





## MEET OUR AMBASSADORS



## **Shunit Marmelstein**

**Deputy Director and Curator** 

**Hecht Museum** 

## SHORT BIO

Born and raised in Haifa-Israel, I graduated from an American high school in Salzburg, Austria, and hold a Master's degree in communications from Clark University in Boston.

I started my work at Hecht Museum as a first-year archaeology and arts student, 32 years ago. Since then, the museum has become my second home. During the last few years I serve as the museum's curator and acting director, always eager to explore new channels for collaboration and synergy with the museum's unique academic surrounding.

I have always been attracted to the fascinating combination between archaeology and art, as they both represent the aesthetic heritage of humanity. The archaeological excavations I have participated in were a source of inspiration for exhibitions I initiated at the Hecht Museum – a retrospective exhibition of ancient pottery discovered in archaeological sites, alongside ceramic works by contemporary artists; a photoarchaeology exhibition reviling earliest 19<sup>th</sup> century photographs from archaeological sites in Palestine, next to photos taken in the same sites nowadays, by a living Israeli artist using the same old photography techniques.

## **FUNDRAISING NEEDS**

Hecht Museum offers a unique combination between cultural and educational activities, as well as research and teaching derived from its immediate academic surroundings.

The museum is currently on the verge of a conceptual transformation thanks to new strategic projects:

- Redesigning and updating the displays of the main archeological wing, founded by Dr. Reuven Hecht in 1984.
- Construction of a new wing dedicated to the Heritage of German-Speaking Jewry.
- **Building a sculpture garden on our scenic lawn** housing 29 canonical sculptures, until recently displayed at the Tefen Open Museum.

The reopening of the museum complex will adapt it to the 21<sup>st</sup> century and attract new and younger visitors. It will allow the museum to expand its collaborations with museums and other research institutions, loaning art and artifacts, and **create diverse new temporary exhibitions**.

Together with the school of the arts and the cable car, it will create a cultural and artistic complex poised to become a touristic venue for a wider audience.