

ON THE STREET

At National Cancer Survivors Day at Harvey & Phyllis Sandler Pavilion.

Why are you here?



ROBIN RUBIN
WITH RUBY

I'm a big supporter and the daughter of Phyllis and Harvey Sandler.



SISTERS SHERI SOBLE
OF BOCA RATON, LEFT, AND
TAMMY DIGNOTTI
OF DELRAY BEACH

As determined survivors in treatment for pancreatic and breast cancer.



JAY WHELCHER
WITH JACK, 4 1/2,
AND VIVIAN, 2,
OF BOCA RATON

We're here to support my mother, Mayor Susan Welchel, and make Tiles of Hope in memory of my aunts and uncle.



MELISSA MAYA,
WITH AMANDA
MAYA, 11,
OF CORAL SPRINGS

I'm at the end of my treatment. Melissa Maya
I'm here to support my mother. Amanda

ON THE SPOT



ARI HIRSCHMAN SCULPTOR, ALL FLORIDA JURIED COMPETITION AND EXHIBITION

"It's different, isn't it?" Central Boca Raton sculptor Ari Hirschman says about his fried eggs-looking installation called "Blink 2012" in the All Florida Juried Competition and Exhibition now through July 14 at the Boca Museum of Art. The objects light up unpredictably. "I explore the interaction between individuals and the environment," he said. "My piece is a commentary on a lack of thinking I see going on. Blinking is humans acting instinctively: Thinking or blinking?" Hirschman is one of 18 Boca Raton artists in the 62nd annual exhibit with 149 works by 122 artists. Merit Awards went to Boca Raton artists Barry Rosson for Boundless and Misoo Filan for Monster and Me. Rosson is vice president for research and dean of the Graduate College at Florida Atlantic University. "Mark Scala chose the pieces and grand narrative for the show," said Kelli Bodle, assistant curator. Scala is chief curator at the Frist Center for the Visual Arts in Nashville, Tenn.

When did you realize you were artistic?
As a kid I drew and played with Play-Doh. I never stopped. I found a teacher's note saying 'Ari has to play with Play-Doh under his desk.' My parents are doctors and were very supportive.

Did you go to art school?
I'm self-taught, but looking back it's clear I have my own strong style. I started taking classes 23 years ago. I believe artists should continue to educate ourselves.

How did your engineering and computer background influence your art?
I didn't want to be a realist. I wanted to put more of myself in the work. I don't like to do what has already been done. Most of my work is interactive and looks at how people function.

What made you move here?
A career change, and my sister was here. I was already married with three kids, who are now 9 to 16. I work on my art half-time and do property management and occasional software management.

Where are you from?
I was born in Topeka, Kansas, but my parents are Argentinian from Poland-Russia and France. We lived in Buenos Aires for eight years, then moved to the Washington suburbs in Maryland.

What else do you want people to know about you?
I'm 52. I'm a bicycle rider who competes for fun. It's a good way to stay in shape. I used to be vice president of the museum's Artists Guild. I'm represented here by Rossetti Fine Art Gallery and by a gallery in Los Angeles.