

# speaking of the arts...

PRESENTS

## “COLLABORATION CONVERSATIONS”

*Artist Judith Levine and poet Jeanne Marie Beaumont will share their experience collaborating on a public art project for Art in Common Places*

a Zoom presentation  
December 2, 2020 | 1:00 pm

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Sarasota artist Judith Levine and New York poet Jeanne Marie Beaumont worked long-distance for six weeks on a deeply personal project for the public arts program, Art in Common Places. Levine and Beaumont, who titled their collaboration Memorykeeper, will share their experiences and outcomes in this Zoom presentation.



Judith Levine

Levine stated, “This project was a joyful collaboration between two creative strangers. During the process, we found many crossovers in life and in art, sharing and creating a memory keeper in words and visual symbols. Jeanne’s powerful use of words inspired my visual work and created a mutual bond of friendship.”

**Art in Common Places was founded in February 2020 by Sarasota residents Cynthia Burnell, Leslie Butterfield, and Teresa Carson. Its mission is to put art in public places so everyone can experience it in their daily life. “The art and poetry that comes out of each cross-disciplinary collaboration is transformed into posters that are hung in places such as libraries, community centers, coffee shops and healthcare facilities.”**

Judith Levine is president of the Association of Florida Teaching Artists and has coordinated the Artists in Schools program for the Arts and Cultural Alliance in Sarasota,

Florida, training artists to integrate their art into the curriculum. She teaches art courses at Ringling College Continuing Studies Osher Lifelong Learning Institute in Sarasota, and owns Phoenix Art Workshops, a business providing art talks and workshops. Levine attended Rutgers and Fairleigh Dickinson Universities and attained a B.A. in art and art education. She earned an M.A. in visual arts from



Jeanne Marie Beaumont

Montclair State University, New Jersey, where she was on the art education faculty. She also was an art educator for more than 30 years in Parsippany, New Jersey.

Jeanne Marie Beaumont is the author of four books of poetry: “Letters from Limbo;” “Burning of the Three Fires;” “Curious Conduct;” and “Placebo Effects,” a winner of the National Poetry Series. She coedited the anthology “The Poets’ Grimm: 20th Century Poems from Grimm Fairy Tales.” She has also written plays and poetry made into films. Beaumont received her M.F.A. in writing from Columbia University, and she has taught at the Frost Place, Rutgers University, and for the Stonecoast M.F.A. Program of the University of Southern Maine. She now teaches adult workshops at the Unterberg Poetry Center of the 92nd St. Y in New York City where she lives.

**Arts Advocates members will receive a link for this Zoom presentation.**



## To Keep

Take the smallest survivors—  
the pins once held in the mouth,  
emptied matchbox, rundown watch—  
and let them speak silently  
of one who was lost, whose hands  
salted soup, combed a child's hair,  
who tossed keys out windows, sticks  
to the dog, pennies in wells, dice . . .  
one who clutched a worn suitcase and  
went a long way, who signed time's  
autograph book—your unknown friend,  
who loved pears, collected stones,  
one who woke and listened to rain  
rinsing the face of the earth ...

# ART IN COMMON PLACES

The mission is to put art in public places so everyone can encounter it in their daily lives.

Comments welcome: [artincommonplaces@gmail.com](mailto:artincommonplaces@gmail.com) [artincommonplaces.com](http://artincommonplaces.com)

Curators: Leslie Butterfield and Teresa Carson Design: Jeff Haste Sponsor: Cynthia Burnell

Poet: Jeanne Marie Beaumont Artist: Judy Levine Title of Assemblage: Memorykeeper to My Childhood

Medium of Artwork: Assemblage of wood, found objects and poetry

# FROM YOUR PRESIDENT Holiday Greetings!

I speak for the entire Arts Advocates Board of Directors when I thank each and every one of you for staying connected during these challenging times. We have proven to be resilient largely because our love of the arts has sustained us, given us moments of pleasure, and continued to lift our spirits.

In spite of the many challenges we've had to surmount, there have been bright spots and positive outcomes that were never anticipated. When gathering together became unsafe, we were forced to rely on technology and learn to operate virtually like so many other arts organizations.

Zoom meetings, sometimes several a day, live-streaming and digital programming have become the new normal. By offering our monthly programs and Speaking of The Arts... events through Zoom, we have been able to reach out to artists world-wide. Who would have dreamed? Of more importance, we have stayed connected to each other and to our community.

Many of you are considering just how to observe the coming holidays. Whatever you decide about celebrating, please know that we are thinking of you, hoping you are safe and well, and looking forward to 2021...a completely new year.

## THE POWER OF PASSION

The board and I deeply appreciate the year-end donations you have already made and those contributions that are yet to come. Your generous contributions have already surpassed a total of \$60,000, an amazing response at any time but particularly impressive in this environment.

The most encouraging outcome of this campaign has been the number of members who increased their previous 2019 donation. For example, many of those who contributed \$250 last year gave \$1,000 this year; some of our \$1,000 donors gave \$2,000; and some \$5,000 donors stepped up with gifts of \$10,000.

Every dollar counts so, if you have not yet responded, please do so. If you are estimating your 2020 taxes, remember December 31st is fast approaching.

## TWO NEW BOARD MEMBERS

We are pleased to have two new Arts Advocates board members, Jeannette Paladino and Carol Hirschburg.

Coincidentally, they are both passionate about classical ballet.

Jeannette retired to Sarasota following an extensive career in marketing communications. She held executive marketing positions with both corporations and agencies. While living and working in New York, she also volunteered her time to lead and serve on non-profit boards such as The Heart Association and The Laban Dance Notation Board. Jeannette had her own website and blog, so she will assume responsibility for our new Arts Advocates blog.

While living in Baltimore, Carol had her own consulting firm where she focused on fundraising. In Sarasota, she has been associated with the Carreno Dance Festival, The Sarasota School of Cuban Ballet, and the Friends of Sarasota Ballet. She is already an active member of the Arts Advocates Scholarship Team, and volunteered to write our newsletter column about scholars titled "Where Are They Now?" Carol is also managing our new GroundWorks collaboration with the Designing Women Boutique.

Donna Maytham  
President



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**please save the date for speaking of the arts...**



**Join us as we Zoom over to London on  
Tuesday, January 12 at 1:00 pm.**

**Meet Francisco Serrano  
member of England's Royal Ballet**

*Francisco and Arts Advocates member, Jeannette Paladino, will have a conversation about Francisco's star studded journey from Sarasota to London via New York and Havana.*

**collection  
committee  
news**

The Collection Committee is exploring a project to produce two companion videos about the history of visual arts in Sarasota, highlighting our Collection artists. The first one will be part of a program for the Sarasota County Libraries' Centennial observance, as the County turns 100 in 2021!

The first video will be concerned with the years from 1921 to the 1960's. The second will feature the heyday of the Sarasota Art Colony. We are uniquely positioned to do this with our Collection, which our curator, Mark Ormond, writes "includes some of the most important artists who live or have lived in Sarasota."

These will be used to educate the community about, and renew their interest in, this significant artistic legacy—a legacy that established Sarasota as a renowned cultural center. If you have photographs or newspaper articles from these periods, please contact the Collection Committee.

Linda Bruemmer



# where are they now?

## Past Scholar Interview

### LEONARDO LUNARDI, Architect, AIA

A 2004 Arts Advocates scholarship award winner, Sarasota architect Leonardo Lunardi entered his profession by happenstance. The Cardinal Gibbons High School graduate had planned on becoming an engineer. He began his college education at Manatee Community College with the goal of transferring to the University of South Florida (USF) after two years to earn his engineering degree. However, upon being accepted there, he learned that the department of engineering had no openings. The dean of that department suggested that Leonardo explore the school's architecture program, which offered a five-year Masters Degree program. Leonardo was accepted into the program, and soon felt that he was "born to be an architect." A straight "A" student, Leonardo relied on scholarships to fund his college career. He was grateful to receive his Arts Advocates scholarship, and rewarded the confidence we placed in him by graduating first in his class!

Leonardo was born in Parma, Italy, and moved to the United States with his family in 1998. It was no surprise to them that Leonardo became an architect because his father, mother and older brother have careers in the arts. His father and brother are both international fashion photographers, and his mother is a designer and coordinator of fashion shoots. The family chose Sarasota as their home because it is convenient to Tampa and to Miami, which became an international hot spot for fashion in the 1990s. They were also attracted, of course, to the city's reputation as a center for the arts.

Upon his 2006 graduation from USF, Leonardo began his career in Sarasota. An instinctive entrepreneur (he developed a successful web design business during his college years) his plan was eventually to establish his own architectural firm. To gain experience, however, he did project work for three prominent local architects. Although he was offered full-time jobs, in 2009 he opened Lunardi Architecture.

**Leonardo's firm produces all kinds of architecture, both commercial and residential.**

In custom residential design, the firm specializes in the contemporary style. He said that what sets his firm apart is the use of ArchiCAD—a software that generates architectural drawings as well as a physical 3D model. This helps the client not only see how their decisions impact the design, but it also reduces the chances of miscommunication before construction even begins.

In order to pay forward for the excellent education he received as well as for the many outstanding professionals who helped him to succeed, Leonardo has a keen interest in mentoring students. He invites students to shadow him as he works, and advises them on the risks involved in running a small business, which he says are always present and often cannot be controlled. In addition to running his business, community activities have included the Sarasota Historic Preservation Board and the Public Arts Advisory Board.

We are proud that Leonardo is one of our scholarship winners and wish him continued success.

Carol Hirschburg

To contact Leonardo:

Leonardo  
Lunardi, Architect, AIA

LUNARDI /  
ARCHITECTURE

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