening Reception: Thursday, May 5, 2011, 6 -8PM

ARC Fine Art LLC is pleased to announce ARC Fine Art is pleased to announce the upcoming exhibition of paintings and sculpture by Charlotte Culot and Billy Sherry. Opening on Thursday, May 5 with a reception from 6 - 8pm, this two-person show has been organized in conjunction with Art Cabinet Nantucket and highlights the work of two of the Nantucket gallery's premier artists. Billy Sherry will be present at the opening reception.

On view until Wednesday, June 1, the exhibition will feature fifteen mixed media paintings on paper by Belgian-born artist, Charlotte Culot, who lives and works in Provence. Culot's art education began at the hands of her father, a renowned sculptor in Belgium, and her mother, a book illustrator. From 1982 to 1988, she studied archeology, art history, and anthropology at the University of Louvain in Belgium, writing on African vernacular architecture for her thesis. For more than two decades, Culot has exhibited her work internationally, which has led to numerous acquisitions by important private collections across the globe. On view are predominantly newly completed works, all of which bear witness to the artist's wonderful sense of color, rich tactile surfaces, and inventive use of composition. Abstract passages of collaged layers of color give way to quiet fragments of a still-life, at times almost indiscernible. Culot's delicate and poetic vision finds expression in both large, impressive works measuring up to six feet and in long, narrow compositions. Traditional table-top still-lifes find new meaning in panoramic passages as well as in elongated, scroll-like formations referencing the art of Japan. Vases adorned with flowers and branches find solace among plates, jugs, and fruit. One such work, Braque's Lemon pays homage to the great Cubist painter whose influence, along with that of Post-Impressionist Cezanne, is evident in these works. Anne de Grunne writes of her work, Charlotte tells of the life in her humble daily existence. Through a subtle technique of smooth, rugged, and sculptural moments whose secret is hers alone, she places on the awaiting table the milk jug, the tea pot, the drinking glass, bread, wine...The way she proffers it invites us immediately to a pause, a calm, a silence. Culot's reflective contemplation on nature at large and on a domesticated scale is evoked through a broad palette, ranging from nearly monochromatic arrangements of off-white (*New Blooming*), glowing passages of red, orange, and pink (*Constellation*) to brilliant and vivid symphonies of blue (*Aquatic Tea*). However, the artist's most recent work suggests the coming of spring with its playful and abundant use of green.

To compliment the paintings on view by Charlotte Culot is an ensemble of fifteen abstract, steel constructions by Nantucket-based sculptor, Billy Sherry. A graduate of Georgetown University, where he studied sculpture under Leonard Cave, Sherry began his work in carved wood. However, his early work was quickly replaced with large steel, abstract pieces after he met and worked with French sculptor Marc Berlet in Miami. His work is abstract, using the natural geometry of steel in formal and often lyrical statements. His sculpture is grounded in the tradition of Gonzalez, Smith

and Caro, yet it expresses a clear and individual style. Both large outdoor works and more intimate, domestic pieces will be included in the exhibition. On occasion, color emerges through rich painted surfaces, enlivening the dialogue between the artists on view.

ARC Fine Art is located at 3113 Bronson Road in Fairfield, Connecticut and is open by appointment. Further inquiries, please contact Adrienne Ruger Conzelman at 203 895 9595.