



Dear readers,

In these hot days of summer, I am singing in the seemingly hottest zone in the world: Siracusa, Sicily! Forty-degree days and it cools off to 30 at night. So my publisher's letter will be very short.

We continue in this issue with my series on brilliant, amazing Canadians: in this instance, architect Frank Gehry, who welcomed us to his studio in Los Angeles on June 3.

It was a sweet experience for me because he reminded me a bit of my dad, who would have been 95 this year; the fifth anniversary of his passing was marked in July. My dad was also an architect who designed iconic buildings, and left behind 15 years of work to complete when he passed away. He always said: "if you do what you love, you will never consider it work." It's a sentiment with which I know that Frank Gehry completely agrees. And because he, along with these fascinating artists whom I have had the great honour to meet and enjoy talking with, love what they do, they will continue to create and leave us with lots to admire and appreciate for generations after they have left us. They are the great icons of our time. Please enjoy the article about Frank Gehry on page 30.

In my small way, I have endeavoured to grasp what makes them tick – how did the first concept that differentiated them from the crowd come to them – so that we can appreciate them all the more?

A sweet, cool drink for the mind to us all at the end of a hot day!

**SHARON AZRIELI**

*Publisher*