Introduction

The Long Beach Island Foundation of the Arts and Sciences (LBIF) is happy to present **beyondWORDS: BookFest 2009.** This exhibition, showing regionally, nationally, and internationally known artists in the field of book arts allows visitors to see artwork created in an exciting and unfamiliar way, enhancing the experience and understanding of this evolving art form. From more traditional forms to extravagant explosions of color, **beyondWORDS: BookFest 2009** is sure to please the eyes and the mind.

The LBIF was established in 1948 as a non-profit institution by artist Boris Blai to provide arts and educational opportunities for the Long Beach Island community. Blai, a sculptor and founding dean of Tyler School of Art, felt that through exceptional art classes, exhibitions, and cultural activities, the LBIF could provide visitors and residents with opportunities to share and experience cultural programs not available elsewhere in the region. Since 1948, the LBIF has offered many unique programs with highly accomplished artists and performers from New Jersey, New York City, Philadelphia, and across the nation.

The Mission of the Long Beach Island Foundation of the Arts and Sciences is to promote the arts and sciences on Long Beach Island and surrounding communities by enlightening, educating, and stimulating thought and discussion about current trends in the arts and sciences and by providing broad educational and cultural programs for all ages.

The LBIF would like to thank Carloyn Chadwick and Ed Hutchins for their support and expertise, bringing together artists that show the true breadth and depth of what it can mean to create books.

—Christopher Seiz
Executive Director
Long Beach Island Foundation of the Arts and Sciences