



May 28, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Joshua Carden, Chief Curator at the City of Pembroke Pines, Frank C. Ortis Art Gallery & Exhibit Hall. I received my BA in Art History at the University of Florida and my MA in Arts Administration, at the Savannah College of Art and Design. I have worked professionally as an art advisor, appraiser, and curator for the last 12 years. I serve as a member of Americans for the Arts, The Florida Humanities Council, and Broward County's Children's Services Council. I currently serve as an arts grant panelist and member of the Public Art Selection Committee for Broward County.

My current function as Chief Curator at The Frank is to seek and select the highest quality contemporary art and artists for display. Our exhibitions are planned two years in advance and it is my highest priority to exhibit works of unsurpassed quality and skill. It is my pleasure to write this recommendation letter for Gabriele Gutwirth, as she is an artist who exemplifies artistic quality and professional excellence.

The Frank showcases multi-disciplinary inclusive exhibitions and attaches importance to initiating cultural changes and promoting innovation. We see ourselves as a hybrid between a gallery and a museum which means that we provide access to art to a broader range of visitors. Our audience includes professional and private art enthusiasts including art collectors as well as families with children. This requires a great deal of responsibility, especially regarding art education.

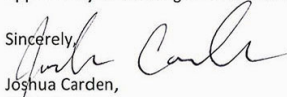
For our Frank Contemporaries pop-up exhibition series in March 2018, Gabriele Gutwirth was highly recommended by her university, the Miami International University of Art & Design. It didn't take us long to recognize that this contemporary artist is the perfect fit for The Frank—both her extraordinary and skillful work, and her meticulous consistency across all media. We were very impressed that Gabriele was not only the promised exceptional artist, but also a consummate professional in every sense. Though many artists show skillful technique, it is not common to encounter an artist whose level of professionalism matches their artistic prowess.

Through Frank Contemporaries, we are interested in offering a deeper understanding into the artist's concept and artistic practice. In this context, we experienced another highlight that revealed the profundity of Gabriele's outstanding talent and personality. Her speech about her artistic concept *Connectivity*, which mainly deals with the question of increasing each individual's self-responsibility in our society, made a lasting impression on the entire audience. That led me to also invite her for another exhibition that originally was already curated: the educational exhibition *The Wizard of Oz Contemporary Interpretations* which took place in partnership with Miami Children's Museum from June to August 2018.

I perceive Gabriele's work as a form of art that has a sustainable impact on the viewer. Her art doesn't play with superficial effects we sometimes experience in the rush of modernity. This body of work has a strong foothold in a powerful concept, is brilliantly and unrepeatably executed, and has a style unique to Gabriele.

We were extremely proud to be able to present seven pieces of Gabriele's ink drawings and collage, which clearly dominated our selection for *The Wizard of Oz Contemporary Interpretations*. I also feel very lucky that I had the opportunity to exchange views with her in person.

Sincerely,


Joshua Carden,
Chief Curator

The Frank – Frank C. Ortis Art Gallery And Exhibit Hall
City of Pembroke Pines

Gabriele

Gutwirth

Communication

Design

Master of Fine Arts (Univ.)

(Visual Arts)

Diplom-Designer (FH)

Bachelor of Arts

(Communication Design)

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