



## ELLEN PRIEST

[www.ellenpriest.com](http://www.ellenpriest.com)

[www.eyeballitart4kids.org](http://www.eyeballitart4kids.org)

The sheer joy and energy of visual experience and of the creative process itself are at the core of my work as an artist and educator.

## EDUCATION

1977

Master of Divinity, **Yale University Divinity School**, New Haven, Connecticut. Christianity and the Visual Arts: Interdisciplinary Program in Collaboration with Yale University School of Art

1972

B.A. Lawrence University, Wisconsin

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2022

*Jazz Cubano: Color Improvisations*, **Sarah G. Smith Gallery, Yale Divinity School**, New Haven, Connecticut.

2020

*On Being American/Jazz: Ryan Cohan's 'The River'*, **Delaware Contemporary**, Wilmington, Delaware.

2019

*On Being American/Jazz: Ryan Cohan's 'The River'*, **Saint Peter's Church**, 619 Lexington Avenue at 54<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, New York.

Above: *Jazz Cubano #11: Stefon's "Brown Belle Blues"* © 2016. Papers, oil, flashe, pencil, MSA gel. 42"x 44"

**2015**

*Jazz Cubano: Color and Paper Constructions*, **Saint Peter's Church**, 619 Lexington Avenue at 54<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, New York.

**2013**

*Ellen Priest*, **Delaware Division of the Arts Gallery**, Wilmington, Delaware.

**2012**

*Jazz: Thinking Out Loud, Reaching for Song*, Joint painting/jazz project with **Berklee College of Music**, Boston, Massachusetts. Residency: November 2010.

*Improvising on Jazz: Ellen Priest's Paintings on Collaged Paper*, **Yale Institute of Sacred Music and Yale Divinity School**, New Haven, Connecticut.

**2010**

*Jazz: Improvisations on the 'Venezuelan Suite'*, **Delaware Division of the Arts Gallery**, Wilmington, Delaware.

**2009**

*The Art and the Jazz*, Gail Pierson Gallery, Cape May, New Jersey.

**2007**

*Jazz Paintings on Paper: Improvisations on the 'Venezuelan Suite'*, **The Philip and Muriel Berman Museum of Art** at Ursinus College, Collegeville, Pennsylvania.

**2006**

*The Jazz Series: Paintings on Paper*, The Dupont Clifford Brown Jazz Festival in conjunction with Carspecken Scott Gallery, Wilmington, Delaware.

**2004**

*Jazz: Paintings on Paper*, The Alva Gallery, New London, Connecticut.

*Jazz: The Brubeck Series*, Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. In conjunction with performance by Dave Brubeck and Singing City Choir.

**2001**

*The Jazz Series: Paintings on Paper*, Mellon Arts Center, The Choate School, Wallingford, Connecticut.

**2000**

*The Jazz Series: Paintings on Paper*, Gallery 10 Ltd. Washington D.C.

**1983**

*Soul Devils: Works on paper*, J. Hoffman Gallery, Kent, Connecticut.

**1982**

*Soul Devils: Oils and Works on Paper*, Berkeley Center, Yale Divinity School. Sponsored by Department of Religion and the Arts, Yale Divinity School.

**1979**

*Works on Paper*, Mellon Arts Center, The Choate School, Wallingford, Connecticut.

## **SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

**2018**

*Transforming Jazz: A Visual Journey*, City of Philadelphia Office of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy, Philadelphia City Hall, Philadelphia PA.

**2017-18**

*On Another Note: The Intersection of Art and Music*, Lyman Allyn Art Museum, New London, Connecticut. Curated by Alva Greenberg.

**2016**

*On Another Note: The Intersection of Art and Music*, Green Hall Gallery, Yale School of Art, New Haven, Connecticut. Curated by Alva Greenberg.

**2015**

*All That's Jazz*, City of Philadelphia Office of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy, Philadelphia City Hall, Philadelphia PA.

**2014**

*35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Exhibition*, Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts, Wilmington, Delaware.

**2010**

*SPECTRUM: Contemporary Color Abstraction*, Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts, Wilmington, DE. Curated by Carina Evangelista.

**2001**

*Form and Color*, The Alva Gallery, New London, Connecticut.

*Artist's Choice* 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Gallery, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

## AWARDS

2012

Delaware Division of the Arts Established Artist Fellowship

2010

Delaware Division of the Arts Opportunity Grant

2007

Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant

2001

Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant

## PUBLICATIONS

“Chapter 7: Ellen Priest: Seeing the World” Camille Colatosti, *To Be an Artist: Musicians, Visual Artists, Writers and Dancers Speak*. © 2012 E. L. Kurdyla Publishing, LLC, Baltimore, Maryland. (Dr. Colatosti is Dean of Graduate Studies at Berklee College of Music, Boston, Massachusetts.)

## PUBLICATION COVERS

2014

*The Kenyon Review*, 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year edition. Literary magazine, full year of cover art.

Edward Simon, *The Venezuelan Suite*. Sunnyside Records. Music CD.

2013

Thomas Troeger, *Music As Prayer*. Oxford University Press. Print book, e-book.

## PROJECTS LISTED BY THEIR JAZZ SUBJECT MATTER

Each project includes one or more series of preparatory brush studies, finished paintings on layered, collaged paper and in recent projects, drawings. Each series is based on a single jazz composition. Prior to 2005 work was done from publicly available recorded music and score (where possible).

### 2016-ongoing

Ryan Cohan's *The River*, an hour-long jazz suite in 14 sections - 8 main movements threaded together by 6 improvised 'River' sections. Working in dialog with the composer.

### 2012-2016

Afro-Cuban Jazz. Part 1 using the music of Arturo Stable and Elio Villafranca, Part 2 using the music of Stefon Harris and the *Ninety Miles Project*. Worked in dialog with the composers.

## **2010-2012**

Experimental project with Berklee College of Music's Global Jazz Institute, Boston, Massachusetts. Based on student compositions in progress, recorded during two residency periods at Berklee. Worked in dialog with four student composers and BGJI faculty.

## **2005-2010**

Four-movement jazz suite by Venezuelan-born pianist/composer Edward Simon titled, *The Venezuelan Suite*. Based on Venezuelan song forms, rhythms and instrumentation. Worked in dialog with the composer.

## **2003-2004**

Chick Corea composition titled, *Chelsea Shuffle*.

## **2002-2006**

Herbie Hancock compositions titled, *Maiden Voyage* and *Dolphin Dance*.

## **1994-2004**

Gonzaguinha composition, *Tanacara*. Brazilian folk-jazz musician/songwriter.

## **1994-2001**

Dave Brubeck composition titled, *Take 5*.

## **1999-2002**

Miles Davis version of *Someday My Prince Will Come*, arranged by Gil Evans. Composed by Frank Churchill.

## **1997-1998**

Luiz Gonzaga composition titled, *Asa Branca*. Classic Brazilian song, often described as Brazil's 'folk' national anthem.

## **1990-1993**

Michel Camilo composition titled, *Island Stomp*.

## **ART EDUCATION/TEACHING**

### **2013-Present and 1992-1999**

Created **Eyeball It!**<sup>TM</sup> studio art education program for 7-12 year-old children. Online free to users beginning June 2014 funded by Ellen Priest Projects at Fractured Atlas. Originally written/ developed 1992-1999. Series of discreet art projects for children to do at home with a parent. Adaptable for use by groups (e.g. after-school and summer programs, public libraries). [www.eyeballitart4kids.org](http://www.eyeballitart4kids.org)

## 2009

**New York University**, New York, New York, Department of Music Colloquium with Edward Simon, "Composing the *Venezuelan Suite* – the Music and the Paintings," February.

## 2007-2010

**Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts**, Education Committee.

## 2002-2008

**University of the Arts**, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Professional Institute for Educators.

## 2002

**Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts**, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Adjunct Faculty, Fall.

## 1979-1999

**Taught studio art in schools (primary and secondary) and community arts centers** including:

Ocean City Arts Center, Ocean City, New Jersey. 1996-99.

Choate-Rosemary Hall, Wallingford, Connecticut. 1979, 1995-96.

Saint Thomas's Day School, New Haven, Connecticut. 1992-93.

Educational Center for the Arts, New Haven, Connecticut. 1982-83. (All-arts public high school.)

Concord Academy, Concord, Massachusetts. Art Department Chairperson, 1979-80.

## WRITING

### 1980-84

*Art in America*. "Reggie Bradford," December 1983. "Robert Taplin," May 1983.

*American Ceramics*. "Arnold Zimmerman," Fall 1983. "Jane Gustin," Summer 1984.

*New Haven Advocate*. Series of profiles of local artists and their work. 1980-82.

## SELECTED COLLECTIONS

Yale Divinity School, New Haven, Connecticut.

Agnes Gund, New York, New York.

Yale Institute of Sacred Music, New Haven, Connecticut.

Philip and Muriel Berman Museum of Art at Ursinus College, Collegeville, Pennsylvania.

Christine L. Delucchi, Washington D.C.

Alva Greenberg, Connecticut.

Cil and Gary Knutsen, Cleveland, Ohio.

Lisetta Menardi Orlandi, Cortina D'Ampezzo, Italy.

Jane Lyons and Mark Sucher, Washington D.C.

Astra Zeneca Corporation, Wilmington, Delaware.

Pfizer Corporation, New London, Connecticut.

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

BTG, Incorporated, West Conshohocken, Pennsylvania.