

## **Belmont Art Association Meeting: March 30, 2022**

**Location:** Our fifteenth Zoom meeting was brought to order by Naomi and Dari with 28 people, including our presenters, attending:

**Attendees:** Adrienne \_\_\_, Nicole Bernstein, Juliette Carignan, Jessica Caruso, Diane Covert, Erik Demaine, Martin Demaine, Jennifer DuBost, Naomi Ellenberg-Dukas (Co-Chair), Irene Fairley, Jodi Greenspan, Bert Halstead (Treasurer and Membership Coordinator), Louise Halstead, Martha Heller, Kay Hudgins, Anne Katzeff, Paula Lewis, Jane Levin, Sally Naish, Lauren Palmer Merrill, Dari Paquette (Co-Chair), Catherine Pujol-Baxley, Minna Rothman, Linda Salter, Joseph Snodgrass, Derrick TePaske, Fleur Thesmar, and Jane Wentzell (Recording Secretary).

### **Business Meeting**

#### **1. Calls For Entry:**

- Utility boxes in Lexington and Arlington – both due by this Friday 4/1 - themes are listed; three designs per entry.
- Arlington Heights Spring Festival: deadline tomorrow 3/31
- Lexington Open Studios – early registration by 4/16
- LexArt has a Call for Entries for a show called, “Coastline: A Celebration of the new England Shoreline and Coastal Way of Life,” which will be on display from May 20 – June 2. Submission deadline is May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- The BAA has received another grant from the Belmont Cultural Council to design and paint two additional utility boxes this year. Dari is working out details regarding eligible boxes with Glenn Clancy so she can finalize the Call for Entries. Stay tuned!

#### **2. Exhibits/Receptions/Presentations:**

- BGA Zoom reception for “Bits and Pieces” tomorrow 3/31 from 7- 8:30 pm
- Helen Canetta – show opening reception at Galatea Fine Art Friday 4/1 at 6 pm
- Irene Fairley - opening reception at Concord Art for “Becoming Trees” tomorrow from 5:30 - 7 pm
- Adine Storer and Rick Olick are presenting their nature photography for Artlinks Arlington on 4/6 from 12 - 1:30 pm via Zoom.
- “Bits and Pieces” ribbon beads workshop with Naomi, plus screening of a video about British jewelry designer Janet Haigh planned for April; date TBA.
- Belmont Cultural Council members Kathleen Hagan and Vicki Amalfitano arranged an opportunity for three artists to show their spring-themed work in the windows of an empty storefront in Belmont Center at 48 Leonard Street, between Il Casale and Marcou Jewelry. Artists are Jane Levin (recommended by the BGA), Jessica Lomeli, and Catherine Pujol-Baxley (BAA members). The work will be on display until the end of April.

**3. Artist Pages on BAA Website:** Webmaster Anne Katzeff reminded that member artists can have their own page on the BAA’s website. Submit a head shot, photo of your work, and a paragraph about your background and artwork. Send text and images to [belmontart02478@gmail.com](mailto:belmontart02478@gmail.com) by late April. Images should be 72 dpi and 1200 pixels wide. Check our website [belmontart.org](http://belmontart.org) to see what other artists have done.

**4. Welcome New Members:** We have around a dozen new members. New members are invited to introduce themselves and show their work at our April meeting; date TBD depending on availabilities.

**5. Past Time to Pay Annual Dues:** Bert Halstead reminded members that annual dues should have been paid by the end of January. Visit our website, [belmontart.org/join](http://belmontart.org/join) to pay via PayPal or find the address to mail a check to Bert. Yearly dues are \$35, but if anyone is in a tough financial situation, let Bert know and he will waive the dues.

**6. May Meeting:** Our May meeting will explore books that two of our membrs have written. We are delighted to be discussing the new book that Anne Katzeff and her partner Peggy Kornegger have

published together (Peggy as writer and Anne as artist and graphic designer): "Inside the Rainbow: Soul Connection in Nature;" and Helen Morse's recently completed memoir, "The Difficult Girl," in which she has used her photographs and graphic design skills. The unifying themes of this joint presentation are using language as a medium to communicate, and using art and photos to better communicate the written message.

## **Presentation**

Our program for this evening introduced us to a father and son team, both working at MIT, who showed us curved-crease origami sculptures, illustrative mathematical typefaces, and glass blowing. Erik Demaine is a professor of computer science who received a MacArthur Fellowship in 2003, and his father, Martin Demaine, is a robotics engineer in the AI lab and also has been Artist-in-Residence at MIT since 2005. He is an artist and a computer scientist. Martin started the first private hot glass studio in Canada and has been called the "Father of Canadian Glass." Erik and Martin work together in paper, glass, and other materials. They use their exploration in sculpture to help visualize and understand unsolved problems in science. In turn, their scientific abilities inspire new art forms. Their artistic work includes curved origami sculptures in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York City and the Renwick Gallery in the Smithsonian. Their scientific work includes over 60 published joint papers, including several about combining mathematics and art. They won a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2013 for exploring folding of other materials, such as hot glass.

The Demaines attracted Naomi's attention through their current show at Mobilia Gallery, 348 Huron Ave, Cambridge. Their artists' statement for this show states:

"When folded along curved creases, paper shapes itself into a natural equilibrium form. These equilibria are poorly understood, especially for curved creases. We are exploring what shapes are possible in this genre of self-folding origami, with applications to deployable structures, manufacturing, and self-assembly. This transformation of flat paper into swirling surfaces creates sculpture that feels alive."

The curved origami sculpture is art, not just for art's sake, but to explore mathematical and physical concepts. The Demaines buy the heavy weight paper they use for pleat folding from a factory in Milan, Italy, Gruppo Cordenons, which has been making premium paper since 1630. Stardream® paper is an archival, dyed paper with mica embedded in it for a pearlescent sparkle, available in different weights.

You can learn more about the Demaines body of work at

<https://erikdemaine.org/>

<http://martindemaine.org/>

and see many videos at [https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=erik+and+martin+demaine](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=erik+and+martin+demaine)

This was a very interesting and exciting presentation!

Recording Secretary: Jane Wentzell, 617- 489 - 0412  
Edits and additional notes by Dari Paquette