## **EDITOR'S LETTER**



Welcome back to *Inspicio Arts*' e-Magazine, part of the arts publication platform sponsored by Florida International University's College of Communication, Architecture + The Arts (CARTA), in the Lee Caplin School of Journalism & Media.

website (http://inspicio.fiu.edu), where we continuously publish content about all art disciplines; as a periodic e-Magazine that can be read on

Inspicio Arts is currently offered as a

iPads and iPhones and can be installed through the Apple APP Store; and is accessible online through Digital Commons, an open access publishing and archival platform supported by FIU Libraries.

Contributors to *Inspicio Arts* are a network of talented people

who regularly appear in some of the best publications in the world, supplemented by FIU students and faculty.

\*Inspicio Arts\* aspires to be a sophisticated enabler of the arts\*

that is a "must-see" resource for a global audience interested in the Miami-South Florida art scene. In addition, *Inspicio Arts* supports CARTA's mission by providing a platform and process for FIU students to critically examine and comment upon the art communities and activities of South Florida and have the opportunity to publish their work alongside professional writers who are regularly published in *The New Yorker*, the *Wall Street* 

Journal, and the New York Times.

We should note that ever since the COVID-19 pandemic began in February 2020, we have been recording most Inspicio Arts video interviews via Zoom. While the videos present the same high-quality, in-depth content you have come to expect from Inspicio Arts, the quality of the Zoom-recorded video and audio is similar to the mixed results we see every day on TV news programs.

was born in Havana, Cuba. He is one of Miami's most important artists. He was a pioneer of the radical transformation of Cuban Art that inaugurated the Exhibition Volumen 1, which Bedia was an integral part of. His passion for the primal Amerindians complemented his anthropological studies on Afro-Transatlantic cultures, studying in-depth the faith, beliefs and religion of the "La Regla Kongo" (in which he was initiated in 1983), the "Regla de Ocha", and the Leopard Society of Abakuas, among many others. **ELANA SCHOR** is Congress editor at POLITICO, who was partially raised in Miami. She first joined POLITICO as an energy

THE CURRENT EDITION OF INSPICIO ARTS features a video interview with cover person JOSÉ BEDIA. José Bedia

presidential primary, as well as religion and politics for The Associated Press.

MOSHE SAFDIE is an iconic architect, urban planner, educator, theorist, and author. Over a celebrated 50-year career, Safdie has explored the essential principles of socially responsible design through a comprehensive and humane design philosophy. His

first landmark project was Habitat 67 in Montreal, shortly after graduating from McGill University. Although he has developed astonishing projects all over the world, his most emotional

reporter before covering Congress during the first two years of the Trump administration, later covering the 2020 Democratic

structure is the new Yad Vashem Holocaust History Museum in Jerusalem. **LEON FOSTER THOMAS** is an international jazz musician and steel pan virtuoso. His music is a blend of his Caribbean roots with the harmonic and improvisational complexities of jazz, creating a lively and eclectic meld all his own. Thomas has performed all over the world, and has special memories of

performing in Russia before the war in Ukraine.

in mariachi groups. Today he is considered one of the top operatic tenors of his generation. He established himself as a leading man appearing in the most renowned theaters and concert halls across the globe. He has sung over 60 roles in 30 countries.

AMY PAIGE CONDON's biography of "MIAMI NEWS" editor BILL BAGGS (1923-1969), "A Nervous Man Shouldn't Be Here

in the First Place, the Life of Bill Baggs," was published by UGA Press in Fall 2020. Bill Baggs grew up in a small conservative

**ARTURO CHACÓN-CRUZ** grew up in Sonora, Mexico singing

Georgia community and transformed into a confidant of JFK and MLK. Condon moved from Miami to Savannah, where she now lives with her husband, three pups and a pig named Gus.

PHIL GRABSKY is a BAFTA-winning British documentary filmmaker who has received multiple awards for his directing, writing, producing and cinematography in 300+ films about

some of the world's greatest musicians and visual artists. His

**JOHANN ZIETSMAN**, who was born and raised in South Africa, assumed the role of President and CEO of the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County in 2018.

most recent film is "Hopper: An American Love Story."

During his tenure thus far as CEO of the Arsht Center, Zietsman has overseen more than 400 shows, supported advancements in the Center's arts education programming, and helped welcome the Center's 5 millionth guest.

JOEL HOFFMAN has been Executive Director/CEO of Vizcaya Museum and Gardens since January 2004. He holds doctorate and master's degrees in art history from Yale University and an

undergraduate degree in English literature from the University of Pennsylvania. Throughout his museum career, Hoffman has focused on making visual arts and history engaging to diverse

NICHOLAS GRIFFIN says, "I was born in London, left when I was 18, spent the next twenty years in New York and moved to Miami in the summer of 2013. I've written for newspapers, magazines, film and TV folks. But books, well, I like writing books the best. I've got an English father, an American mother, a Venezuelan wife, a surfing son, a skateboarding daughter and a very old dog from New Jersey." His latest book is "The Year

of Dangerous Days: Riots, Refugees, and Cocaine in Miami

As always, we end this edition of *Inspicio Arts* e-Magazine with

1980," which was published in 2020.

future.

The Last Laugh.

JULIANA TRIANA is the latest FIU student to create a cartoon for *Inspicio Arts*. Triana is a sophomore pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Studio Arts. She also works as the Student

Fine Arts Ambassador for FIU's Art + Art History department. Triana has a great passion for visual development and character design, and hopes to work for animation leaders like Pixar in the

Throughout history, the arts and humanities have been instruments for identifying, discussing, and enacting positive social change. I hope what you read, hear, and see in *Inspicio Arts* adds value to your appreciation of the arts in Miami and South Florida.

On May 26th, 2023 we will officially change our title from *Inspicio Arts* to *ArtSpeak*, as part of the "ribbon-

cutting" for the FIU | Lee Caplin School of Journalism & Media.

The FIU Lee Caplin School of Journalism & Media is grounded in the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and is committed

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- Raymond Elman, founding editor-in-chief

and fair minded.