

**FREE**

*Local News  
in English*

N°421 - January 23, 2020



# St-Barth WEEKLY

Published by Le Journal de Saint-Barth  
[barthweekly@wanadoo.fr](mailto:barthweekly@wanadoo.fr)





**T**his issue of The Weekly notes that the population of Saint Barth has passed the threshold of 10,000 people, yet the census revealing that number was done in 2017, so there could actually be more residents now than were counted then. Seems like a lot of people for this small little rock, especially as the number of hotel rooms and multi-bedroom villas keeps expanding at a rapid rate. As noted last week, there are still a few hotels not yet reopen after Irma, including Guanahani, Carl Gustaf, Tropical, and the new 50-room project that will reportedly replace Emeraude Plage, and who knows what's happening at Autour du Rocher...

The same article notes that the population density here is almost twice that of Guadeloupe and about four times that of France. Which means there isn't a lot of breathing space per person anymore. So where is the limit? How many people can live here and vacation here before something has to give? And while many people bemoan the loss of the old Saint Barth, and say the island just isn't the same anymore, there are planeloads of people arriving that absolutely love it just the way it is. Not too many other places in the world with the same quality of life, great beaches, and so many good dining options... especially if price is no object.

So whether you are nostalgic for the island as it used to be and have a mental scrapbook full of memories, or you have just discovered Saint Barth and want to bring all your friends, we have to admit it's a pretty special place, even with all the recent rain. It only makes things look better!

*Ellen Lampert-Gréaux*

## More Than 10,000 Island Residents



**N**umbers reflecting the 2017 national census reveal that the total population of the island is now over 10,000 people, while the number of full-time residents is 9,961.

Results have been published from the national census done on the island in January and February 2017, with Saint Barthélemy now officially at 10,083 people. That figure represents the total population, but the actual number of residents is minus 122 people who are part of the total but live elsewhere (primarily students). Which leaves a total of 9,961 people who live on the island, or the municipal population number used by the administration.

The prior census was done in 2013, and counted 9,279 residents (or people who live on

the island at least six months per year). So the number of people on the island continues to grow but less exponentially than in the 1990s, as limited by the size of the island and the lack of housing. The population density of 408 people per square kilometer is higher than in Guadeloupe (235 people per km<sup>2</sup>) and France (106 people per km<sup>2</sup>). From 2011-2016, the population increased by 1.3% per year.

The 2017 census was done before Irma, and it took two years for the figures to be published. The influx of construction workers in the months following the hurricane, "could significantly impact the demographics of the island," cautioned the agency that oversees the census. So these figures should be taken with a grain of salt.

St Barth Music Festival:

## Steven Mercurio: “Carmen is the archetypical modern woman.”

The 36th edition of the St Barth Music Festival closed last weekend. One of the highlights was the opera evening led by American conductor and composer Steven Mercurio, maestro for this popular event.

**M**ercurio has been part of the St Barth Music Festival for over a decade, in his role as opera conductor. This year he returned for the Carmen+ program at the Catholic Church in Lorient on Friday, January 17. The next day he flew off to Prague to begin rehearsals for Mahler’s Symphony No. 1, as he also serves as musical director of the Czech National Symphony Orchestra.

### *How is the decision made to do a full opera or an evening of arias and songs?*

Sometimes Frances DeBroff has an idea and we try and realize it. We also don’t want to do just operas or just highlights, it’s nice to do a combination. The decision is also based on the singers we have. This year, Frances wanted a Carmen evening, as part of a theme of the festival. But Carmen is an opera that needs a chorus, so we wound up with the highlights, all the big arias and duets, all the songs you can do without a chorus. So that was most of a program but we still needed to fill 15 or 20 minutes. Also Carmen is so sad at the end, so we decided to add some great songs, like a series of encores that are more upbeat and entertaining. People should really enjoy the evening.

### *Who is your Carmen?*

Her name is Kirstin Chavez. She and tenor Richard Troxell have done Carmen together several times, so when I was talking to



Richard about the idea, he recommended Kirsten. I spoke to her and she was happy to be invited. Baritone Luis Ledesma has been here before as well, and they all know each other from New York and Philadelphia. So I get a quartet of singers who know each other and have worked together. That’s important to me, that they have a sense of friendship already.

### *What is your secret for making the orchestra sound so good with so little rehearsal?*

Preparation, preparation, preparation. I know the musicians and I love them, they all excellent. I give them the materials they need, and I spend more than a month getting everything ready, it’s a lot of library work so when they get the music, the bowings are all there for the violins, and the beat patterns, so they don’t have to fight the music.

### *What is the appeal of Carmen, making it such a timeless favorite?*

Such beautiful music by Bizet, and Carmen is such a great character study, so defiant, she is the archetypical modern woman. People are attracted to her strength. The four principal characters are so much fun. No opera has been so done and redone, and adapted, there are two violin suites and a flute suite, and the movie Carmen Jones. Every generation makes it their own. Interestingly, the French have written some of best pieces about Spain, from Bizet’s Carmen to Ravel’s Bolero. The erotic nature of Spain appeals to the French. There are also so many beautiful dance numbers in Carmen, like the Habanera and Seguidilla, all of the Spanish standards, like the Latin dances Bernstein put in West Side Story. I love the dance rhythms throughout the entire opera, in addition to the great lyrical quality.

### *What do you like best about coming to Saint Barth?*

The camaraderie of the musicians, and bringing singers here. Everyone loves being on this beautiful island to make music. We are all equals and love the experience. This week in Saint Barth is sacred. The musicians build this week of vacation into their professional schedule. The festival always needs financial support, we can take care of the artistic side, that’s the reward.

## Exhibit Of Work By Stefan Szczesny

From February 17 to January 6, Galerie Asie presents a new exhibit of selected works by Stefan Szczesny, inspired by his numerous visits to Moustique, Sainte Lucie, and Jamaica in the 1990's. The artist also spent time in the South of France, developing a similar love for the Mediterranean as for the Caribbean. His play of colors and simple forms share with us his vision of the Garden of Eden, filled with fruit, tropical plants, and feminine sensuality.

In addition to the watercolors seen in the exhib-



it, Stefan Szczesny is also a prolific large-format sculptor, and enjoys painting on ceramic.

*Stefan Szczesny*  
*Galerie Asie,*  
*39 rue Samuel Fahlberg,*  
*Gustavia*  
*Until February 6, 2020*  
*Monday - Saturday:*  
*10am-12:30pm*  
*& 4:30-7pm*

## Second Annual Art Week In February

The second edition of Art Week will take place February 2-8, 2020 and run for six nights. Dedicated to photography for its inaugural edition last year, this time the focus is on painting. Organ-



ized by the non-profit association Artists of Saint Barth, with the Tourism Committee and the Collectivity, the event will open on Sunday, February 2 at the Territorial Museum in Gustavia, with a few paintings by each of the participating artists. Then the schedule comprises: February 3, Eric Demarchelier at Le Barthélemy; February 4, Gabriela Berruti at the Christopher; February 5,

Jason Bereswill at Villa Marie; February 6, Paddy Cohn at Manapany; and February 7, Luca Bornoffi at Le Sereno. And for close the week, paintings by Dominique Le Grand Philouze. The event is one day longer than last year, with Le Sereno joining the list of prestigious hotels hosting the exhibits. Additional information in the next issue of The Weekly and online at [www.sbhartweek.com](http://www.sbhartweek.com).

## A Half-Marathon In February

The Saint-Barth Triathlon is organizing the second edition of the Saint Barthélemy Half Marathon, which will take place on Sunday, February 23, 2020. In 2019, this event attracted close to 180 runners, locals and tourists. The event can be run individually or as a relay for three-person teams (3x7km). The basic itinerary: start at the stadium in St Jean with a 2-km tour of St Jean before heading toward Lorient, the parking lot

in Saline, a return to Lorient, and then La Tourmente, Public, Gustavia, the Collectivité, leave Gustavia by way of the dispensary, back by La Tourmente, St Jean, and the bridge at Eden Rock, to arrive back at the stadium. In order to help you train, the itinerary is indicated along the roads. Information and registration via email at: [saintbarthtriathlon@gmail.com](mailto:saintbarthtriathlon@gmail.com) or on the SBH Triathlon Facebook page.

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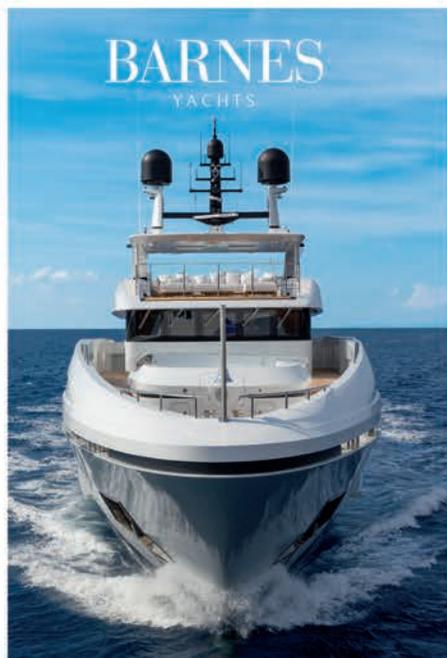
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## Saint-Barth



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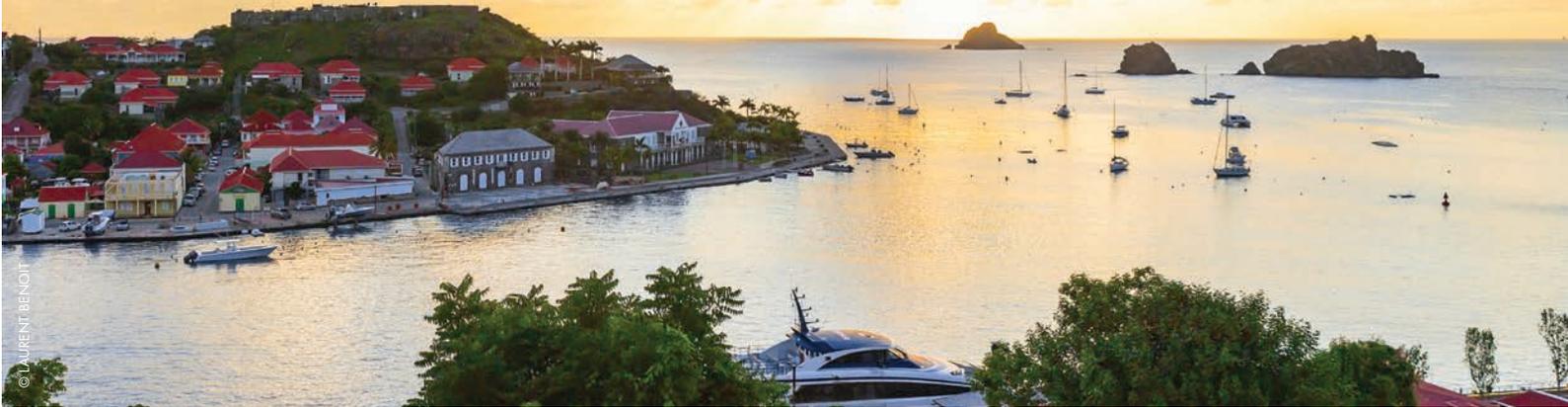




# WIMCO

— SBH —  
REAL ESTATE

DISTINCTIVE PROPERTIES FOR SALE FROM ST. BARTHS TO ST. TROPEZ



© LAURENT BENOIT

**Land TEG - EXCLUSIVE - Gustavia 292m<sup>2</sup> / 393m<sup>2</sup> 4,800,000 € each lot**

Thought by many to be one of St. Barths' greatest views. An absolute must-see to truly understand. Two separate lots, each permitted for their own individual villa or combine the two for an exceptional larger property.



**Villa LLA - 4 BR - St. Jean Hillside 9,900,000 €**

Recently fully renovated 4 bedroom villa on a 1510m<sup>2</sup> lot on the popular hillside above Nikki Beach in St. Jean. Stunning ocean and sunset views.



**Land KEN - EXCLUSIVE - Marigot 6,700,000 €**

Rare opportunity. Buildable land with direct access to Marigot bay. Lot size 2077m<sup>2</sup>.



**Land HAZ1 / HAZ2 - St. Jean 1338.90m<sup>2</sup> / 1337.25m<sup>2</sup> 2,862,000 € each lot**

Two lots overlooking the newly renovated pond and out to St. Jean Bay past Eden Rock. These two lots are awaiting permitting with St. Jean views at a much more affordable cost after build out. Or, combine the two for your large St. Jean estate.



**Villa CBI - 4 BR - Grand Cul de Sac 5,300,000 €**

Newly built villa. Fully furnished with nice views of the lagoon. Great rental potential!



**Villa JOY - 5 BR - Marigot 12,800,000 €**

This villa enjoys a beautiful view of Marigot bay. The modern design is accentuated with clean lines and the interior is finished with natural materials, including wood ceilings and floors. Gourmet kitchen, large rooms, pool, air conditioned bedrooms. Price is negotiable.



**Villa CBA - 2 BR - Grand Cul de Sac 3,900,000 €**

Surrounded by stone walls and lush vegetation, Villa Palm is meticulously maintained, with beautiful views of the lagoon and ocean. Parking in front as well as in a garage underneath. Price is negotiable.



**Land LUR - 1387m<sup>2</sup> - Lurin 4,900,000 €**

Just above the GUSTAV Hotel, 2 parcels of land. One has an old house to be demolished or renovated, the other parcel is an empty lot. Views over Gustavia, ocean and sunsets.



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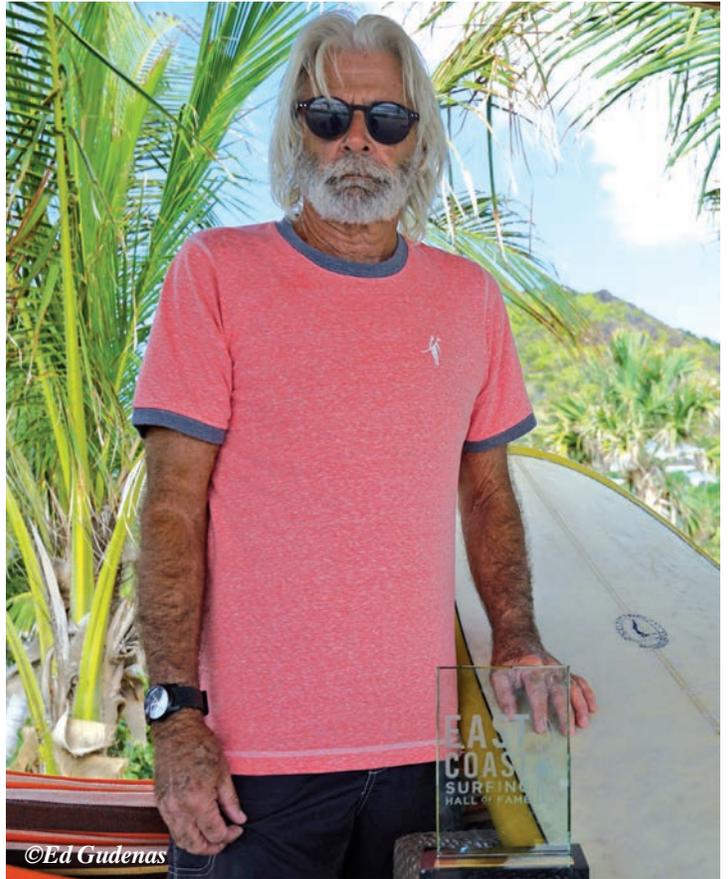
# Tony Caramanico: A Surfing Legend Winters In Saint

**I**t's a surfer's life for Tony Caramanico, a Long Island native inducted into the East Coast Surfing Hall of Fame as a Legend on January 8, 2020. A winter resident of Saint Barth since about 2008, Caramanico combines his surfing habit and creating diaries of his everyday activities... diaries that launched his career as an artist.

"I started surfing at Gilgo Beach on Long Island NY in 1963," says Caramanico, who was 13 at the time. "I grew up in Amityville and all my friends were surfers. I was too young to drive, so I took a little boat to Gilgo Beach on the barrier island. That was the epicenter of East Coast surfing in those days."

A champion pro surfer for many years on the Longboard tour, Caramanico and his wife Charlotte, also a surfer, live in Montauk, Long Island, where he has an incredible collection of vintage surfboards. He describes his home, an old fisherman's cottage overlooking Fort Pond Bay, as a "surf museum. I have been collecting stuff since the 60's. It's like a potpourri of a life spent around surfing."

Living the surfer's life also means a lot of traveling, with a lot of downtime. Time that Caramanico used to create journals that reflect his life. "In Montauk, I met some world-famous artists and lived around them, that's where I learned to do my art journals," he notes, explaining that the best of these journals, or diaries made on pages in business ledgers with illustrated notes of



©Ed Gudenas

his daily activities, date from the 1980s and 90s. "There was no cable TV in those days in the Caribbean, and the journals were a way to document my surfing life style, a creative outlet. 20 years later, the pages become sellable art." Becoming an artist was "an unplanned facet of my life," he admits.

As an artist, Caramanico has sold many of his pieces in Saint Barth over the years, high-quality blow-ups of the journal pages, one of the most popular here features Marius from Le Select, with the original in a place of honor in a glass case at the bar. "There are some limited-edition prints of my work available at Space Gallery,"

the artist points out. "My studio is the beach with the books and a bunch of pens."

Having traveled around the world, with stops in St. Thomas, Barbados, and Tobago, Caramanico enjoys his winters in Saint Barth. "There is a unique kind of surf culture here," he points out. "It's very friendly, and a lot of the traveling surfers don't come here due to the expense." One of his surfer buddies in Saint Barth and in Montauk is singer Jimmy Buffett, and as Caramanico notes, "Saint Barth has a good variety of surf breaks and excellent surfers. And the best surf program for kids I have ever seen is headed by David Blanchard at Ajoë."

# nt Barth



For Caramanico, the recent award is the crown to his professional career: “To be honored as a Hall Of Fame surfer in the Legend category was very gratifying

for a life well lived and surfed,” he says. Keep an eye out for him, when the surf’s up, you’re likely to find him riding the waves.

## MASTHEAD

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 An aerial view of a coastal area with a red outline highlighting a specific plot of land for sale. The background shows a blue ocean, distant mountains, and a residential area with houses and pools.
 

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# TIME OUT

Where to go dancing? See an art exhibit? Listen to live music?  
Time Out keeps you up to date on local happenings. Let's party !

## Live Music

### ► Every Day

- DJ set @ Bonito St Barth.  
- DJ Set for lunch @ Pearl Beach

### ► Thursday January 23

- Bagabuzz, big music quiz @ Bagatelle, Gustavia  
- Le Ti 54! Tribute to Studio 54 by the resident DJ Franck N. Performer show at 10pm during dinner. Fancy dress room. DJ after dinner party @ Ti St Barth  
- Sunset Lounge with DJ Set @ Christopher Hotel.  
- Live Music by Soley from 12pm - 2pm @ Lil'Rock  
► Friday January 24  
- "Crazy Ti!" Dinner and clubbing-style dance show.

DJ after dinner party and fancy-dress room

### ► Ti St Barth

- "Rose Fridays" Music Patris Gero and Al Sax, 12 pm - 7pm @ Nikki Beach  
- Nuit Blanche Party. champagne for Ladies @ Bagatelle  
- Friday Friendly After-work - DJ Set from 5pm @ Pearl Beach

### ► Saturday January 25

- Live Music by Soley from 12pm - 2pm @ Lil'Rock  
- Crazy Ti! Dinner and clubbing-style dance show (show at 10pm) DJ after dinner party and fancy dress room. @ Ti St Barth  
- Bikini Day - Grab you best Bikini and join the Party - DJ set and Fashion

show by Pop St Barth @ Pearl Beach, St-Jean

### ► Sunday January 26

- Amazing Sundays. Music by Jerome Barthelemy, Patris Gero and Al Sax @ Nikki Beach

### ► Monday January 27

- Live Music by Soley from 12pm - 2pm @ Lil'Rock  
- Italian Evening, Cucina E Vino from 7pm with Live music @ Christopher Hotel  
- Live Music with Soley for dinner @ Le Sereno

### ► Tuesday January 28

- Gypsy Evening with Soley @ La Casa, Gustavia  
- "The traditional cabaret show of Le Ti St Barth" Dinner-Cabaret Show DJ after dinner party and fancy-dress room @ Ti St Barth

- Live Music by Soley from 12pm - 2pm @ Lil'Rock

### ► Wednesday January 29

- "The traditional cabaret show of Le Ti St Barth" Dinner-Cabaret Show. DJ after dinner party and fancy-dress room @ Ti St Barth  
- "Live Music by Carbo" from 7:30 pm @ Villa Marie, Colombier

## Fashion Show

### ► Every lunch

@ Pearl Beach  
@ Nikki Beach  
@ Le Barthelemy

### ► Every Tuesday

- 6:30 pm at La Cabane, Cheval Blanc  
- Every night (Closed on Sunday & Monday)  
@ Ti St Barth

## Night Club

@ Modjo St-Jean  
@ Casa Night Club  
@ Ti St Barth

## Exhibitions

### ► Through February 6

Stefan Szczesny  
Galerie Asie, Gustavia,  
39 rue Samuel  
Fahlberg, Gustavia

- An Island Floating Between The Sea And The Sky at the Wall House Museum, Gustavia  
- Bronze Sculptures at The Collectivity Garden  
- Group Exhibition incl. Hugh Arnold, Giorgio Pasqualetti, Hunt Slonem, Dominique Roussier and more at Space Gallery St Barth, Carré d'Or  
- The Spirit of St Barth, photography by Sebastien Martinon by Space Gallery at Barnes International.  
- Philippe Savary @ Christopher

### ► Artist's Collection

- Hannah Moser,  
- Kay Quattrocchi, Salines

### ► Art Galleries

- Antoine Heckly Art-Gallery  
- Clic Gallery, Gustavia  
- Les Artisans, Gustavia  
- Art Hunter, Gustavia  
- Camaruche Gallery  
- SpaceSBH Gallery  
- Pipiri Palace, Gustavia  
- Pati's Gallery, by Artists of Saint-Barth

### ► Through March 4

An Island Floating Between The Sea And The Sky  
The exhibition traces the epic of St. Barts at sea and in the air, from 1493 to the present day, at the Wall House Museum.



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## ■ Classified ads

### Real Estate

For sale, Charming 3 bedroom villa with pool situated in Petit Cul-de-Sac offering a beautiful water view and proximity to the beach. Built with exotic woods in traditional West Indies style, there are several pavilions that contain a spacious kitchen and dining room, and a living room.

Price : € 2,950,000

St. Barth Properties

Sotheby's International Realty - 0590 29 90 10

sothebys@stbarth.com

For sale, Newly renovated 3 bedroom villa ideally located in Colombier with a stunning view of the sea that encompasses the neighboring islands of Nevis, St. Kitts, Statia and Saba. The villa's main level encompasses a living room, kitchen with a breakfast bar, and a covered dining terrace. All 3 bedrooms have en suite

baths. The pool area affords abundant space for sunning and outdoor living. Parking is ample.

Price : € 11,500,000

St. Barth Properties

Sotheby's International Realty - 0590 29 90 10 -

sothebys@stbarth.com

Apartment for sale in Gustavia: Large living, 1 bedroom with contemporary bathroom, Large terrace with harbor views, large laundry room. Great rental history. Turn-key.

Price: 1 900 000 €

Wimco Real Estate

0590 51 07 51

realestate@wimco.com

3 bedroom villa for sale in Vitet with extra land to build a second villa. Great views, pool, terraces, parking.

Price: 4 250 000 €

Wimco Real Estate

0590 51 07 51

realestate@wimco.com

### Land

For sale, this plot of land of 1000 m<sup>2</sup> located in Vitet, is in its entirety in a buildable area. Oriented North / East it overlooks the Grand Cul-de-Sac lagoon, offering a nice perspective.

Price : € 1,596,000

St. Barth Properties

Sotheby's International Realty - 0590 29 90 10 -

sothebys@stbarth.com

Buildable land for sale between St.Jean and Lurin. 856 m2 with a nice view of the bay of St. Jean.

Price: 1 695 000 €

Wimco Real Estate

0590 51 07 51

realestate@wimco.com

St. Barth  
Properties

Sotheby's  
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This luxurious villa enjoys a tranquil setting in the hills of Vitet - and a spectacular view of the sea. The unique and gorgeous swimming pool is one of the villa's focal points. Two bedrooms with baths en suite are located on either side of the pool offering privacy and lovely views. On the lower level is a third bedroom with bath plus a bonus room that could be used as an office, exercise room or overflow.

Asking price **2 950 000€**



What a location! Just minutes from Gustavia's restaurants and shops, Lurin's magnificent three bedroom Villa Fleur de Cactus has it all - space, luxury, privacy and a panoramic seascape. Water views abound throughout and guests love watching the sunset.

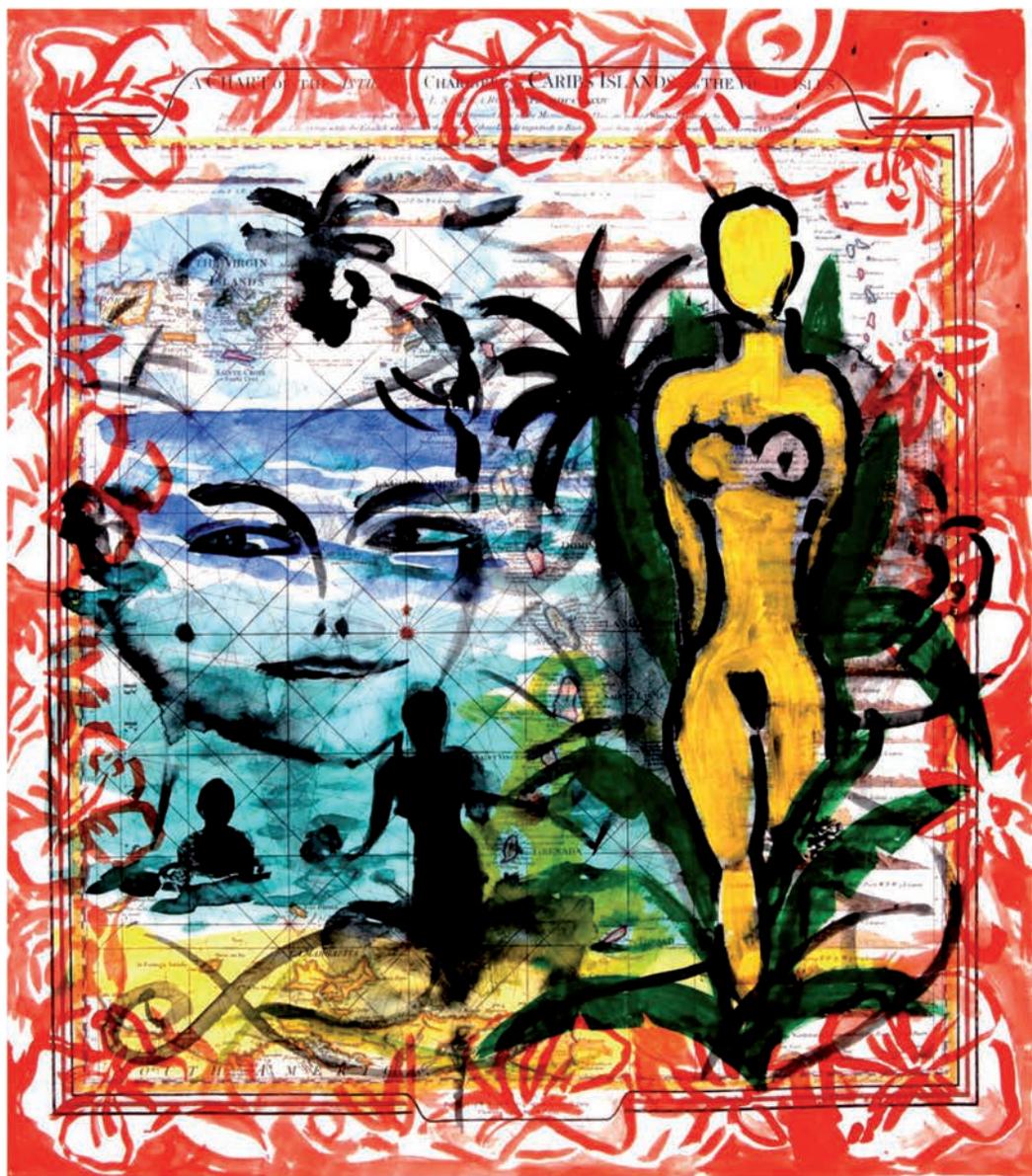
Bi-level and contemporary in design and décor, this is one of St. Barth's premier properties.

Asking price **6 500 000€**

# STEFAN SZCZESNY

## CARIBBEAN MOOD 2

### PAINTINGS



**GALERIE ASIE**

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