11.23.11 The Fall Season in full swing
On an unseasonably balmy Monday evening in mid-November, more than 500 guests converged at The Prince George Ballroom for Fountain Gallery's 10th Annual Celebration of Life Benefit. The Ballroom provided a splendid showcase for the 100 works displayed for sale by the artists of Fountain Gallery, the premier venue in New York City representing artists with mental illness. Celebration of Life is a remarkable collaboration of the commercial real estate industry and the New York arts community with the Gallery, to benefit its member-artists.
The Esther Montanez Leadership Award was presented to three recipients: **John Ambrosini**, Executive Managing Director and Director of Property Management and Construction, ABS Partners Real Estate, LLC; **Rick Froio**, Managing Partner, Atlas-Acon Electric Service Corp.; and The Renate, Hans and Maria Hofmann Trust, which through generous gifts has enabled Fountain Gallery to expand its programs and exhibitions. **Patricia Gallagher**, Trustee, accepted the Award on behalf of the Trust. The Esther Montanez Leadership Award was established to commemorate Fountain Gallery's founding director, who was a tireless advocate for people with mental illness throughout her long career at Fountain House until her death in 2006.
The dedicated Co-Chairs who did so much to ensure the success of this evening were: **Earle Altman, Peter L. DiCapua, Matt Duthie, Carmel W. Fromson, Dario Grisitina, Carl T. Hagberg, Leslie Harwood, John McGinley, Jerry Schumm, and Andrew Stenzler.**

Among the notable attendees were: **Ed Bergen, Gary Bornstein, Maggie Calamari, John Casaly, Kevin DePicciotto, Mark DeStefano, Cal Donly and Ellen Philip, Nancy Farrell, Charlotte Moses Fischman, Esq., Lorna Hyde Graev, Adam Charles Greenberger, Agnes Gund, Rich Hiler, Jonathan Horowitz, Suzanne Hoyt, Elizabeth Szancer Kujawski and Tom Zoufaly, Suzanne and Emmanuel Lemakis, Frank Maresca, Marilyn and Charlie Marsden, Donna Moylan, Lynn Nicholas, Sasha Nicholas and Steven Caputo, JuneAnn Patrick, Mary Pontillo, Joseph Primian, Lawrence Quinn, Dawn Reinholtz, Thomas Rutter, Betsy Seidman, Melissa Shafton, Frank Sinatra, Gabe Stefania, Bonnie and Jay Stockwell, Joe Szabo, Lynn and Martin Tesher, Eric Tozzi, and Anthony Venezia.**
Fountain Gallery was founded by Fountain House in 2000 as a not-for-profit exhibition space for artists living and working with mental illness. The Gallery sells original artworks and collaborates with a wide network of artists, curators and cultural institutions. Embracing artists who are emerging or established, trained or self-taught, Fountain Gallery cultivates artistic growth and makes a vital contribution to the New York arts community. For more information, visit: www.fountaingallernyc.com.