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For Immediate Release

Artistic Legacy

*St. John's Boulder Art Gallery presents Bunny and Ted Rubin reading from
Jefferson D. Rubin's posthumously published book*

Reception: November 18, 2009, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., free and open to the public

Boulder, Colo. (July 22, 2009) – Light has a spirit of its own. It has the power to transform the subjects of an artist's scrutiny. (November 6, 2009) – Ted and Bunny Rubin will read passages from a book they lovingly compiled from the art and writings of their son, Jefferson D. Rubin. Jefferson attended high school in Denver and college at the University of Colorado in Boulder. At thirty-six, Jefferson died in an accident, cutting short his brilliant artistic career. The book is in many ways a testament to the way in which loss and grief can be transformative. Bunny and Ted recognized their son's talent when he was a child and encouraged it. In playing midwives to his posthumous production, they sought to preserve and share both his observations and his body of work. In the process of creation, they lovingly impart a kind of immortality to a child they nurtured, loved, and ultimately had to surrender all too soon.

At age eleven, Jefferson Rubin stood before the David in Florence, entranced. He begged his parents to leave him in Italy to apprentice with a master sculptor. As a child who was part of an artistic family, he knew very early in life that art was his passion. Although his life was cut short, he left behind a promising body of work, sketchbooks, journals, letters and poems. Out of these fragments, his parents lovingly selected both writings and images to create a compelling compilation titled *Frammenti Della Vita*.

Marian Granfield pens the book's introduction. An art historian and lifelong friend of Jefferson, Marian is an adjunct professor at Niagara University in New York where she serves as education coordinator for the Castellani Art Museum. In the introduction, Marian explains the title, a title Jefferson would probably have chosen had he presided over the book's development. According to Marian, the book reflects fragments of Jefferson's life and at the same time emphasizes the frammenti that symbolized "antiquity 'as [his] continual source of inspiration.'" For Jefferson, she says, the frammenti also suggest, using his words, "the fragility of life itself."

Of the great Italian sculptors Jefferson admired and from whom he drew inspiration, he said, "We share the same physical act of creating sculpture with the same materials and methods. I am an heir by choice, and I have been chosen." Jefferson's legacy emerged out of his reverence for archeology, for ancient cultures, and for the perfection of the human form. A brightly burning star to all who knew him, Jefferson was still the pale moon rising in the art world at the time of his death. The book presents a portrait of the artist as a young man, an exquisite collection of the pieces he produced, and a glimpse of the promise his latter years might have yielded.

About the St. John's Boulder Art Gallery

The St. John's Art Boulder Art Gallery is a non-profit organization established by St. John's Episcopal Church. It serves as a venue for talented local and regional artists. Juried shows are developed around themes, and submissions must be appropriate for all ages. Located at 1419 Pine Street, the St. John's Art Gallery is free and open to the public. Visit the gallery on line at www.stjohnsboulder.org/artgallery/