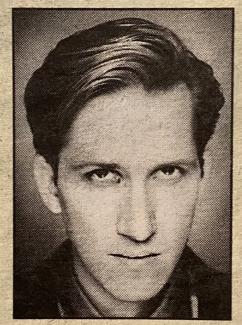
## Kostabi's Roman holiday a fine dine for the divine

ART world oddball
Mark Kostabi
(right) is keeping
some curious company in Rome, where
he spends much of
his time these days.
The '80s-era East
Village artrepreneur
dined with Sophia
Loren, her sister
Maria Scicilone
(who married Benito
Mussolini's son and
is the mother of

Italian politician Alessandra
Mussolini) and Don
Franco Camaldo — whom
Kostabi called "the
Pope's right-hand man"
— at Antica Pesa
restaurant the other
night. "I was amazed to
be in the living presence
of one of film history's
greatest actresses and an iconic
sex symbol, equal to Marilyn
Monroe, and to see the Pope's



right-hand man
transfixed by her like
a teenybopper in the
presence of **Gwen Stefani**," Kostabi
tells Page Six. "When
I gave Sophia a
signed copy of my
latest book, 'The
Rhythm of
Inspiration,' she
briefly held my hand
while thanking me,
causing me to melt
in utter adulation

and total puppy love. I knew then and there that my decision to live in Rome payed off big time. But I still love New York,

and I'll be back soon for my one-person show uptown at the Adam Baumgold Gallery in May."

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