John Antonucci was a unique artist who used "ready-found" materials to assemble whimsical, spiritual, conceptual and surreal worlds. His creations are rooted in the familiar world around us, often making the ordinary, extraordinary.

After completing three years of combat in WWII, John, a native New Yorker, returned home to pursue a career in art. He completed his studies of Art and Design at Pratt Institute, then worked as an art director and graphic designer for several New York firms. He designed many logos for hotels and corporations, including the globally recognized Sheraton Hotel logo with it's big "S" encircled by a wreath of leaves. Throughout his career, John sought more personal means of artistic expression. His award-winning paintings and assemblages have been exhibited in numerous galleries and museums, and his work is included in many collections. Most recently, John devoted his energy to "Nova Vita," a retrospective of his work, which reflects the belief that continuity and "new life" can emanate from the creative use of trash and refuse. John's assemblages reveal that a talented artist can transform the humblest of materials into creations of beauty and significance. In this artist's world a broken toy and a dismantled clock are given new purpose and meaning, and a fractured child's horn seems to sound a clarion call to preserve and recycle in a landscape of waste and pollution. "I have always felt that one's art work should serve a purpose beyond being aesthetically appealing.

Since I was brought up during the Depression, I was forced to be resourceful, imaginative and not wasteful. I made my own toys, made and produced puppet shows for my neighborhood and penny arcades for the kids on. After returning from WW II, many of my life experiences and attitudes found their way into my art world. Today, environmental threats emphasize a need to protect the planet and not be wasteful. My master work, 'Nova Vita', (New Life), reflects these concerns."

Mother Nature's Dilemma

Floral in White and Gold