

Irving Lavin (1927-2019)
April 26, 2019

TABULA GRATULATORIA

Afflerbach, Holger (Leeds, Eng.): Exactly how I remember him, always very cheerful and smiling.

Anguissola, Anna (Pisa): So proud he would find me interesting.

Baldassari, Anne (Paris) An example of kindness and generosity; we shared delicious moments full of fantasy in Hamburg, Abu Dhabi and Paris.

Banker, James (North Carolina U.): A man of extensive learning, who felt no need to prove himself.

Barberini, Maria Giulia (Rome). Ha lasciato una profonda impronta cui la culture romana deve molto.

Bargellini, Clara (Mexico City) He has always been helpful and an inspiration.

Bernardini, Maria Grazia (Rome) Sempre avuto grande ammirazione, stima e affetto; un grande studioso e una grande persona.

Blumenthal, Arthur (Florida): My beloved professor; generous; goodness, thoughtfulness, also a mensch.

Bochner, Mel (NYC): Conversation with Irving was like a trapeze act without a net; gave me new insights into what I was doing.

Bonsanti, Giorgio (Florence): I truly loved the man, a gentleman; a giant in art historical studies.

Boucher, Bruce (London): A giant in our field; congenial as well as intensely stimulating. Irving leaves behind a great legacy, which will remain undimmed.

Borea, Evelina (Rome): Sento un improvise senso di vuoto.

Brandt, Kathleen Weil-Garris (NYC): With gratitude for Irving's extraordinary insights and challenges which he so eloquently championed... That vision has left its indelible mark on colleagues and students ..

Burstyn, Ellen (NYC): Beloved Irving will be sorely missed on this planet by many many people who loved him.

Bush, Virginia Suttman (Kent, CT): Never my teacher, but I consider him my mentor and finest inspiration.

Bynum, Caroline (NYC): You and Irving were wonderful friends to me while I was at IAS and I have always been deeply grateful for your support and friendship. You both stayed active in the School after Irving's retirement and by doing so gave much to us all.

Caglioti, Gia (Naples): A greatest privilege of my life having met Irving; his enthusiasm, kindness, curiosity, intellectual spirit, non-conventional thoughts, and witty conversations will always remain.

Campanella, Constance (Cape May Point, NJ): Among the first couples I met at a Sunset beach party; who could forget.

Carr, Annemarie (Newark, DE): His ability to take in the full range of people who came his way and address them meaningfully whatever their level of thought. The very essence of the Institute.

Cavallero, Daniela Gallavotti (Rome): Lo considero uno dei miei maestri.

Cerioni, Anna Maria (Rome): Il pianeta sarà più povero; un onore averlo conosciuto.

Cherruet, Sébastien (Paris): Notre visite à Paris, de son enthousiasme, de son intelligence et de sa gentillesse.

Chimacoff, Alan (Princeton): Irving's prodigious leaps, across millennia and genres, capturing improbable essences of thought, from antiquity to hyper-modernity.

Ciavolella, Massimo (Los Angeles): A debt of gratitude toward Irving dating back many years, since he invited me to translate Bernini's play.

Cierivia, Claudia (Rome): Irving was and will be forever an intellectual father to me.

Clarke, John (Austen, TX): He was such a great mentor to me; our exchanges always left me with new ideas to pursue; What an astute and creative scholar he was.

Clifton, James (Houston, TX): He was someone who was brilliant at responding to the work of others, even in fields far from his own...with great sensitivity to the logic and direction of their research...To eat barbeque and go to the rodeo

with the Lavins was a delightful and memorable experience few have had.

Coleman, Kathleen (Harvard): The pair of you transformed my time at the Institute.

Coliva, Anna (Rome): Un rapporto di tanti anni cominciato all'epoca dei miei studi con Argan, e avevo la irragionevole certezza che non sarebbe mai finito.

Collonelli, Lydia Saraca (Rome): Il caro amico del mio cuore ha lasciato un grande patrimonio per l'umanità e un grande insegnamento con la sua onestà intellettuale.

Conforti, Claudia (Rome): Sarei onorata di comparire nella Tabula Gratulatoria a testimonianza dell'affetto e del debito culturale con Irving.

Conforti, Michael (Williamstown, MA): ..Driven to the archives, determined to prove his fresh interpretation of recognized monuments through the search and careful reading of historical evidence---nobody did it like Irving.

Courtright, Nicola (Amherst, MA): Invited Speaker

Cottafavi, Gianni (Modena): Il legame che ci ha unito più di 20 anni fa è profondo e intenso. Il cavalierato concesso dal Presidente della Repubblica rende merito a un grandissimo studioso

Cropper, Elizabeth (Washington, DC): He was such a vibrant spirit, and so much a part of all our histories that a void has opened that will remain.

Dalai , Marisa Emiliani (Rome): Com'era straordinaria l'energia vitale, la curiosità intellettuale e insieme la positività che riusciva sempre a comunicare! Tu sai che lo sarò (in Princeton) 'in spirito' e con me tutti i familiari e amici romani.

Della Latta, Alessandro (Italy): A Berlino (2008)Irving mi venne incontro, afferrò il mio braccio e sorridendo me disse in italiano: "Bravo, ben costruito, innovative e intelligenti." Furono per me un incredibile onore.

Del Pesco, Daniela (Rome): Il mio ricordo di Irving, positivo e sorridente, di discorse e intuizione "in avanti".

Dickey, Stephanie (Kingston, ON, Canada): Yesterday I re-read an article by Irving Lavin in preparation for a talk I'm giving. It was written in 1972; how many of us can hope that our work will still be influential and inspiring decades later?

Di Furia, Art (Savannah, GA): The gratitude we all feel towards you and Irving for the example you've both set is immense.

Di Gioia, Elena (Rome): Penso sinceramente che sia stato il più importante storico dell'arte del nostro tempo. Tutti i suoi scritti...sono formidabili e hanno ispirato intere generazioni di storici dell'arte. Il suo appoggio, la sua liberalità e gentilezza me hanno sempre incoraggiato.

Drandaki, Anastasia (Athens, Gr): I wish I could be there during the Memorial (on the date of the Greek Orthodox Good Friday)

Dunkelman, Martha (NYC): Notified the 1000 members of the Consortium for Art and Architectural Historians (CAAH) Listserv.

Du Prey, Pierre (Kingston, ON): ..An admirer and well-wisher of Irving's He will be sorely missed.

Escobar, Jesus (Chicago): Some of his writing, which I first encountered as an undergraduate, are what led me to consider a career in Art History.

Eder, Rita (Mexico City): You were a fabulous couple.

Fagiolo, Marcello (e Maria Luisa; Rome): Mi commuove per di più l'onorificenza della Stella d'Italia; l'Amore mistico che ha unito Marilyn e Irving nel segno del *Cantico dei Cantici*, l'Amore che secondo il verso di Dante "muove il Sole e l'altre Stelle".

Farina, Viviana (Naples, Italy): I remember perfectly his great energy and his continuous desire of knowledge....And always, always, I remember the Professor laughing while he was telling me: "il segreto per vivere insieme è litigare, litigare sempre!".

Feigenbaum, (Los Angeles, CA): Irving: you were the teacher I had long looked for and finally found. You understood the delight—physical, emotional—of a good idea... Your convictions, passion, brilliance changed my intellectual life.

Fitch, Leslie (Washington, DC): Not only did I revere him for almost 60 years since my Vassar

days, but we both (Leslie and Tony) adored you both.

Freedberg, David (NYC): Irving's boundless energy and enthusiasm now gone, and art history all over the globe will be infinitely poorer for his loss.

Freiberg, Jack (Tallahassee, FL): Invited Speaker

Frosinini, Cecilia (Florence): His light will be radiant for all who have known him personally or have at least benefited of his brilliant scholarship.

Fumaroli, Marc (Paris): I cannot find words to express my sadness. Irving was the dearest of my American friends and I am overwhelmed.

Garrard, Mary (Washington, DC): Irving sustained an art history of big ideas, grounded in deep knowledge and articulated with wonderful craft.

Gehry, Frank O. (Los Angeles): Invited Speaker

Gorse, George (Claremont, CA): Irving looked over me all year (at the Institute) and sharpened many a point during those informal talks over Wednesday lunches.

Grabar, Terry (Princeton): "I loved his irrepressible good humor, even gaiety"

Grabski, Jozef (Krakow, Poland): I was very impressed by his remarks to the Buddha sculptures (as we traveled through Japan's temples in 1991 after the CIHA colloquium). I am also very honoured that *Artibus et Historiae* will publish his last art historical study.

Hayum, Andrée (NYC): Particularly vivid was his attention to relevant details in a talk he had given in a symposium at D.O. We were left open-mouthed by Irving's description of the Constantinian ceiling decorations at Trier.

Hegener, Nicole (Berlin): We who loved and adored him and whose lives were so incredibly enriched by him know what he gave to us, to mankind, his colleagues and friends.

Howard, Elizabeth (Los Angeles, CA): I will be forever grateful for the sincere interest he took in my dissertation which later was published at his recommendation.

Jansen, Katherine (Washington, DC): He helped me sharpen my ideas, critical for my book's central theme.

Jarauta, Francisco (Mursia, Spain): Fue siempre el amigo generoso, apasionado, libre, lucidísimo. Un Maestro para todos nosotros.

Kallmyer, Nina (Newark, DE): A huge loss to our discipline.

Kinney, Dale (Bala Cynwyd, PA): I never thought he could die—he was such a vital force...always dashing [youngish] man zipping around Rome on his scooter.

Kitzinger, Adrian and Elizabeth (NYC): His vitality and love of life were stimulating, comforting, insightful, inextinguishable. Irving had an outsize role in our lives.

Kitzinger, Beatrice (Princeton): Having Irving take my ideas so seriously was pivotal in my certainty about going on to graduate school—I wanted to have a life full of conversation like that one. He will always be one of my encouraging angels."

Kitzinger, Rachael (Poughkeepsie, NY): Irving was such a warm encourager when I was starting my academic life---comforting and positive.

Krinsky, Carol (NYC): Irving was both a titan in art history and a man whom it was always a pleasure to talk to.

Lambert, Phyllis (Montreal, Canada): Invited Speaker

Levine, David A. (New Haven, CT): Invited Speaker

LoFano, Francesco (Bari): Tento a fatica, per via della commozione, di delineare con il necessario nitore, il mio debito nei riguardi del Suoi studi fondamentali; anche i miei ricordi della Sua grande amabilità de della Sua generosissima capacità di porsi all'scolto delle nuove generazione.

Loh, Maria (NYC): I taught Irving in classes long before I ever met him. I introduced myself to him at the Institute and he thundered afterward "you don't know anything about Bernini do you?" Ha! I liked him immediately, even as I felt I had a lot of homework to do.

Lombardi, Francesca (Rome): Anch se lo ho conosciuto attraverso i racconti dei mie (genitori, Nicola and Elisa) e soprattutto come studioso, credo che uomini così lascino un enorme vuoto.

Marder, Tod (New Brunswick, NJ): ..My deepest regret is the loss of someone who made all the

critical difference for me between a teaching job and a rich life of study, discovery, and enlightenment.

Marrinan, Michael J (Palo Alto, CA): (he was a) beacon of intelligence and civility to hundreds of us in the field for so many years...leaving us an astonishing legacy of...insights about things we hold dear.

Marrow, James (Princeton): an animated intellectual who helped make art history an exciting and important field for many decades

McHam, Sarah Blake (Princeton): “He always seemed a force of (very intellectually sophisticated) nature and somehow indomitable. What an impact he had on the world of scholarship and teaching—and so many people’s live.

Merz, Jörg (Aalen, Germany): a model of optimism; his motto “art history is fun”.

Metzler, Sally (Chicago): I will never forget the joy I felt when attending the “Altarpiece” seminar taught by Irving and you. I still quote him sometimes—as he left such an indelible impression on me.

Millon, Phoebe Cervigni (Rome/Washington): On our way to the Orthodontist yesterday, we made a slight detour to salute your dad and Bernini at St. Andrea al Quirinale...Collaboration was the theme surrounding our fathers [Hank Millon] and their ability to reach broadly, educate and their lifelong interest of the study of others.

Montanari, Tomaso (Florence): È stato un grande, luminoso esempio...Immagino solo che bei discorsi starà facendo ora con il nostro cavaliere Bernini...

Napoli, Olindo de (Naples): Irving was a rare person of great intelligence and brilliant conversation, a man of great passion and remarkable inner strength.

Nativel, Colette (Paris): Je suis si triste; I did love Irving. There is not a day when I do not think of him.

Ossola, Carlo (Paris): Published obituary in newspaper: Sole24ore, Feb. 14, 2019.

Pampalone, Antonella (Rome): Irving, l’ultimo dei grandi maestri del Novecento e per me anche un grande amico.

Panofsky, Gerda (Princeton): Gratitude for genuine warmth and concern showed me, his help in difficult situations, loyalty to Erwin Panofsky

Parlato, Enrico (Rome): ...Ho sempre apprezzo lo spirito acuto e frezzanate, insieme al suo sguardo smalizzato sulla realtà italiano.

Pincus, Debra (NYC): It is the passing of a generation. His fund of knowledge was staggering. His interest in young scholars and joy and enthusiasm at new ideas.

Pinelli, Orietta (Rome): Ho potuto riflettere grazie ai libri e ai saggi, ho avuto il piacere di godere dell’ironia, della vivacità intellettuale, dell’intelligenze di entrambi voi. Persone senza eguali.

Poggi, Christine (NYC): Deeply knowledgeable and enthusiastic scholar, whose work has influenced so many of us in the field.

Polcari, Steve (NYC): As a young scholar and man, Irving was a mentor to me. He was important to my work and life, really setting me on my way.

Pongratz-Leisten, Beate (NYC): His open mind, curiosity, enthusiasm, and his extraordinary ability to engage with all kinds of topics are unmatched by anybody.

Petrucci, Francesco (Albano [R])” Numerose sono state le opere restituite da Lavin a Bernini. Published Obituary *Il Giornale dell’Arte*.

Puma, Giulia (Paris): Getting to know Irving...was experiencing the richness of a never ending, always open, compelling dialogue.

Robustelli, Cecilia (Modena): In my opinion Irving has always been a knight.

Rodriguez Ruiz, Delfin (Madrid): E’ una Perdita insostituibile per tutti i nostri amici

Romano, David & Irene (Tucson, AZ): He urged me to think imaginatively and to work outside the sometime conservative limits of my field. (He was) so engaged, informed and eager to share his wealth of knowledge.

Rosenberg, Charles (South Bend, IN): Wonderful scholar and wonderfully kind and generous.

Rossi, Massimiliano (Florence): I am indebted to him for his extraordinary generosity when I was at the beginning of my career.

Rovire Gimeno, Jose Maria (Barcelona): La comunidad de amantes del arte y la cultura estamos hoy de duelo

Schwartz, Gary (The Netherlands): 55 years ago, reading Irving Lavin was an inspiring and intimidating experience...When later I met and found how humane, fun-loving and warm he was, so was my admiration for him as a man.

Scott, John (Iowa City, IO): Weekly lunches at the IAS—I learned as much from those as from any formal seminar...tremendous intellectual team and we have ever since taken you as a model.”

Scribner, Charles (NYC): Invited Speaker

Settis, Salvatore (Pisa): His spectacular intelligence and vitality made me think he was immortal...we will keep being in ideal dialogue with Irving’s scholarship, his humanity, his intellectual generosity.

Smyth, Ned (Long Island, NY): (As a kid) I always enjoyed talking and listening to him. He was so open to and fascinated by so many things, as well as his own field of expertise.

Smyth, Sandy (NYC): I’m sitting here writing to you imagining Irving’s face all lit up with smiles and humor. It was a joy to be around him...You were like a second set of parents – lucky us.

Stella, Harriet McGurk (NYC): Frank has been thinking a lot about talking to Irving about his new work, and is bereft that he will not have the chance to do so.

Stone, David & Linda Peleccia (Newark, DE): Irving’s great smile, his tremendous wit, and all he taught us....many bright rays of light.

Strinati, Claudio (Rome): Tu non sia quante volte in questi anni, studiando un argomento che Irving aveva toccato, mi è capitato di pensare “voglio sentire che dice”

Tharp, Twyla (NYC): Our friend Irving’s righteous curiosity, intelligence and calm passion will always be bright in my life and will remain for us all to treasure.

Unglaub, Jonathan (Waltham, MA): He will remain a constant inspiration for my own work, and that of many others; his generosity in reading my work was even more precious than I realized at the time.

Watsky, Andrew (Princeton): Our marvelous trip in Japan together....

Whitfield, Irene Cioffi (London): The world is so much poorer without him.

Wisch, Barbara (NYC): A model of energetic and loving support in all ways.

Wolf, Reva (New Paltz, NY): Your life with Irving was inspiring to witness--the sparks of energy and love that you gave to each other were so palpable.

Zeraw, Shelly (Athens, GA): Irving’s article on the portrait bust remains my touchstone for art historical enquiry. (His bibliography) uploaded on his IAS page is a beacon of intellectual generosity for anyone interested in almost any aspect of Italian art and intellectual history.