NEW YORK – MARC STRAUS is proud to present an artist talk between renowned art critic Donald Kuspit and Italian artist Sandro Chia on **Saturday, February 18th at 3pm**.

It has been almost a decade since Sandro Chia showed new paintings in New York. Marc Straus Gallery, who now represents the Italian artist, will present a body of new paintings in a landmark exhibition that opens on **February 15 through to April 2, 2017**.

To commemorate this inaugural exhibition, the artist Chia will be in dialogue with art critic Donald Kuspit, discussing the new paintings, his career and Chia’s location in the history of 20th century figuration.

Kuspit comments, “It has been said that in old age one tends to be more epitomizing, suggesting that Chia’s late paintings are a sort of epitomizing allegory of painting. The individual is their focus; Chia is the emblem of sustained individuality in an alien modern world—not only the individuality of the artist but of every person.”

Marc Straus, Sandro Chia and Donald Kuspit invite you to join them in conversation on **Saturday, February 18th, at 3pm, at MARC STRAUS Gallery, 299 Grand Street New York NY 10002**. The talk is open to public and will last for about one hour. Seats are very limited and on a first come first serve basis. **The talk starts promptly at 3pm.** Please arrive early as this talk will fill up quickly.
About the Artist
Sandro Chia (born in Florence, Italy, 1946) was among the foremost painters to emerge in the early 80’s. Represented by both Leo Castelli and Sperone in New York, he was a part of the Neo-Expressionist movement that sought to re-emphasize color and figurative representation. His bold and lush paintings were featured in almost every major museum benchmarking that era including Zeitgeist (Berlin) in 1982. In an illustrious career spanning almost five decades, some of his milestones include the Biennale of Paris, San Paolo and three iterations of the Venice Biennale.

Sandro Chia studied at the Istituto d’Arte and then at the Accademia di Belle Arti in Florence. His work is included in many prestigious public and private collections including MoMa, New York, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, the Castello di Rivoli, Museo d’Arte Contemporanea, Rivoli, Neue Nationalgalerie, Berlin, and Tate, London. Solo exhibitions include Stedelijk Museum, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, Nationalgalerie, Berlin, Villa Medici, Rome and Gemeentemuseum Den Haag, The Hague. He is represented in New York by MARC STRAUS.

About the Art Critic
Donald Kuspit (born March 26, 1935) is an American art critic, poet, and Distinguished Professor Emeritus of art history and philosophy at the State University of New York at Stony Brook and former professor of art history at the School of Visual Arts. Kuspit is one of America’s most distinguished art critics with many accolades such as the Frank Jewett Mather Award for Distinction in Art Criticism in 1983, the Tenth Annual Award for Excellence in the Arts from the Newington-Cropsey Foundation in 2008 and in 2014 he was the first recipient of the Gabarron Foundation Award for Cultural Thought. He has received fellowships from the Ford Foundation, Fulbright Commission, National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities, Guggenheim Foundation, and Asian Cultural Council, among other organizations. He has doctorates in philosophy (University of Frankfurt) and art history (University of Michigan), as well as degrees from Columbia University, Yale University, and Pennsylvania State University.

He has written numerous articles, exhibition reviews, catalogue essays, lectured at many universities and art schools, curated many exhibitions, and edited several series for UMI Research Press and the Cambridge University Press. Among his books are The Critic Is Artist: The Intentionality of Art (Ann Arbor: UMI Research Press, 1984); The End of Art (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2004) and many, many more. He has written monographs on individual artists, serves as a contributing editor for several art magazines, and published several books of poetry.

About Marc Straus Gallery
Established in 2011, MARC STRAUS is a contemporary art gallery in the Lower East Side of New York. The gallery identifies and fosters some of the best international talent, representing 17 artists from 13 different countries, most of whom have not been shown in the US before. Additionally, the gallery has taken a position of showing older artists who have not for decades, or in some cases ever, been looked at in the proper light. MARC STRAUS gallery artists have works acquired by international museums such as The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Denver Art Museum, The Smithsonian Institute, Museum of Fine Arts Boston, Museum of Modern Art, New York, The Guggenheim, Tate London, Musee Centre George Pompidou Paris, Whitney Museum of American Art, and many more. Gallery artists have been included in the Venice and Prague Biennials, Prospect New Orleans and Site Santa Fe. Further extending its program to a wider audience, the gallery has participated in major art fairs both in the US and on an international platform in Europe and Asia.

For all press inquiries, or information on the talk, contact Ken Tan at (929) 287-8107 or email: ken@marcstraus.com


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