

RUTH MARIA MAZZONI
1965-2012

I write with a heavy heart to tell you that Ruth Mazzoni passed away on Monday January 23 after a long illness. She was at home surrounded by her family and our friends and she was comfortable. She was 46.

She loved life without reservation and drank it in with a vigor that never flagged, even when she became seriously ill.

In the past few months we traveled to Paris, the Chartres cathedral, Istanbul, and St. Barth's and she went to Miami and London for work. We saw Don Giovanni and the Book of Mormon. We made the hike to Columbian Beach and floated there admiring Peggy and David's house. She swam to the raft at St. Jean and snorkeled off of a sailboat with Andreas on his birthday. We ate drank and lounged by the Bosphorus, and marched the grounds of both the Topkapi Palace and the wing of large Gericault and David paintings in the Louvre. She told Andreas about Napoleon crowning himself and the wreck of the Medusa, stories she repeated every time we had been there.

The list of her loves is long and varied. Early Christian art, Picasso, 3 star restaurants, pigs in a blanket, Neruda, U2, sales at Bergdorf, and in a house that worships Messi, she held out for Forlan. She spoke 5 languages, 4 fluently.

I know this news hits us all with great sadness. For such a petite woman she has left a huge void. But Ruth would have wanted all of us to think about the times with her that were joyous.

Ruth gave to many and varied charities during her life and hoped that in lieu of flowers or food, people who wanted to remember her would make contributions to either the Metropolitan Museum of Art or the MoMA. She loved both places, and on days when I was on weekend call she would take Andreas to one or the other.

A memorial service for Ruth will take place on Monday January 30th at 4 pm at St. Bart's church, 325 Park Avenue at 51st street.

Peter Bach