

 **COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY**
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

IN MEMORIAM

Robert Jervis

April 30, 1940 – December 9, 2021



Saturday, February 26, 2022, at 2:00 p.m.
The New York Society for Ethical Culture
2 West 64th Street, New York City

~ **PROGRAM** ~

(Please silence all devices)

Prelude

The Brentano Quartet

Movements from Haydn Quartets

~ **WELCOME 2:00 P.M.** ~

Ingrid Gerstmann

Saltzman Institute of War & Peace Studies

Columbia University, since 1997

~ **REMEMBERING BOB JERVIS** ~

Steve Jervis

Bob's brother

Jack Snyder

Bob's student & Columbia University colleague since 1978

Dipali Mukhopadhyay

Columbia University colleague & mentee since 2011

University of Minnesota

The Brentano Quartet

Quartet in G Major by Franz Schubert

Andante un poco mosso

Thomas Christensen

Bob's student & Columbia University colleague since 1987

Keren Yarhi-Milo

Bob's student & Columbia University colleague since 2000

Alexa Jervis

Bob's daughter

~ **CLOSING** ~

The Brentano Quartet

Quartet in G Major by Franz Schubert

Allegro vivace

~ **Please join the Jervis family**
for a reception following the Memorial ~

Shun Lee West
43 West 65th Street
New York City
3:30 pm – 5:30 pm

*It was Bob's wish that any donations in his honor
be given to the American Civil Liberties Union*

Online: www.aclu.org/memory

*By mail: New York Civil Liberties Union
1 Whitehall St, New York, NY 10004*

Robert Jervis, born April 30, 1940, in New York City to Herman Jervis, a lawyer, and Dorothy Jervis, a potter, died of lung cancer on December 9, 2021. He was at home, in the presence of Kathe, his wife of 54 years, and his daughters, Alexa and Lisa. He was a husband, father, and grandfather extraordinaire, a giant in his field of International Relations, a mentor to legions of younger scholars, an enthusiastic provider of feedback to university administrators, a museum goer and opera lover, a skilled napper, and a pioneer of the capsule wardrobe.

Bob had his early education at the Ethical Culture Fieldston School, where teachers consistently noted his fine mind and terrible handwriting. In 1958, he departed for the wilds of Oberlin, Ohio, where he fell in with the wrong crowd—a group of future political science professors (and one geneticist). In 1962, he entered the PhD program for Political Science at University of California at Berkeley, where he distinguished himself by sleeping on a closet shelf and “almost getting arrested” for his activities in the Free Speech Movement.

By then he had set his life on its most fateful turn when he went on a 1961 student trip to the Soviet Union, where he met Kathe Weil of Denver – they struck up a conversation while refusing to dance at an orientation event, then struck a bargain in which he carried her suitcase, and she carried his typewriter. They married in 1967, and began to raise their family in Cambridge, Mass.

They moved to Los Angeles in 1974 to follow Bob’s beloved Dodgers, and incidentally for him to join the faculty of the University of California at Los Angeles. There he wrote seminal books and articles, and won a Halloween costume party by wearing a Brooks Brothers suit. In 1980, he and his family moved back to New York and he taught at Columbia University for the rest of his life.

Bob’s productivity was legendary, as was his support of younger scholars and colleagues. His professional accomplishments and his scholarly influence are too vast to summarize. Among the highlights: The Grawemeyer Award for Ideas Improving World Order, election to the American Philosophical Society, and election to the National Academy of Sciences. His doctoral dissertation is still in print.

He is survived by his wife Kathe, daughters Alexa (Greg Racz) and Lisa (Jay Schwartz), grandsons Daniel and Joshua Racz, step-grandson Ezra Schwartz, brother Steven (Susan Weltman), sister-in-law Zarine Weil, nephews Aaron Weil (Linda Perry), Darius Weil, and niece Delna Weil, and recently predeceased by his brother-in-law Richard Weil.