

CHESELYN AMATO

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Education

MFA, Tyler School of Art of Temple University, Philadelphia, Pa., 1984

BA, Brown University, Providence, R.I., 1980

Tyler School of Art in Rome, Italy, 1979-80

Selected Exhibitions

- 2009 *Reinventing Ritual*, The Jewish Museum, NY, NY (travels to the CJM, SF April 2010)
What Does It Say To You?, Spertus Museum, Chicago, IL
Faculty Exhibition, American River College, Sacramento, CA
Faculty Exhibition, Sierra College, Rocklin, CA
The Dorothy Saxe Invitational, The Contemporary Jewish Museum (CJM), San Francisco, CA
- 2008 *Who's the Fairest of Them All: Women Artists' Perspectives on Justice*, HangArt, SF, CA
Sierra College Faculty Show, Union Hall Gallery, Sacramento, CA
Flatlanders: Regional Roundup II, Nelson Gallery, UC Davis, Summer 2008
American River College Faculty Show, Union Hall, Sacramento, CA
- 2007-08 *The New Authentics*, Spertus Museum, Chicago, IL
- 2006 Studio 18 Gallery, New York, NY
Vulnerability in the Presence of Love is Heaven, interactive performance, Evanston, IL
- 2005 *The Hidden Garden*, The Gershman JCC Y, Philadelphia, PA, curated by Miriam Seidel
- 2004 *The Wild and The Tame & The Gestation of Mature Love*, Pierro Gallery, South Orange, NJ
Scanners, Flatfile Gallery, Chicago, IL
Ner Tamid, Curators' Choice, Spertus Museum of Judaica, Chicago, IL
- 2003 *Apparitions in the Backyard*, Flatfile Contemporary Gallery, Chicago, IL
Fotowerks, Flatfile Photography, Chicago, IL
Anniversary Show, Unit B Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2002 *The Manna Redemption*, Faculty Sabbatical Exhibition, Betty Rymer Gallery, SAIC, IL
Behold Your Treasure, Transmit its Beauty, interactive performance ritual, Evanston, IL
Piece Process, ARC Gallery, Chicago, IL
I Love American, Unit B Gallery, Chicago, IL
Studio 18 Gallery, New York, New York
Ragdale 25th Anniversary Exhibition, Fine Arts Building Gallery Chicago, IL
- 2001 *Behold Shekinah: Her Indwelling Presence Amongst Us*, interactive performance, Evanston, IL
Vocalizing the Song of Shekinah: Improvisational Prayer, performance, Studio Pardes, Oak Park
Visualizing The Tree of Life, interactive performance ritual, Studio Pardes, Oak Park, IL
Honoring Shekinah: Jewish Feminine Voices, Pardes Studio, Oak Park, IL
ARTwork III, SAIC/AIC, 847 W Jackson, Chicago, IL
- 2000 *Cleaning House*, Woman Made Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1998 *Domestic Taboo*, Suburban Fine Arts Center, Highland Park, IL
- 1996 *A Temple in Honor of Life Lived Everyday-An Unfinished Song of Love*, The Chicago Cultural Center
The Tikkun Series: Reparation and Redemption, ARC Gallery, Chicago, IL
Above and Below: The Human Heavenly Body, Indiana University, Northwest, Gary, IN
Group Exhibition, R.H. Love Galleries, Chicago, IL
Why Is This Night Different...?, DePaul University Gallery, Chicago, IL

Spoken Text/Poetry Performances

Ah ha, Beamer Street Studio, Woodland, CA, 2008
Dollar Collar, Studio 18 Gallery, NYC, 2005
The Wild and the Tame, spoken text performance, Pierro Gallery, South Orange, NJ, 2004
Selections from *Gates to Ecstasy*, Curious Theatre Branch, Lunar Cabaret, Chicago, IL, 2002

Grants

Faculty Sabbatical Leave, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Fall 2001
Faculty Enrichment Grant, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, 2001, 1997, 1995
Illinois Arts Special Assistance Grant, Illinois Arts Council, Chicago, 1996
Community Arts Assistance Program Grant, Chicago, 1995

Residencies

Ragdale Foundation, Lake Forest, IL, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2000, 1999
Present Company, Amherst College, Amherst, MA, 2000
Roger Brown Studio and George Veronda Pavilion, New Buffalo, MI, 1999

Panels and Lectures

Visiting Artist, Columbia College, 2004, 2005, 2006
Panelist, Contemporary Art and Kabbalah, Gershman JCC, Philadelphia, 2005
Visiting Artist, College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, IL April, 2004.
Panelist, *Women's History Month: Exploring Gender*, SAIC, 2001.
Lecturer, *Contemporary Art and Judaism*, Kallah Convention, U of Oregon, Corvallis, 1999.
Visiting Artist, Associated Colleges of the Midwest, 1995.
Presenter/Panelist, *Integration and Disintegration in Developing First Year Programs*, FATE, 1990
Panelist, *Artistic Freedom and Responsibility*, SAIC, 1989.
Panelist, *Is there Life After Art School?*, SAIC, 1988.

Reviews Journals and Catalogs

Daniel Belasco, *Reinventing Ritual*, Yale University Press, 2009
New Works/Old Story: 80 Artists at the Passover Table, The Dorothy Saxe Invitational, organized by the Contemporary Jewish Museum, SF, 2009
Flatlanders 2: Regional Roundup, UC Davis, The Richard L. Nelson Gallery, 2008
Diane Chin Lui, "Dreamers and their Visions," *The Davis Enterprise*, August 11, 2008, A9
Sharon Cohen, "The Arts: A Museum of Great Reflection," *Hadassah Magazine*, April 2008
Menachem Wecker, "Post-Jewish Painting and Its Discontents," *The Jewish Press*, Jan. 23, 2008
Gloria Orenstein, *Nashim*, Fall, Number 14, 2007
Alan Artner, "New exhibit gives modern focus to Spertus tradition," *Chicago Tribune*, Dec. 5, 2007
Blair Kamin, "Blades of Glass," *Chicago Tribune*, Arts and Entertainment, November 25, 2007
Kevin Nance, "The 2007 Fall Preview: Visual Arts," *Chicago Sun-Times*, Sunday, Sept. 16, 2007
Staci Boris, *New Authentics*, catalog published in association with exhibition, 2007
Leslie Kaufman, "On the Metaphysical in Art," *Inside Magazine*, Winter 2005, pp.50-53.
Harriet Goodheart, "The True Mysteries, Not Celebrities, of Kabbalah," *The Jewish Exponent*, Volume 219, Number 13, 12/22/05.
Miriam Seidel, *The Hidden Garden: Three Artists Explore Kabbalah*, exhibition catalog, 2005
Gloria Orenstein, "*Vision and Visibility: Contemporary Jewish Women Artists Visualize the Invisible*," FEMSPEC, in print for 2005.
Dan Bischoff, *The Star Ledger*, October 1, 2004, p. 52.
NEWS-RECORD of South Orange and Maplewood, NJ, September 9, 2004, p. 3.
Tina Wasserman, *Dialogue*, *Arts in the Midwest*, Sept/Oct 1996.
James Yood, *New Art Examiner*, 23, 10 (Summer 1996), pp. 41-42.
Lisa Stein, *New City*, May 16-22, 1996, p. 22.

Lori Gray, *The Chicago Tribune*, February 24, 1995.
Contemporary Art Workshop 1949-1989, designed and written by Alex Nelson, Chicago, IL.
Garrett Holg, "Departures from Architecture," *New Art Examiner*, 16,10 (June, 1989), pp. 45-46.
Cara Glatt, "Leopold Bloom ate with relish..." *Hyde Park Herald*, 3/15/89, pp. 10, 20.
Michael Bonesteel, *Pioneer Press*, Evanston, IL, 3/19/89.
Larry Lundy, "Interiors," *New Art Examiner*, 15,4, (December, 1987), pp. 48-49.

Collections

The Jewish Museum, NY; The Spertus Museum, Chicago; numerous private collections

Affiliation – Galleries and Consultants

Beth Jones, Art Consultant, JayJay Gallery, Sacramento, CA
Flatfile Gallery, Chicago, IL
Liz F. Spungen Fine Art, Philadelphia., PA

Employment History

Teaching Experience

- **Sierra College** – Fall, 2008-Present
Faculty: Drawing 1, Art Appreciation
- **American River College** – Spring, 2008-Present
Faculty: Drawing 1, Children & Art, Introduction to Art (Art Appreciation)
- **Art Institute of California, Sacramento** – Winter, 2009
Faculty: Color Theory
- **CCA, Oakland campus** – July, 2007
Faculty: Pre-College Program, Drawing
- **University of California, Davis, CA** - Summer, 2006
Faculty: Department of Art and Art History, Painting Materials and Carriers
- **Evanston Art Center, Evanston, IL** – Spring, 2006
Faculty: Adult Education, Painting and Drawing
- **Columbia College, Chicago, IL** – Fall, 2004-January, 2006
Portfolio Consultant and Faculty, Art and Design Department, Fine Arts Division, Drawing 1
- **The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, IL** – January, 1985-May, 2004
Faculty, Painting and Drawing Department and First Year Program, 1985-2004
 - Continuing two-thirds post in the undergraduate division (two courses per semester). Courses taught:
 - 2-D I: Foundation Drawing and Design
 - 2-D II: Color, Abstraction, and Conceptual and Non-traditional Approaches
 - Research Studio: Development of Ideas via Interdisciplinary (2-D, 3-D, 4-D) Practice
 - Multi-level Figure Drawing
 - Multi-level Studio Drawing
 - Beginning Painting
 - Advanced Independent Projects in Painting and Drawing
 - Graduate Projects in Painting and Graduate Tutorials Advisor and Semester Review Panelist.
 - Committees: First Year Program Exhibition, First Year Program Curriculum and Restructuring, UG Curriculum, First Year Program Merit Review, Adjunct Faculty Promotions Review
 - Additional courses taught in the Early College Program and the Continuing Studies Division.
 - Master Teacher for the BASIC program designed to help high school art teachers prepare students who aspire to attend art school.

Coordination and Management Experience

The School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Coordinator, Master of Arts in Art Education (MAAE) Summer Program, Studio Track, 1996-97

- Managed a highly selective summer program for high school teachers wishing to develop their personal work while earning an MA degree; developed Visiting Artists Lecture series; organized critique panels; served as Tutorials Advisor; participated in admissions process; advised students regarding degree planning and course selection.

2-D Area Coordinator, Foundation Drawing and Design Division, First Year Program, 1994-95

- Responsible for the organization and management of an eighteen-member faculty; under the supervision of the Department Chair, responsible for the design and implementation of program curriculum.

Administrative Experience in Advising and Admissions

The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, 1985-2004

Admissions Counselor and Recruiter

- Familiarity and experience with all aspects of UG and GRAD art school admissions policies and procedures.
- Provided in-depth information about the school to prospective students and parents, an international and highly diverse population, during on- and off-campus visits all over the country, and proactively counseled students through the admissions process from beginning to end resulting in many admissions and merit scholarship winners. Comprehensive and detailed knowledge of key recruitment tools as well as competing institutions.
- Met or exceeded enrollment goals as a key member of the recruitment team for the undergraduate division. Senior experience evaluating transcripts, and working with confidential student records and sensitive matters. Also counseled many individuals seeking admission to the Graduate, Post-Baccalaureate, and Continuing Studies programs.

Cooperative Education Advisor

- Guided students through co-op experience, helping them to manage the employer/employee dynamic and the content, duties, and responsibilities of the particular job; evaluated employment sites and employers both for value to and safety of students; helped students develop professionalism and competence to successfully serve employers for sustained employment opportunities in the present and to maintain good relations with the participating employers; understanding of university nuances – academic programs and requirements; student, departmental and Dean's Office needs; protocol, policies and procedures.

Academic Advisor in the Office of Academic Advising and Student Success

- Mentored and coached a diverse population of new, transfer and continuing students – undergraduate, graduate and continuing studies - including underrepresented and academically disadvantaged as well as international students, serving up to 750 per semester, helping them with simple to complex academic, administrative, social and personal matters. Helped students pursue career objectives and served as a mediator for difficult conflicts between students and faculty members.
- Contributed to retention initiative that resulted in a 5% increase over a two-year period; helped increase graduation rates as well, edited advisor handbook for faculty and staff; committee Member: transfer credit review, merit scholarship review; registration advisor, new student orientation staff; commencement staff; coordinated Academic Motivation Program targeting students admitted on conditional basis; trained new admissions counselors, academic advisors, and student assistants; designed, directed and managed large-scale visual art exhibitions involving multiple deadlines, complex scheduling, personnel, budgeting, grant-writing, and advertising.