**Shipyard Artists**

**Artists Estate Planning Discussion**

**June 5, 2017, Bldg 101 Auditorium**

**WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO MY ARTWORK WHEN I AM GONE?**

**Start planning now….** read the resource documents and begin to think about the issues involved and what your desires are. Save your art from ending up in the dumpster…unless that is where you think it should go. *.Some of us have younger family members who are knowledgeable about art who we can ask to be in charge of the work, or an artist friend. Or an arts professional.  But I think most of us don't have these and have not made any plans.  If you have:  let us know what you did and how long it took.*

**Some Helpful Documents:**

1. A very thorough and helpful guide is “Creating a Living Legacy (cALL),” available in PDF form from the Joan Mitchell Foundation. Read it and think about where you fit in. The website is: http://joanmitchellfoundation.org/artist-programs/call.

2. In San Francisco, art consultant Alan Bamberger has a business: Artbusiness.com. His website is [www.artbusiness.com](http://www.artbusiness.com/). He has written and posted here many articles for artists at all stages of their careers. Two pertinent articles are: "Estate Planning for Artists. Let Professionals Manage the Art" and "Artist Tips: Checklist for Planning Your Art Estate.  Take Charge of Your Legacy as an Artist.” (I am sure he would be happy to have you hire him to guide you through the legacy process if you would like his guidance). He also has an article on donating art: “How to Donate Art: A Primer.”

3. “Art is Long, Life is Short. Estate Planning for the Artist and the Art Collector” is a “white paper” available in PDF form from [www.venable.com](http://www.venable.com). Very detailed, long and complicated and lots of legalese to read.

**Some Basic Tasks:**

1. Review all your artwork and sign and date everything. You may wish to set aside 2-4 hours per week to work on this to get started.
2. Make an inventory of your work and document it with photos. Be sure to let your family know where the inventory is, or add it to your will or trust.
3. Store your artwork in appropriate containers.
4. Decide on an executor and/or someone who will take care of your work after you are gone (see #7). Be sure to ask/tell this person!
5. If you have a relationship with a gallery or museum that might want your work donated to them, contact them now, or soon. Many institutions will not want the work, so don’t get your feelings hurt.
6. Start gifting artwork to friends and famiIy now---or ask them what they would like to be given in the future.
7. After you do all this preparatory work, you should create a will or trust, and you will need to seek a lawyer or financial consultant to do this. Other professionals you might want to contact: a professional organizer and/or “legacy consultant” (Read about these in cALL, mentioned above in #1 HELPFUL DOCUMENTS).

**PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES**

*NOTE: This is just a start……these are not recommendations, just suggestions, as I have not used them personally. We will have lots more ideas from one another after our first meeting.*

**1) California Lawyers for the Arts**

<https://www.calawyersforthearts.org>

888-775-8995, M-F, 10 – 5; they can get you in touch with a lawyer who specializes in the Arts.

**2) Alan Bamberger**, [www.artbusiness.com](http://www.artbusiness.com)

Phone: 415.931.7875, Email: alanbamberger@me.com

**3) Scalisi and Bernazzani Financial Services**

1635 Irving St, San Francisco, CA 94122, (415) 664-5884

*(Brandi Bernazzani is a friend of Marc Ellen’s who has worked with many “creatives”……she is a pleasant, experienced person)*

**4) Helena Tiainen** Professional Organizer (East Bay location)Htiainen1@aol.com

**5) Legacy Specialists (from the Joan Mitchell Foundation):**

 [David Bratton](http://joanmitchellfoundation.org/artist-programs/call/specialists/david-bratton-legacy-specialist-for-call-artist-john-koos), Los Angeles, CA, davidbratton77@gmail.com

 [**Beth Krebs**](http://joanmitchellfoundation.org/artist-programs/call/specialists/beth-krebs), San Francisco Bay Area, beth.krebs@gmail.com

**6) Donating Art**

 SCRAP

 Local Auction Houses: Bonhams (San Francisco), Michaan’s Auction

 House (Oakland), Clars Auction House (Oakland)

 Oakland Museums annual White Elephant Sale (they will pick up)

OTHER IDEAS LEARNED TODAY:

*June 5, 2017, Marc Ellen Hamel,*

*Artist Estate Planning Discussion Group for Shipyard Artists*

*SOME PERSONAL STORIES*

*1) Marc Ellen reports:*

*I recently had an experience helping an 89-year-old artist friend move from a house to a smaller apartment.  Actually, it was her daughters I was helping and they had come from out of town with only 5 days to do this massive job.  The artist herself had recently had a fall and was in skilled nursing, so she was not there to help make decisions (probably a good thing).  She had made NO plans for her art, did not have an inventory, and couldn't really think about what will happen with her life's work now.*

*2) Another story:*

*A Shipyard Artist Recently told me:  “I have personally had good friends come to studio and go through work they may want.  Otherwise, a bag will be going to 2nd hand store at end of the year.  Also have contacted non-profits such as Artspan, SPCA,  AIDS auction at UCSF, etc. for  donations they may be interested in. “*