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***Joan Warren-Grady Art Advisor for Luxury Hotel Properties Internationally,
Completes Two Major Contemporary Art Collections for Regent Bal Harbour
and Ritz-Carlton Palm Beach***

Collection Curated for Regent Bal Harbour Features 400+ Works by Emerging and Established Artists Valued a \$3.5 Million. Ritz-Carlton Palm Beach Features 200+ Works Valued at More than \$2.3 Million.

July 20, 2008—Joan Warren-Grady, art advisor to luxury hotels world-wide, completes two remarkable hotel art collections for Regent Bal Harbor and Ritz-Carlton Palm Beach. Joan Warren-Grady Art Advisory has now curated collections of contemporary art for more than 200 hotel clients internationally from New York to Dubai, Miami to Tokyo, Atlanta to Cairo. The Regent Bal Harbour and Ritz-Carlton Palm Beach each feature original and commissioned works by early career and established artists, contributing to South Florida's thriving art scene.

For **The Regent Bal Harbour**, Warren-Grady curated a collection of more than 400 works in a variety of mediums including paintings, works on paper, photography, and sculpture. With a combined value upwards of \$3.5 million, the Regent's collection is comprised mainly of site-specific commissions, including acclaimed artists' works such as Guy Dill's 37-foot bronze sculpture *Close Hauled* installed on the North side of the hotel and visible from the causeway, bringing an exciting presence to the lobby along with the Ed Moses' monumental oil on canvas. Upon entering The Regent Bal Harbour, guests are greeted by Richard Deutch's *Black Basalt Sculpture* providing a serene sense of balance, reminiscent of a Japanese garden. Outside, Guy Dill's sculpture, which can be seen from all key points on the property, creates a breathtaking composition against the property's oceanic backdrop. Playing on the dimensions of space, place, and form, this work in bronze perfectly epitomizes Dill's two great loves – the sun and the sea. With works interspersed throughout the hotel's many public spaces as well as all guest rooms and suites, Warren-Grady explains: "The collection we curated for the Regent is a contemporary art program with a sophisticated elegance. There is a subtle Asian influence which compliments the interior design, as well as acknowledges the property's Asian ownership." Interiors of the hotel provide a multifaceted milieu for engaging works, combined with architectural elements, millwork, lighting, and textural materials resulting in an elegant Asian sensibility in homage to Regent International's Hong Kong

roots. Along with Dill, a guiding force in the California aesthetic since the 1970's, artists featured in The Regent Bal Harbour's collection include, San Francisco painter Darren Waterston, whose Limited Edition, hand-embellished prints are installed in the Living Rooms of all Suites, as well as Columbian artist, Olga deAmaral, whose luminous *Silver Leaf Wall Hangings* welcome spa visitors with the tranquil radiance of a Japanese country side at sunset. Other prominent works include: *Collage of Antique Birds*, a wall sculpture in the Hotel Lobby by artist Joe Walters; a large-scale Asian influenced mural by Venezuelan artist, Arturo Herrera, in the Gallery; and a glazed ceramic sculpture from Omaha-based artist Jun Kaneko's *Dango* series that is set at the entrance to the hotel's signature restaurant, 1 Bleu.

For the **Ritz-Carlton Palm Beach** collection, Warren-Grady chose contemporary pieces that reflect the atmosphere and heritage of South Florida. "In implementing a fresh approach to the Ritz-Carlton, the owners wished to retain the flavor of the history of the Ritz-Carlton Palm Beach, while at the same time, making it appealing to a future generation. Through exquisite textures and reflective qualities, this collection was curated to create a special sense of place that the property has along the beautiful Atlantic Coast of Florida," Warren-Grady explains. Ritz-Carlton Palm Beach guests are given the unique opportunity to live and interact with art throughout their stay, as the works bring life to the space extending beyond décor and creating a dialogue between works. This experience begins at once as guests are drawn to the reception area by the radiant light seeming to emanate from Stephen Hannock's monumental waterscape, *Port City Dawn*. The artistic interaction continues into the hotel lobby with Hiro Yokose's atmospheric seascape exuding an ominous yet mystical play between water and sky. Master sculptor, A. Wasil's bronze sculptures, add a sense of discovery to the sculpture garden as birds emerge from green plantings and a school of fish play in the water fountain, diving and submerging in the water. As guests make their way to the beach, they will be delighted to interact with Wasil's *Bronze Turtles* as the locally prized creatures seemingly venture alongside them on their journey to the ocean. Other prominent works in the collection include: David Kroll's *Egret & Apples*, displayed in the lobby lounge; a vibrant trio of George Ketterl's mixed media on silk pieces in the Hotel's restaurant, Temple Orange; and an abstract stone sculpture at the entrance to the spa pool entitled *Spring* by sculptor, Dominic Welch. This contemporary collection of one-of-a-kind works provides a powerful and lasting visual memory of the Ritz-Carlton Palm Beach.