

June 29, 2011

I have worked with Robert DiMaio since the founding of The Artist Archive in September 2005. His work in documenting the history of the artistic immigrant experience in New York City – capturing assimilation to American life while maintaining personal heritage and growth as an artist – immediately caught my attention.

At that time, he invited Juilliard students to work with him in creation of musical soundtracks. This has become a rare opportunity for our students to produce improvisational material, which becomes the musical basis for Robert's films. The students then receive a DVD of the completed film, which becomes an important part of their portfolio in the professional world. I have seen these students transformed by the experience of working with Robert, and the experience of thinking about the artists whose work they are playing for. And on that basis alone, I would write a most enthusiastic letter of support for Robert's work.

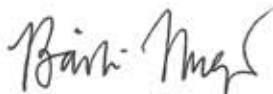
But I am writing this letter because I see his work and our students' involvement in it, in much larger terms.

Yes, The Artist Archive documents art history in New York City, one of the artistic centers of the world. Yes, The Artist Archive documents the unique production of art that each artist represents. Yes, The Artist Archive documents how artists overcome challenges in pursuing their vision. And in the sheer diversity of the project, with artists from thirteen countries currently in the Archive, the breadth of his films showing these pioneers coming into a new place, and into new experiences, is remarkable.

But as an artist and educator, it is clear to me that all of us benefit from these examples. Whether the viewer is a young student or an experienced elder professional, we all benefit from the examples of altruistic courage and unrelenting commitment to an ideal embodied by this work.

I hope that you will heartily and generously support the work of The Artist Archive and its' Executive Director Robert DiMaio.

Sincerely,



Bärli Nugent, *Assistant Dean and Faculty*