

Selected Art Exhibitions

- 2014 **Artisan Gallery, San Diego, CA**
As part of the If Shoes Could Talk project, apparel with imagery of the shoe-sculptures on auctioned to raise funds for art education and the National Art Education Association.
- 2012 **Casita Maria Gallery, Home Exhibit, NYC**
A community project and group exhibit reflecting on building a home. Sculpture on display comments on how shoes always make their way home and reflects on the cultural importance of food and home life through the passage of time taken in ones shoes.
- 2012 **Go Brooklyn Open Studios in affiliation with the Brooklyn Museum, NYC**
On display fifty shoe sculptures and the book release of Capturing Footsteps & Leaving Imprints. Visitors vote and nominate artists for inclusion in a group exhibition to open at the Brooklyn Museum.
- 2012 **American Heart Association, NYC**
Print of shoe sculpture auctioned for nonprofit fundraising.
- 2011 **Museum of Chinese in America, MOCA Young Professionals Expo: YPX 2011, NYC**
Photograph of lotus flowers taken at Shaoshan Hunan Province raffled at a fundraising event.
- 2011 **Culturefix, Greetings, NYC**
Group exhibit displaying prints of artistic shoe-sculptures.
- 2011 **Museum of Art and Design, NYC**
Belt designed during MAD's Professional Development Seminar on display.
- 2010 **92Y Tribeca Feria Artistica, Duality, NYC**
Book release of *If Shoes Could Talk* with installation of artistic shoe-sculptures and an interactive component where visitors were invited to leave their imprint by taking off their own shoes and tracing an outline on canvas or by using an ink pad.
- 2010 **Bayside Historical Society, NYC**
Group show displaying two sculptures.
- 2009 **Joyce Robins Gallery, NM**
Group show and sale organized to raise funds for the New Mexico's Women Foundation.
- 2006 **Local Project, Framing Aids, NYC**
Group show organized to inform, build an understanding, inspire action, and reflect on the Aids Epidemic. All artwork was auctioned.
- 2006 **Makor, Feria Artistica Latina, NYC**
On exhibit signature shoe-sculptures transformed into faces and animals. These mixed media sculptures capture a journey in life, preserving the steps of the past and transforming a visionary future.
- 2006 **Makor, NYC**
On exhibit Linoleum Prints and Ketubbahs made with artwork. Each print represents themes of individual identity, spirituality, and an exploration of the artist's roots. These prints then connect to create a larger picture symbolizing the unity of two people in Marriage, Genesis and Life.
- 2005 **Consulate General of Argentina, NYC**
Hand-Painted Silk Scarf auctioned in the 3rd Annual *ProyecteArte Silent Auction*. *ProyecteArte's* is a nonprofit organization aimed to develop and sustain unique art programs for children in the United States and Latin America.

- 2002 **The Urban Center, NYC**
Proposal for *World Trade Center Memorial* on exhibit. Selected from 18,000 ideas gathered through Imagine New York. Design piece on display was also shown on *News Hour with Jim Lehrer*.
- 2002 **Gallery at Pathways Women's Health, NY**
Selected from a contest to display a mixed media painting and intaglio print in the waiting area of a medical building.
- 2001 **Henri Bendel, NYC**
Trunk show displaying Hand-Painted Silk Scarves: *Art Scarves* (a form of wearable art).
- 2001 **Museum of Art & Design (formerly the American Craft Museum), NYC**
Art Scarves for sale in the gift shop of the museum.
- 1998 **Starbucks Coffee, Cedarhurst Long Island, NY**
Solo exhibition comprised of eleven pieces. Artwork interpreted personal ad writers and those who would respond.
- 1998 **Barnes & Noble in the Citicorp Building, NYC**
Artist of the Month, Solo exhibition comprised of 15 pieces. Artwork on display consisting of Intaglio Prints and Surrealistic collages.
- 1997 **The Queens College Student Gallery, Flushing, NYC**
Group Exhibit with three other students. Five Mixed-media Pieces on display.
- Queens Borough Library, NYC**
Semi-Finalist in the 1996-97 Individual Artist Showcase.
- 1983 **Lever House on Park Avenue, NYC**
Painting on display called: *New York in the Winter*.

Publications_

Books: *If Shoes Could Talk* (ISBN #978-0-615-37416-1). Sold at Pylones and online.

Capturing Footsteps & Leaving Imprints (ISBN # 978-0-9852188-05)

Articles: *Applying Strategies from Choice Based Art Education*, New York Teacher, October 2012

Designs: Graphic Design work published in *Bridal Guide* magazine, *The Wall Street Transcript*, and *Simon & Schuster*.

Press Reviews related to Art Education_

- Interviewed/written in the *The New York Times* regarding pedagogy, artwork with found and recycled materials, and student involvement with Ripley's Believe It or Not! Times Square
- *Boro Magazine* (article on the *Visual Arts Curriculum I created and implemented for BHSEC*)
- *El Correo de Queens* (featured article on my classes multicultural art education)
- .Edu— the Queens College Division of Education Magazine (story covered student exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum and the visual arts curriculum created for Bard High School Early College Queens)

Press Reviews on Artwork_

- National TV coverage on *Univision's Control* show included a interview and segment on artwork
- Designed proposal for WTC Memorial was covered on TV's *New Hour with Jim Lehrer*.
- *Jewish Week* (featured article on Ketubah designs).
- *Bridal Guide Magazine* - March/April 2002 issue featured *Art Scarves* in the *Holiday Gift Guide* section.
- *Newsday* • *The Westsider* • *The Long Island Voice* • *The Queens Tribune*
- *The Courier* • *The Bayside Times* • *Barnes & Noble Newsletter*

To view these articles and videos go to Jennifermerdjan.com and click on the *press/media* button.

Grants & Awards

- 2014 Awarded the **2014 NY Art Educator of the Year Award** from the New York City Art Teachers Association
- 2013 Nominated for the **2013 Big Apple Awards** recognizing teacher excellence
- 2013 **Yale University, Connecticut**
Awarded a grant through the *Gilder Lehrman Institute* for a summer workshop at the University

- 2013 **National Gallery of Art, Washington DC**
Selected for participation in the summer Teacher Institute program on Impressionism and Post-Impressionism
- 2011 **Fulbright Distinguished Teachers Award, Argentina**
-2012 Awarded alternate status.
- 2010 **China Institute Summer Study Tour-History, Culture, and Sustainable Development, China**
Selected for a funded three-week study tour to create and implement curriculum after exploring Chinese culture, education, history and environmental movements.
- 2009 **Germany Close Up, Berlin, Germany**
Selected to participate in a subsidized program for teachers to partake in academic lectures and go to Berlin. This program is in cooperation with the Holocaust Centre in Toronto and works together closely with the German Embassy in Washington D.C. and its General Consulates, the Humboldt University in Berlin and other American and German institutes.
- 2008 **Harvard University, Massachusetts**
Awarded a grant through the *Gilder Lehrman Institute* for a summer workshop at the University.
- 2008 **Accademia Europea di Firenze, Florence, Italy**
Awarded a Grant through *The Italian Cultural Institute of New York* to study in Florence.
- 2006 **Makor Artist and Residence Program, New York**
Selected and awarded a scholarship for the *Makor Artist-in-Residence Program* which provides institutional support to develop new works in partnership with the *Makor/Steinhardt Center*.
- 2005 **Stanford University, California**
Awarded a grant through the *Gilder Lehrman Institute* for a summer workshop at the University.
- 2004 **Peters Valley Craft Center, New Jersey**
Awarded a scholarship for a Fine Metals: Jewelry Making Residency
- 1998 **New York University, New York**
Awarded a scholarship for the Masters in Publishing program.

Certifications_

NY State and City Professional and Permanent Education Certifications:

Commercial Art (also certified in California)
Fine Art(K-12)
Elementary Education

National Certification to teach *Project Lead The Way* courses:

Design and Drawing for Production
Civil Engineering and Architecture

Education

9/03-6/05 **Queens College of the City University of New York, Master of Science in Art Education, GPA: 3.7**
1/99-12/99 **Parsons the New School for Design, Certificate in Graphic Design and Advertising**
8/92-5/96 **Queens College of the City University of New York, Bachelor of Arts, GPA: 3.4**
Majors: Interdisciplinary Applied Arts (studio art + art history)
Communications Arts & Media (concentration in media production)
Education
Minors: Business And Liberal Arts Honors Program
Economics
Leadership: President and Founder of two clubs at Queens College

Additional Coursework_

9/97- present **The New School**, Art Diagnosis and Arts Therapy courses
Cooper Union, Typography classes
School of Visual Arts, Book Publishing, Illustration, Contemporary Ceramic Sculpture classes
The Art Student League of New York, Drawing classes
Urban Glass, Kiln-forming Glass class
NYU, Social Media, Writing, Exhibition Design and computer classes

3/09
7/06, 7/07

The Center For Book Arts, Monoprint, Lithography and Folded Structures classes
Rochester Institute of Technology, Trained and Certified in the *Project Lead The Way's* curriculum

Teaching Experience_

8/08-present Visual Arts Professor, **Bard High School Early College Queens, NY**

- Direct the visual arts program.
- Develop and implement the school's visual arts curriculum as a founding faculty member.
- Teach a diverse and highly motivated student body courses that enable them to acquire both a NYS High School Regents diploma and a *Bard College* Associate in Arts degree. College level courses taught include International Arts and Crafts, Printmaking, and Intro. to Design, Independent Study. High school courses include Visual Arts I and II, Pop-ups and 3D forms. Projects include painting, drawing, sculpting, collage, design, printmaking and working in multiple mediums.
- Foster award winning students—my student's have received the Scholastic Art & Writing Award, the PS Art Award (selected from over 800 entries to be included on exhibit at The Metropolitan Museum of Art and receive a scholarship) in 2012 & 2011. Student artwork selected for display on a 30 x 16 ft. outdoor LED screen at the Big Screen Plaza during the 2012 National Art Education Association Annual Convention.
- Research options for student's works of art to gain exposure in museums: Student's from the Intro. to Design class had their Green Project exhibited at The Museum of Arts and Design (2011).
- Fund raise for the school by organizing art auctions and sales in conjunction with coordinating other events, such as the biannual Arts Celebration and PTA Art Auctions.
- Originated new Bardware for the school. Students created a real commercial art project branding the schools name and identity into new stylish sweatshirts which inturn helped raise funds for the school.
- Facilitate student involvement in the art programs through out NYC.
- Consult students about academic and social issues as their Advisor.
- Facilitate the creation of two student run clubs (Arts Club, Arts & Crafts Club).
- Establish the criteria for selecting and reviewing school proposals for new courses and funding for professional development by serving as the Arts Representative on the Executive Committee.
- PSAL Boys and Girls Track Coach for the Queens High School Complex (consisting of three schools).

7/11 Spanish Interpreter, **School of Visual Arts, NY**

- Simultaneously interpreted in Spanish for an advertising class completely devised of visiting students from Chile.

9/04-6/08 Commercial Art Teacher, Technology Department, **Brooklyn Technical High School, NY**

- Taught Advanced Placement college level courses: Design and Drawing for Production and Art History.
- Instructed gifted high schools student in Technical Drawing, Digital Photography, Interior and Environmental Design, and Intro. to Engineering Design, Industrial, Graphic and Product Design.
- Created and implemented lessons plans for a curriculum that meets state and city Art and Technology standards, evaluate students progress through the development of rubrics for hands-on and computer projects.
- Awarded BTHS Faculty Grants after submitting a proposal for extra funds to help students with special projects and instructional material.
- Utilized *Blackboard*, *Inventor*, *Photoshop*, and *SynchronEyes* softwares in the classroom.

3/04-6/04 Art Teacher, **Middle School 202, NY**

- Created and implemented lessons encompassing drawing, media arts, arts & crafts, art history, painting, sculpture and photography in a manner which facilitated the ability to retain and implement information.
- Created multicultural art lesson plans to instruct in a bilingual Spanish classroom

6/95-12/95 Research and Development Intern, Office of Academic Advising at **Queens College, NY**

- Produced a report for the Provost to modify future programs.
- Designed a survey assessing the program planning and registration process.
- Researched, analyzed and correlated data through database development.
- Consulted students on scholastic issues.

6/94-8/94 Teacher Assistant and Counselor, **Queens College Sports Academy, NY**

- Coordinated hands-on educational activities.

Graphic Design and Production Experience_

4/03-7/03 Designer, **Simon & Schuster, NY**

- Created risers, shelf-talkers and other marketing material to promote authors, including *David McCullough*, *Stephen King*, *Barbara Delinsky*.

4/00-4/03 Promotion Designer, **Bridal Guide magazine**, NY

- Designed promotional materials including posters, ads, brochures, signage, media kit materials, and postcards for the magazine and it's clients (ads included: *Henckels, Kohls, Cristal JGDurand, Pfaltzgraff, Fairmot Hotels, Bernarduad, Lunt, Andrew Fezza, Kenwood & various International Departments of Travel & Tourist Boards*).
- Directed artwork and page layout by creating a new look for all four of the *Honeymoon Packages Pages*, and redesigned five *Regional Guide* sections in the magazine.
- Developed concepts for projects from start to finish: came up with ideas for layouts, handled art in-house and with the Separator, chose color palettes, checked proofs for color corrections and flight checked files.
- Designed banner ads for the magazine's website (clients include *Hotel@MIT, Lenox.com, The WeddingShopper.com, Bridalline.com*).
- Supervised production work on a subsidiary magazine called *Fantasy Football*.

4/99-4/00 Production Artist, **The Wall Street Transcript**, NY

- Finalized the magazine for production and printers' needs on tight deadlines.
- Produced a weekly magazine by laying out text and scanning photographs.
- Designed marketing brochures and graphics for the web.
- Researched financial charts and images for print and web use.

4/98-12/98 Electronic Production Artist, **Steck Vaughn Berrent Publications**, NY

- Designed books by flowing in text, applying and creating templates, master pages and style sheets.
- Selected artwork to match stories and made revisions according to editorial changes. • Proofread blue lines.

1/97-4/98 Promotion Assistant, **Parents and Child Magazines, G+J USA Publishing**, NY

- Instructed designers at a pre-press company how to layout and design the *Holiday Gift Guide* section, while working in collaboration with the Separator, the companies placing ads and the printer.
- Negotiated fees with the photographers and stock houses to reuse and obtain chromes.
- Managed large scale projects: *Parents Editorial Awards at the White House, & Child Birth Educators Sampling Program*.
- Responsible for tracking invoices, print orders, cover blow-ups, and counter-cards.

8/96-11/96 Temp. Assistant, **Vogue Magazine and Self Magazine, Condé Nast Publishing**, NY Temp. Assistant, **Hearst Book Group**, NY

- Exposed to pre-production procedures for developing articles & layouts in *Self's* Editorial Dept.
- Prepared an annual account review analyzing advertising pages for 60 accounts in *Vogue*.
- Formulated information packets for *William Morrow and Avon Books* International Sales Dept.
- Distributed F&G's and Galley copies for promotion. • Addressed international calls in Spanish.

Work Experience in Art

1/95-6/96 Intern, **The Whitney Museum of American Art at Philip Morris**, NY

- Contacted critics, press, radio and TV Broadcasters to publicize events. • Promoted artist and their shows.
- Devised and implemented a media mailing list by researching, upgrading and verifying information.

6/93-7/93 Administrative Assistant Intern, **Marion Art/Art Consultants**, NY

- Researched and acquired artwork from galleries. • Managed computer work for design projects.
- Assisted in corporate presentations. • Contacted clients through telephone interactions.

1/93-12/94 Student Assistant, **Godwin Ternbach Museum at Queens College**, NY

- Hosted an average of four annual gallery opening. • Organized art acquisitions.
- Installed and framed art for Museum Director.

Professional Membership Affiliations

- International Society for Education through Art
- New York State Art Teachers Association
- National Art Education Association