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R E D E F I N I N G L U X U R Y

**M**ichele Quinn never really left Las Vegas. After moving to Philadelphia in 2010, she continued to manage her Las Vegas-based business, Michele C Quinn Fine Art Advisory, and travelled back frequently in order to stay involved with local projects. However, in January, Quinn knew it was time for a change, and she returned to Las Vegas full-time. “I’m back downtown. I’m back in my office, which I love,” says Quinn. “Downtown has such character and such history, and I always wanted to be here.”

As the curatorial advisor for the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health, Quinn has diversified the collection by adding the work of local artists as well as renowned international artists. Not only does the Keep Memory Alive Fine Art Program help enhance the clinic’s environment for patients, visitors and employees, the sale of artwork from the collection also helps provide funding for the center’s philanthropic mission. “Helping to support this is nice because medically-speaking it’s an important institution.”

One of Quinn’s goals when she became the curatorial advisor was to help create more opportunities for buyers. “The collection is now more diversified in price range, where we have work from \$500 to \$1,000 up to \$25,000 to \$45,000. The opportunities are much more open in terms of buying,” Quinn explains. The collection showcases the work of local artists like David Ryan, Brent Sommerhauser, Tim Bavington, Randi Chaplin-Matushevitz and Jason Adkins in addition to international artists. “It seemed the most logical connection would be to integrate more local artists and really have that be a part of the storyline.” Located adjacent to the Smith Center, the Frank Gehry-designed building in which the collection is housed is a work of art itself. Quinn remembers driving by the site as the building was being constructed. “You just knew that this is such a focal point architecturally speaking, and you saw the future coming.”

In addition to her work at the Ruvo Center, Quinn manages her gallery on Seventh Street, which she sees as a project space where artists can showcase their work in a way that incorporates the space itself. The salon’s most recent exhibition, Locals-Only: Brent Sommerhauser, featured the artist’s works in glass, sculpture, and drawing, many of which interacted with the architectural features of the gallery.

Quinn’s curatorial presence in Las Vegas is impossible to overlook. She developed the \$40 million dollar CityCenter art program, which includes the work of artists like Maya Lin, Jenny Holzer, and Frank Stella. It is one of the world’s largest corporate art collections.

She also served as the sole consultant on other major corporate collections, including THE Hotel at Mandalay Bay, Harrah’s Executive Collection and the Station Casinos Corporate Collection, in addition to serving as Curator at the Bellagio Fine Art Gallery.

The Ruvo Center is not the first medical facility with which Quinn has worked. She also consulted on the Nevada Cancer Institute Fine Art Collection, which is home to work by artists such as John Baldasari,

Ellsworth Kelly and Richard Long. Quinn understands the importance of the medical care being delivered at the Ruvo Center and the Nevada Cancer Institute and appreciates the unique and potentially powerful role of art in medicine. “

Art obviously doesn’t save lives, but it can do something to help support these institutions. It’s very personal to a lot of people.”

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