

*Nicotra Group*

A r t C o l l e c t i o n

The Nicotra Group Art Collection

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“Hoteliers and real estate developers Lois and Richard Nicotra, owners of the Hilton Garden Inn, Hampton Inn & Suites and the Nicotra Group, are pleased to have curated an exquisite art and sculpture collection throughout the hotels, office buildings and grounds of the Corporate Park of Staten Island. The unique and extensive collection showcases the works of many talented artists from around the world in a wide variety of mediums. The Nicotras are thrilled to share these transcendent pieces with their Staten Island community and visitors alike.”

“Our campus is our canvas.”

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Art Collection



The talented Boaz Vaadia is an American/Israeli figurative art sculptor known for working with bluestone slate. This local artist, whose studio is in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, has his famous sculptures on public display throughout America and as far as Tel Aviv, Israel. Vaadia's unique style of work is a direct result of stone's natural formation in the earth and other forces of nature that inspire him. "In his work he explores the primal connection of man to mother earth." This sculpture, also known as "Richard and Lorenzo" after owner Richard Nicotra and his beloved Maltese, graces the entrance to Lorenzo's Restaurant Bar & Cabaret.

Boaz Vaadia  
*"Man and His Dog" aka Richard and Lorenzo*





This abstract bronze figure by Leon Bronstein is nestled amongst the landscaping to the right of the Hilton Garden Inn entrance. This large, volumetric, elongated sculpture of an embracing relationship interacts with nature. The Israel based artist describes his work as “elegant feminine forms that appear to move like branches on a tree or blades of grass in the wind.”

Leon Bronstein  
*Waste No Time At All*





Tolla Inbar is an Israeli sculpture artist well known throughout the world for her whimsical and spiritual bronze art. Tolla studied sculpture, photography, drawing, and graphics at the Avni Institute of Arts. Tolla also completed a B.A. in Psychology and Sociology at Tel Aviv University. Her advanced education and knowledge of human behavior is evident in the unique features of her work. Tolla's sculptures and ceramics circulate exhibitions and galleries around the world. All of Tolla's art conveys a special meaning. The artist explains, "The mental and physical satisfaction following the achievement of elegant design is a major motivation, but the relentless drive to create different expressions of the human spiritual quest for the divine invokes even greater satisfaction."

"Sky Is The Limit," located to the right of the Hilton Garden Inn entrance, is typical of Tolla's aesthetic and promotes an inspirational message of perseverance and success to all its viewers at the hotel.

Tolla  
*"Sky Is The Limit"*





“Lois and I saw these tulips on the Park Avenue median in Manhattan and we found out the artist was Edwina Sandys, who is Winston Churchill’s granddaughter. This is an important piece because we endeavor to make South Avenue the Park Avenue of Staten Island,” explains Richard Nicotra. These vibrant 12-foot tall painted aluminum tulips grace the entrance of Nicotra’s Ballroom.

Edwina Sandys





*“Embrace”*  
Edwina Sandys



Richard and Lois Nicotra are proud to display two watercolors by famous American artist Stephen Scott Young in the Hilton Garden Inn.

The Florida artist is among the top watercolorists in the country. He is known for his vibrant paintings that capture social issues and everyday life on the southeast cost of the Unites States and the Bahamas. Young uses an intense contrast of color to express the very essence of human beings in all his work. Stephen Scott Young’s famous trademark quickly became portraying black figures against a light background. The girl posing in “Precious” was a frequent model of his. Young used the proceeds from the sale of this painting to send her to school.

The watercolor entitled “Faithful” is notable because centered within the painting is a watermark, a miniature exact replica of the painting itself, making this artwork truly unique.

*“Faithful” (left) and  
“Precious” (right)*  
Stephen Scott Young



This abstract sculpture was created by Maria Luisa Campoy, a Spanish contemporary artist. Its title translates to “Looking Inside of You.” Situated at the entrance to the beautiful glass-walled Tea House Garden, this 40-inch tall bronze “mirror” sculpture sits in a pool of shiny river rocks.

*“Mirando Tu Interior”*  
Maria Luisa Campoy





This is the second sculpture by Israeli artist Tolla in the Nicotras' collection. This abstract equestrian monument is located in the Nicotra's Ballroom Pre-function area. The artist explains, "I have a special love for the animal world and nature, the beauty of the world. My animal sculptures are therefore humorous and human in one, expressing an uncomplicated perspective on life."

*"Pegasus"*  
Tolla





This sculpture by American artist, George Lundeen, is composed of five life-size musicians cast in bronze. It is one of the 21 editions of public and private art on display across the country. Gracing the entrance to Nicotra's Ballroom, this whimsical artwork gives guests a preview for what is to come inside the ballroom.

Lundeen's sculptures are artfully arranged in front of a background that is an art piece in itself. The laser-cut sheet metal backdrop is a swirling image of sheet music of Vivaldi's "Four Seasons."

*"Joy of Music"*  
George W.H. Lundeen



*Behind the Bar - Lorenzo's*



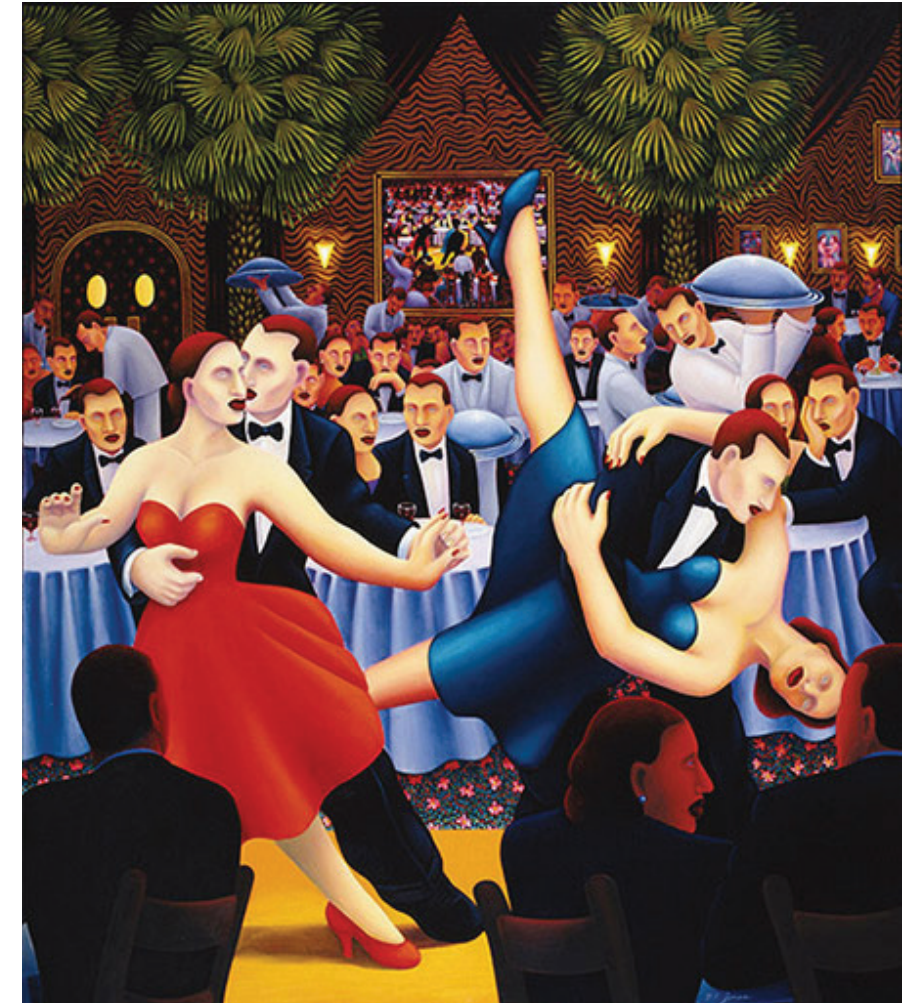
*"Il Vagabondo"*  
Bronze 2005



*"Music"*  
Bronze 2006

When American artist Bill Jonas was producing his colorful paintings in New Orleans, Mr. and Mrs. Nicotra purchased this four-piece collection in an effort to support the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Bill Jonas donated the proceeds from this purchase to Katrina relief foundations. Through oil painting, Bill Jonas uses brilliant colors to portray the human figure universally. He is famous for depicting androgynous women and men in his trademark surreal, whimsical and very entertaining style. The Nicotras' collection of art by Jonas can be found displayed around Lorenzo's Bar and Cabaret where the subject matter of elegant men and women dining, dancing, and singing perfectly fit the atmosphere.

*Collection of prints by*  
Bill Jonas



*Club Mozambique*





*The Mozambique Lounge*



*Girl Singer*

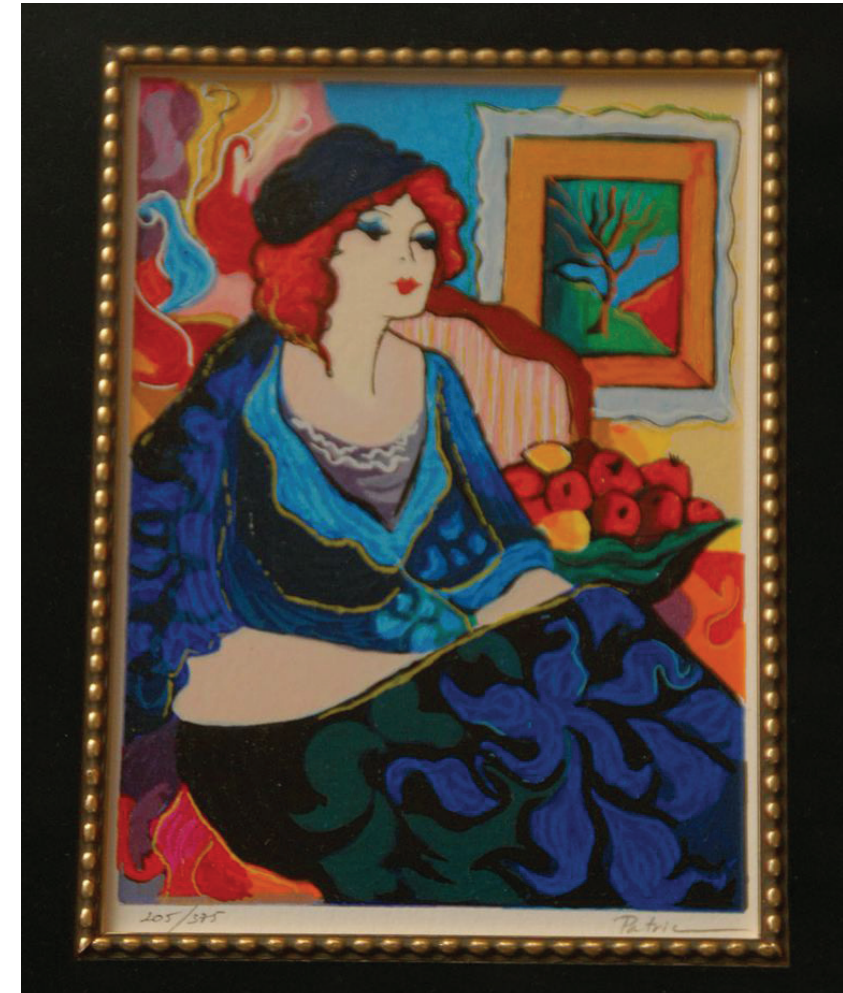


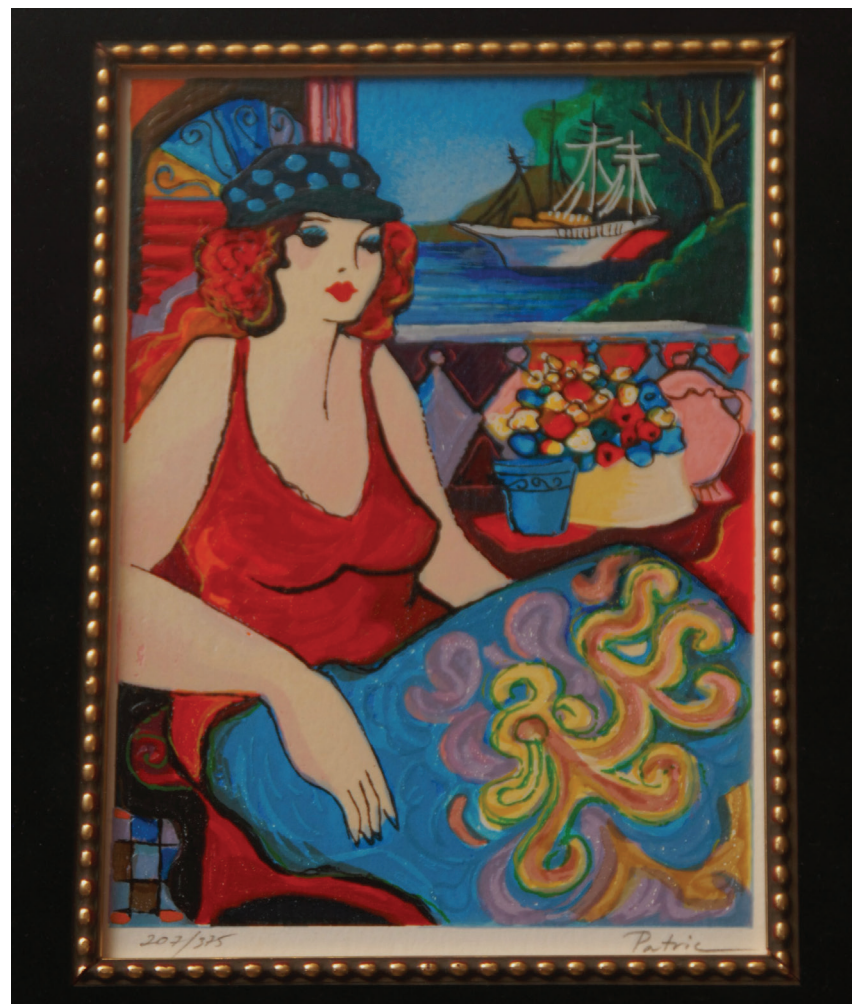
*Mrs. G. Arrives*



Itzhak Tarkay is an influential Israeli figurative artist known for his whimsical use of vibrant colors. Tarkay studied at the Avni Institute of Art in Tel Aviv, and is thoroughly grounded in European artistic traditions. Tarkay has received recognition at the International Art expo in New York in 1986 and 1987 for works in several forms of media, including oil, acrylic and watercolor. Today, Tarkay is considered “one of the most influential artists of the early 21st century” by art critics. Tarkay has inspired many artists throughout the world with his contemplative depiction of the female figure. A series of three of Tarkay’s signature portraits are on display in the Lobby Lounge.

Itzhak Tarkay







World famous American artist, LeRoy Neiman, is known for his brilliantly colored, expressionist paintings and screen prints of athletes, musicians, and sporting events. His work is in the permanent collection of the Smithsonian, the Whitney Museum, the Brooklyn Museum, the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, the State Hermitage Museum in Russia, and the Wadham College at Oxford. Neiman had a long personal relationship with Frank Sinatra and portrayed him in his artwork many times. This vibrantly colored portrait of the famous performer is part of a limited edition collection signed by the artist. The portrait was specially commissioned for the cover of the Frank Sinatra album, Classic Duets.

LeRoy Neiman





This patriotic American Flag painting, indicative of LoBaido's trademark patriotic works, can be found in the Fireplace Nook in the Lobby Lounge. In addition to paintings and sculpture, LoBaido uses his artistic ability to restore buildings vandalized by graffiti with patriotic murals. His greatest creative accomplishment thus far is "Flags across America." LoBaido drove across the United States, in 10 months, painting large scale American flags on one rooftop in each of the 50 states. His goal was to ensure that soldiers flying home from war would look down and see an American Flag celebrating their safe return.

*American Flag*  
Scott Lobaido



Henry Matisse was a world-renowned French artist, known for his vibrant use of color and his fluid and original draughtsmanship. Matisse is commonly regarded along with Pablo Picasso as a leading figure in modern art. Richard and Lois Nicotra are thrilled to share this original early work with their guests and community. Matisse's early work reflected the style of his predecessors and the rigid nature of his education at the Académie Julian and the École des Beaux Arts in Paris. Though his successful career Matisse began experimenting with new styles, quickly finding his own artistic voice. He was central figure in the Fauvist movement; a style characterized by bright, intense colors and bold brushstrokes that were not restricted to the confines of naturalistic interpretation. Matisse also excelled in Cubism, and other aspects of abstract expressionism working in numerous media throughout his career, including painting, drawing, sculpture, decoupage, and graphic works. Matisse enjoyed a prolific world famous career, creating works with a continuously developing style.

Henri Matisse





Peter Max is a German-born American illustrator and graphic artist. He is world famous for his use of psychedelic shapes and vibrant color palettes. Peter Max has captured everyone from the Dalai Lama to the Beatles in his whimsical, “cosmic style”. His work has been seen everywhere from the banner celebrating City Hall’s centennial in 2001 to the hull of a cruise ship, and a Boeing Airline fuselage. Max’s mixed media works can be found in the collections of six past US presidents. His signature artwork has been used to represent five Super Bowls, the World Cup, the World Series, the US Open, the Grammys, and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Richard and Lois Nicotras’ Peter Max painting is showcased in the Lobby Lounge at the Hilton Garden Inn.

Peter Max



Scott LoBaido, a local Staten Island artist, is not only known for his patriotic artwork but for his generosity and love for his community. After learning about the passing of Lois and Richard's beloved 17 year old Maltese Lorenzo, Scott painted a heartwarming and poignant portrait as a surprise tribute. The portrait is displayed in a prominent spot in Lorenzo's Restaurant, Bar & Cabaret, which was named after Lorenzo when he was just a pup. Although it is not typical of LoBaido to paint pieces besides the American Flag, this rare portrait of Lorenzo incorporates the colors red, white and blue so there is a patriotic aspect to the work. When you look at this painting you not only remember Lorenzo, but recognize the work of Scott LoBaido.

*Lorenzo*  
Scott LoBaido





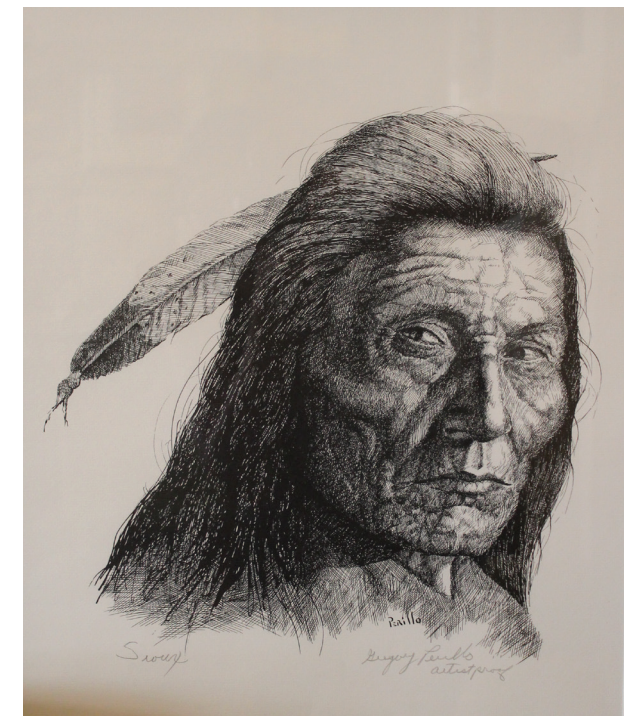
Fernando Botero is a world famous Latin American figurative artist and sculptor from Medellín, Colombia. His signature style, also known as “Boterismo”, depicts people and figures in large, exaggerated volume. His art can be found in highly visible places around the world, such as Park Avenue in New York City, the Champs-Élysées in Paris, and in the Lobby Lounge at the Hilton Garden Inn.

Fernando Botero



Gregory Perillo is a renowned American Western artist from Staten Island. His by- Gregory Perillo powerfully dramatic, emotional depictions of Native Americans and early settlers, as well as Western Landscapes and wildlife have made him one of America's leading painters and sculptors. Displayed in the Fireplace Nook at Lobby Lounge are two Native American graphite works of Native Americans by the artist.

*"Blackfoot"*  
Gregory Perillo







by Jim Davidson

Born in Paris in 1913, John A. Noble was the son of the noted American painter, John (“Wichita Bill”) Noble. In 1919, Noble made the voyage to America. His time on the sea had great significance to him and foreshadowed his life’s work. Noble wrote, “Anywhere men work or build on the water is of interest to me... My life’s work is to make a rounded picture of American maritime endeavor of modern times.” John Noble’s work is on display at Snug Harbor Cultural Center on Staten Island in their Noble Maritime Collection. This artwork is John A. Noble’s one of Noble’s many drawings in which he chronicled “Pencil Jug” 20th century working ships and the New York Harbor.

John Noble





This portrait of artist John Noble was sketched by local artist Bill Murphy. Born on Staten Island in 1952, Murphy attended public school here and later studied at Brooklyn College, The School of Visual Arts (BFA), The Art Students League, and Vermont College (MFA). He has taught on Staten Island since 1984 and is currently Associate Professor of Art. Murphy is well known for his art representing Staten Island and the New York Harbor. Bill Murphy's patriotic work is featured in collections throughout the country including the Library of Congress. This portrait of John Noble pays homage to another great artist that influenced his work.

*Portrait of John Noble*  
Bill Murphy



Deborah Bigeleisen is a contemporary artist from West Palm Beach, Florida. This vibrant “Red Rose” oil on canvas painting is part of a greater collection of rose artworks. Bigeleisen is famous for using a single image of a flower as her inspiration and immortalizing its life at the peak of its natural beauty. This captivating “Red Rose” is on display in the Lobby Lounge.

*Red Rose*  
Deborah Bigeleisen





## *Hampton*

“Direct from Italy to Staten Island”

This intricate wrought iron and glass gazebo was made in Florence, Italy. The Nicotras commissioned it to serve as a romantic oasis for their guests and brides. Nestled amongst lush gardens, this ornate open-air gazebo provides the perfect setting for any occasion. Richard and Lois Nicotra were dedicated to bringing the true authentic craftsmanship they fell in love with in Italy to their property on Staten Island. So much so that when this beautifully ornate work of art arrived from Italy, the Nicotras also brought a skilled Florentine craftsman to Staten Island for custom installation.

Located in the Gazebo



### “Direct from Italy to Staten Island”

Adding to the Italian charm of the Nicotras’ outdoor properties are opulent Renaissance style lampposts that add a magical glow to the Trevi Garden. Hand crafted by world famous Italian company Neri, these lampposts cast light in a pure European and classical style on the banquet space below. With its all-Italian management and production, design and materials, Neri is responsible for “lighting up” Piazza San Marco in Venice, Piazza dei Miracoli in Pisa and many more city centers. Neri has also exported its made-in-Italy lighting solutions from the square of the Louvre in Paris, to Central Park in New York, to Moscow’s subway stations. When on a trip to Venice, Italy, Richard and Lois Nicotra were mesmerized by Neri’s beautiful lighting design in the worldfamous Piazza San Marco and decided to add his work to their impressive collection on Staten Island. The Nicotras went to great lengths, working with the Italian government, to commission their four Piazza San Marco inspired lampposts. Adding to the special authenticity of the Trevi garden, the Nicotras has the intricate stone floor hand laid by Italian craftsman. Even the workers’ wives came along for this special instillation project.

Located in the Trevi Garden





“Ascension”, a large blue abstract sculpture, is made of 3/8th of an inch steel plate, stands 12 ½ feet tall and weighs 1,600 pounds. When creating this sculpture Scott Van Campen of Staten Island Maker Space knew it would be gracing the entrance of a medical facility so he created an uplifting piece, almost like a bird in flight.

*Ascension*  
Scott Van Campen



“Acceleration” is comprised of four colorful pieces of art, shaped like bicycles in perpetual motion that double as a bike rack to comply with New York City’s building code in a uniquely Nicotra fashion. Richard Nicotra noted “the city told us we need to have bike racks on the property, but we wanted to create something that was not only functional, but beautiful. Scott Van Campen, of Staten Island MakerSpace immediately understood the concept and presented us with several sketches. We are extremely happy to work with a local, Staten Island artist to create this piece.”

*Acceleration*  
Scott Van Campen





Just outside 1130 South Avenue at Lois Lane, the Nicotra Group, along with landscape architect and environmental designer Patrick Weisel of Being Here Design, created a wonderful plaza with a fountain, seating areas and a very special piece of iconic art. Lois and Richard Nicotra feel there is something missing from the world lately, so they commissioned a sculpture that stands 10 feet high and 40 feet long to remind Staten Island that what the world needs is more ‘love.’ “When you visit our hotels, you’ll see the word “Love” and maybe it will make you think a little bit,” he added. The iconic Love sculpture was unveiled to the tune of Burt Bacharach’s “What the World Needs Now.” “Much of the desire Rich and I had for this space and the artwork stems from our wish that the world was filled with more peace, and that the borough we call home has the best art, flowers, medical facilities, hotels, office buildings and entertainment,” said Lois Nicotra. “We want the best, and Staten Island deserves the best.”

Patrick Weisel  
*LOVE*







