

FROM THE EDITOR

As I write this, my sister is lying in a hospital bed with leukemia, but, according to the doctors, she is in "total remission", whatever that means. She is finishing her second chemo session (4 weeks) and we hope for one more, after which, well, who knows? So if this issue is late, it is because my best friend and closest relative has a life-threatening disease and it affects me a great deal. It has cut down my productivity over the past three months,, my calm, and my sense of priorities. So forgive me for the delay, but it probably was for the better, since it allowed me to offer up *Umbrella* as a tribute to a great lady, Tony Zwicker, who passed away recently and has left a hole in all our hearts in the artist book world. She was a friend and a colleague, a passionate collector and dealer, who changed the lives of so many artists and in fact so many collectors. She was a force to be reckoned with from any context, but especially in our world, the world of artist books.

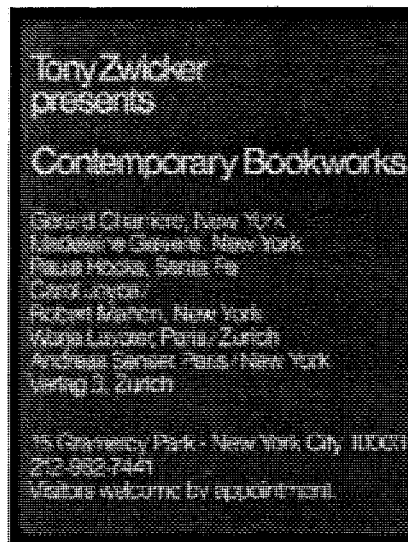
When I met Tony, she was hesitatingly entering this field with a wonderful sense of discovery at finding a niche, a wonderful part of the book world that was exciting, ingenious and inviting! She had told me once that she had confirmed her interest in this field by talking with her friend Warja Lavater, who told her she had to subscribe to *Umbrella* and meet Judith Hoffberg to really get the feel of the field. And so we met, and so in 1982 she came to Philadelphia and the great event of 27 exhibitions in Philadelphia, a marvelous set of talks, and a book fair, where I met her wonderful son, Thomas, and saw that he too was getting excited about his mother's new passion. There, she met the Sackners and the rest is history!

Tony and I have had such good times together, eating, of course, and drinking, always with the great European zest for food and culture. And we could talk and talk and talk about the gossip in the artist book world, as well as bookworks. We did not always agree, but we certainly appreciated and respected each other's opinions. She had this wonderful way of looking at you, and you know that she was picking at your brain for some of the info you had that she did not. And I, too, always was wonderfully surprised by all the resources she had at her disposal because of her European connections—so that we shared and we learned from each other.

To all of you who responded to Michael von Uchtrup's request for tributes to Tony, I salute you

and am pleased that I could play a part in disseminating your thoughts to a larger audience. She would have liked that a great deal. Yet one of the best things that could have happened to Tony or anyone else is to know how people love you while you are alive and in their midst. Thus, the party in 1990 proved again that Tony was the center of the world of so many book artists. Likewise, the tribute that Steve Clay and Julie Harrison put together as the "First Assembling for Tony Zwicker" just last year with a big surprise party was the perfect living touch, informing Tony with love how much she is appreciated in this small but rich corner of the art world. For that, may you all be proud to have told Tony how you loved her when she was alive and aware.

Now we must live with our memories. No one else can fill that spot. She is gone, but she lives on in our hearts. She has made a difference, a big difference, and all of us know that. In some way, she has brought us together yet another time to honor her. The book will always be opened when we think of Tony.



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