SculptureCenter Launches Benefit Sale
By Noelle Bodick - February 3, 2015

Tonight through Thursday, the Long Island City’s SculptureCenter will host a benefit show at Maccarone gallery, in the West Village. The proceeds of the sale will go towards supporting the nonprofit’s adventurous, left-of-center programming.

From SculptureCenter president Fred Wilson to recent co-curator Camille Henrot, many of the partnering artists have worked with the center at a significant moment in their career and gone on to maintain relationships with the staff.

“We approached artists whom we know are supportive of us,” said executive director and chief curator Mary Ceruti, referring to the 30 blue-chip and emerging artists in the show. Ceruti herself organized the installation hang for the exhibition.

“It is not our primary business, to be in sales,” Ceruti said, laughing. But the work here was selected to attract buyers. “The artists get that — they want to make sure they gave something we are able to sell.”

Artist Ursula von Rydingsvard, famous for her monolithic carved sculptures, has donated a smaller wall piece, friendlier to a domestic environment. “It’s actually unusual for her. Her gallery would probably like to see more of those,” Ceruti said.

Other artists participating include: Sanford Biggers, Louise Bourgeois, Carol Bove, Tom Burr, Petah Coyne, Tom Friedman, Dan Graham, Wade Guyton, Judith Hopf, Rashid Johnson, Louise Lawler, Margaret Lee, Nate Lowman, Adam McEwen, Haley Mellin, Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen, Martin Puryear, Blake Rayne, Ugo Rondinone, Sterling Ruby, Richard Serra, Josh Smith, Kyle Thurman, Kon Trubkovich, Oscar Tuazon, Sara VanDerBeek.

All work is offered at primary-market prices and its value amounts to over a million dollars. This money would go towards the art center’s endowment and “innovation fund,” which Ceruti explains is their “internal venture capital” to experiment with riskier pilot projects.

The show will be open February 3 to 5, 10 to 6 pm, and by appointment. The first night is by invitation only.