

ART FOR PEACE JUROR BIOGRAPHIES

Afsané Bassir-Pour

UNRIC Director since 2006, Afsané Bassir-Pour was the diplomatic correspondent for the French daily Le Monde from 1988 to 2006. Afsané Bassir-Pour's office has organised 3 ad competitions since 2010, she therefore has some experience as a judge. Their latest ad competition was on water and was entitled The Future We Want: Drop by Drop; (<http://www.dropbydrop.eu/en>)

Antonio di Vico

Antonio di Vico has a MA in Media and Communications with honors and, before joining UNRIC in 2011, he has worked extensively as communications professional in Georgia, India, Italy, Australia and Belgium. He has also worked as photojournalist for an Italian photo-agency. His photos have been exhibited in Poland, USA, Belgium, Italy, Australia. (www.antoniodivico.com)

Toshiko Tanaka

Toshiko Tanaka was born in 1938 in Hiroshima and barely survived the atomic bomb when 6 years and 10 months old. She has been creating art works for 50 years as the founder of enamel mural art. In 1981 one of her works was presented to then Pope John Paul II by the mayor of Hiroshima as a gift to commemorate peace. Telling her story as a survivor mainly in NY as a member of Hibakusha Stories project.

Eli Elysee

Eli Elysee is a contemporary Artist/Industrial Designer/Furniture Designer. He holds a Bachelor of Industrial Design-Pratt Institute, NYC. As an artist, he has exhibited in: Chelsea, NYC – Tokyo/Osaka, Japan - Verdun, France and Munich/Berlin, Germany. As a designer, his designs have been exhibited and published in various magazines in Tokyo and NYC.

Ruth Berdah-Canet

Ruth Berdah-Canet uses her international experience as a filmmaker to promote social and political documentaries. She lived in France and Japan before settling in New York, where she produces videos in cooperation with socially conscious organizations such as the United Nations, Hague Appeal for Peace, Restless Development and DCTV.

Austin Makani

Austin Makani works in a media and public relations at the UN high Commissioner for Refugees in Tanzania liaising with the Government and Media and with donors in the region. He has a Masters of Science in Marketing Management undertaken units in Marketing, Promotion, Communication and Branding. Austin is knowledgeable in communications, public relations principles and practices as they pertain to internal and external communication needs of a large organization. He is experienced in researching and developing competitive products and producing portfolio management for new and existing products and seven years in communications media including audio-visual, graphics and photography, radio and TV relations, community relations and intergovernmental relations. He also has

ability to formulate communication strategies and plans as per the organizations objective.

Julia Dean

Julia Dean works in a media and public outreach capacity at the UN Information Centre Canberra liaising with all associated stakeholders including undertaking outreach activities with UN colleagues throughout the Asia Pacific region. She has a Degree in Design from Adelaide College of the Arts; She is currently studying for Masters in Human Rights. She has also worked at the ABC and has associated photography and film making skills. Julia places an importance of youth in her work and was responsible for the UN Youth Champion Monique Coleman's three week visit to Australia.

Audrey Wood

Audrey Wood works in a public outreach and public affairs capacity at the UN Information Center, liaising with the US government, other UN agencies in Washington, NGOs and civil society. Previously she worked as consulting writer for the World Wildlife Fund and also worked for the International Monetary Fund, the International Committee of the Red Cross and Save the Children in Banda Aceh, Indonesia. She has degrees from James Madison University and Johns Hopkins University and studied abroad in Australia while an undergraduate student. She has been an avid photographer since a very young age, having learned the craft of developing both film and prints in a darkroom. While now just a hobby, she has transitioned to digital photography and would one day love to learn about filmmaking, as she has a great appreciation for the art of the documentary. She has been an art information volunteer for America's first museum of modern art, The Phillips Collection in Washington, DC, for the past 6 years, and is also a supernumerary with the Washington National Opera.

Alison Sky

Alison Sky is an artist and designer with an interdisciplinary approach. Through her firm, Alison Sky, LLC, she creates site-specific installations in public contexts. Co-founding principal of SITE (1969-1991), and author of the ON SITE series of books including Unbuilt America. Commissioned work produced with SITE is credited for expanding the range of possibilities for the integration of art, architecture and public space.

Robert Del Tredici

Robert Del Tredici is an artist, teacher, book-illustrator, and nuclear documentary photographer best known for his book on the US nuclear weapons complex, At Work in the Fields of the Bomb. This project won the 1987 Olive Branch Book Award for its contribution to world peace. He is also an ardent scholar of the art of animated film.

Rebeca Moreno Jimenez

Rebeca Moreno Jimenez is in charge of the Public Information Center in World Bank's Mexico Country Office. She is the focal point for the implementation of the Access to Information Policy in Latin America, specifically for Mexico and Colombia offices. As part of the Communication team in Mexico, she assists in the promotion of WB mission in the field, mostly working directly with civil society

and media. She studied B.A. in International Relations and an MPP both from Monterrey Tech Institute of Technology and Higher Education in the city of Monterrey.

Ingo Gunther

Ingo Gunther studied Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology at Frankfurt University (1977) before he switched to the Kunstakademie Düsseldorf in 1978. In the same year, he received a stipend from the Kunstakademie Düsseldorf for a residency at P.S.1 in New York. Based in New York, he played a crucial role in the evaluation and interpretation of satellite data gathered from political and military crisis zones; the results were distributed internationally through print media and TV news. The goal was to make military and ecological information, that was up to this point inaccessible, known to the public in order to have a direct impact on political processes. In the same year, Günther received accreditation as a correspondent at the United Nations in NY. In 1989, 9 months before the reunification of Germany, he founded the first independent TV station in Eastern Europe Channel X, Leipzig in order to contribute to the establishment of a free media landscape. Ingo Günther has been teaching at the academy of art in Braunschweig and Münster, at the San Francisco Art Institute and at the Academy of Media Arts in Cologne.

Hank Blaustein

Hank Blaustein is a retired New York City high school teacher and drawing is his lifelong passion. He draws the world around him. He has exhibited his drawings both in the United States and abroad. As a professional illustrator, his has appeared in the Times and the New Yorker, and books and professional journals.

Yasuaki Yamashita

Yasuaki Yamashita was 6 years old in Nagasaki When The Atomic- Bomb was dropped there. Later as a young man he worked at the Nagasaki Atomic-Bomb Hospital. He currently resides in Mexico where he works as a painter and a ceramist. His works have been exhibited in Mexico and the U.S. For several years he has been an activist for world peace and for the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons by speaking in public about his experience as an atomic bomb survivor.

Jee-Yeon Seo

Jee-Yeon Seo is a Knowledge Management Analyst of the World Bank's Poverty Reduction & Economic Development network. She contributes in improving user experience and keeping the innovation alive in the area of learning and knowledge sharing product development. Her responsibilities are to develop purposeful graphical structure, clarity of ideas, and persuasive presentation of content according to target audience and to coordinate visual consistency across different media. She studied graphic design at the Corcoran School of Art (DC) and majored in visual communications at the Ewha Womens University (Seoul).

Kavita Gupta

Kavita Gupta works with IFC as a Financial Trading analyst. she is also the President of "Y2Y"- Youth to Youth group at the World Bank. This group organizes BBL's at World Bank in association with partner development organization on youth development and various related youth issues across the World. The latest being the "Global youth Conference" where there was a panelist coming from

across the world talking about youth Unemployment. Next is the talk with Young Indonesian Ambassador at WB about Youth involvement in reinventing the country. Apart from her dry job, Kavita Gupta loves making socially relevant documentaries. In fact, she is taking a 3 month sabbatical to go back to India to work on one. She has already judged couple of competitions like this at WB and CARE in the past.

Karen Sirker

Karen Sirker is a Senior Social Development Specialist in the Sustainable Development Network Vice Presidency of the World Bank focusing on sustainable development and leadership. She is managing the Sustainable Development Leadership Program for the World Bank. Previously, Ms. Sirker worked for six years in the Governance Program of World Bank Institute on social accountability in Africa and South Asia. She founded the Affiliated Networks on Social Accountability in South Asia, Middle East and North Africa and Latin America – which are regional hubs on social accountability. Ms. Sirker has worked on Bank projects on traditional structures in local governance, participatory monitoring and evaluation and community driven development. She has written a number of publications on social accountability. Before the World Bank, she worked with UN-ECOSOC, Human Rights Watch and Search for Common Ground. She has a MA from Johns Hopkins University School for Advanced International Studies in Social Change and Development.

Nur Kocak

Nur Kocak graduated from the University of Mimar Sinan's Art Faculty Painting Department in Istanbul in 1968. On a scholarship earned from the Turkish State, she did further studies in Paris between 1970-74. She has instructed art in different institutions in Istanbul. Living and working in Istanbul, she has held many solo exhibitions and participated in numerous group shows throughout the world.

Paule Saviano

New York native Paule Saviano has been snapping photographs since he was 12 years old. He studied Visual Media and Political Science at the American University. His most recent book, *From Above*, features portraits of atomic bomb survivors and fire bombing survivors of WW II. The project has been exhibited in numerous venues in Japan and Germany.

Max St Romain

Max St Romain works as a producer and writer in Film and TV. With a former background in Art Direction for media production and marketing, he has an extensive knowledge of design, art, and composition. He currently lives in Mexico City and is passionate about supporting great projects and ideas, of beauty, meaning, and provocation, to find their place in the world.

Fran Beallor

Fran Beallor paints “still lifes that are not so still” as well as traditional figurative oils and watercolors with a contemporary twist. Beallor loves to travel, collecting memories, sketches and objects she will later paint. She has visited Asia, Africa, North and South America, the Middle East and most recently Costa Rica. Beallor has exhibited in museums and galleries all over the US, including the Brattleboro Museum, the Hudson River Museum and the Butler Art Institute, as well as the Sherry French and Grand Central Art Galleries in New York City. Her work has been featured in numerous reviews, articles, and interviews and is the subject of a new series of videos on YouTube created for the GeoBeats Master Series in 2011. Beallor is currently working on a still life commission for a NY family having just finished a portrait commission of three siblings. She is preparing for a solo show at Guild Gallery in Chelsea, later this year. You can see more of her work at www.franbeallor.com

Jorge Mihai Varas-Mardones

Jorge Mihai Varas-Mardones works at the United Nations Regional Information Centre (UNRIC) as a Graphic/Web Coordinator. At UNRIC Jorge has been responsible for setting up the office graphic design section of UNRIC, where he works with print production and design for the UN and office promotional campaign activities, as well as co-designs and develops the various websites produced by the Centre. He has been an instrumental team member of the UNCRIC public information campaign and ad competition - Create4theUN. Jorge studied Graphic Design and Communications at the Berghs School of Communication and Institut Saint-Luc/College of Arts in Brussels.

Michal Shadak

Michal Shadak has over twenty five years of experience teaching creative movement and dance improvisation in high school where she developed a unique program of awareness through movement. Michal also teaches college students and dancers in various adult education settings and independently. She leads a private practice based on the Body-Mind Centering approach, Somatic Experiencing and other movement modalities with all ages. She holds a BA in dance and movement education and an MA in Art Therapy Certified as Body-Mind Centering practitioner & teacher and as Somatic Experiencing practitioner.

Firas Al-Khateeb

Firas Al-Khateeb works with the UNESCO Regional Office in Beirut as a communication officer. As a web editor he is responsible for the communication plan and the visibility of the office, and recently has been assigned corporate funding . He has 21 years of experience with UNESCO in programme implementation , management and information and communication. He participated in creative teams to develop media and advertising campaigns for many UN themes. He is responsible for most UNESCO advocacy efforts and campaigns in the Arab region. He helped the UN system in Lebanon with several photo and children drawings contests to put guidelines and select winners. One of his hobbies is photography as he has an eye for good images.

Leila Kanso Nasreddine

Leila Kanso Nasreddine is an artist/painter and a jewelry designer. She has her own business company which is called Lila K. She has participated to many exhibitions including Beirut Social Development Association in AFKART I AND II, Aley Summer Group Art Exhibition, ISC Alumni Group Art Exhibition, Solo Art galleries exhibitions, and open house art exhibitions, etc.... Leila Kanso Nasreddine Served as Secretary of the IQRA ASSOCIATION Board whose field work projects have been dealing with underprivileged children with literacy problems in 107 public schools in all six Mohafazat of Lebanon for the past 18 years. Art therapy was also part of her involvement. She has participated to the International School of Choueifat Alumni Association as a Cultural and Educational Coordinator and as a Co Founder. Leila Kanso Nasreddine has been living in North and South America as well as in the Middle east which has enriched her from an educational, cultural and professional perspective.

Zero Higashida

Zero Higashida received a BFA in sculpture from Nihon University and an MFA in sculpture from Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music. Interested in the symbiotic relationship between strength and nurturing, Higashida uses formal strategies of scale from the massive to the infinitesimal to convey interconnection on an atomic level. Zero Higashida believes that art can heal and has been healing history. People are able to make a link between heaven and the real world by training their imagination. He believes that an artist is someone who conveys a spiritual message to the real world.

Mary Ann Perkins

Mary Ann Perkins has a background in Art History (BA, 2000) and the Humanities (MA 2008). She is a hobby photographer and often turns her camera on Beirut, Lebanon, where she has lived since 2004. She is an Associate English Editor at ESCWA, a job that keeps her well informed about United Nations activities and social and political developments around the world.

Sukaina Al Nasrawi

Sukaina Al Nasrawi is an Associate Social Affairs Officer at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), Beirut, Lebanon. She joined ESCWA, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) division, in 2003 and contributed to ICT related studies, meetings, and regional projects. In 2011, Sukaina joined ESCWA Centre for Women focusing on women inclusion and empowerment in the knowledge society. Sukaina holds a Bachelor and Masters of Science in Computer Science from the American University of Beirut. Drawing, particularly on silk, is her preferred hobby. She participated in various art exhibitions including the "UN Staff in Talents" exhibition, which was organized on the occasion of the UN ESCWA 35th Anniversary in December 2009.

Denise Sumpf

During the last seven years, Denise Sumpf has been working on economic, social and political development issues in various UN offices in Asia (Thailand), the Pacific (Fiji) and the Middle East (Lebanon). She pursued studies in Art History and collects photography.

Jiesselinde L. González

Jiesselinde L. González works in a media and public outreach capacity at the UN Information Centre in Panama liaising with all associated stakeholders including undertaking outreach activities with UN colleagues throughout the Republic of Panama. She has a Master Degree in Advertising and Marketing and several specializations such as: political marketing with social responsibility, quality management and theory and tools of the Harvard Negotiation Project of Harvard School. She has written several articles including "Man is born free but everywhere is in chains"; "Hope for the poorest", among others. Throughout her career - all in the United Nations System / 32 years- she has received numerous awards: Honorary Doctorates from the University of Peace, Peace Ambassador and Leona Honorary from The National Association of Lions Clubs D-1 District, and Honor Chapter of Sigma Lambda from The University of Panama. In 2010 she participated as a candidate for Ombudsman in her country. She is married and has three children.

Bobbi Van

Bobbi Van is an abstract artist who works intuitively and has been working for about 10 years (her work can be found at: www.bobbivanstudio.com). She also works with young people through art in helping them find their voice. She is on a number of boards of foundations that help young teenagers have healthy relationships (www.therelationshipfoundation.org) and Project Girls who have performed at the UN in March, 2012.

Joan Cantor

Joan Cantor, a Philadelphia native living in New York, has a painting background - and Art Education and English/TESOL degrees. She has worked with both adults and children in Mexico and the US, taught art and English in the Philadelphia school system - and children's art classes - at the Philadelphia College of Art, the California College of Arts and Crafts - and the Children's Art Center - where workshops she developed drew children from a wide range of backgrounds. For the past few years Joan has been working with yarn and fiber and designing one-of-a-kind, wearable-art accessories.

Alli Berman

Alli Berman has been an artist, educator, author, and lecturer for the past 30+ years. She is an educational advisor to the American Academy for Anti-Aging Medicine for the past two decades. Her interactive PuzzleArt concept helps connect cultures as it builds new communities. Berman's art is therapeutic as well and helps different populations connect eyes and hands to brains. Her "Healing Veterans Through Art Initiative" helps veterans with PTSD and TBI injuries re-connect to family, society and self. Her art is exhibited in museums and galleries and it can be found in corporate and private collections worldwide.

Maya Mansour

Maya Mansour has a Master degree in Advertising and Graphics Arts, with 17 years of incarnating thousands of ideas into graphics; mixing shapes, colours, etc...so that the idea is best expressed; She has been working at the United Nations for 14 years, leading a team of graphic artists; She is happily married with two great boys.

Diane Churchill

Diane Churchill is a painter, (www.dianechurchill.com) and a retired art teacher of children, Fieldston Lower School in Riverdale for 20 years. She created and coordinated a project of tiles made by children around the world which is permanently displayed at Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx. She has a tremendous love of children's art and is ardent about international sharing of their work, thus, her project. www.ecfs.org/projects/fieldstonlower27111.

France Garrido

France Garrido is the Director of hob'art co-operative gallery in Hoboken, NJ and also a working artist, working in mixed media/collage intensely for over 30 years. She has exhibited her work internationally. Her paintings were exhibited at the UN Conference on Women in China in a continuous video loop with other women artists. She is also an independent curator currently co-curating an exhibition at the Queensboro Community College Art Gallery in Bayside. She has worked with children in all types of settings for over 20 years. Currently she is an Educator at the Newark Museum, Newark, NJ and she also works with Creative Heartwork, NJ, working with Traumatized, abused, and neglected children.

Marguerite Kahrl

In her sculpture, Marguerite Kahrl approaches systems thinking from a playful angle, manipulating messages and media to instigate social engagement. Her idiosyncratic constructions highlight our complex relationship with energy and the land. For example, HotSpot (2008) is a prototype she co-developed to visualize background radiation transmitted from a mesh-networked radiation monitor, which is then graphically interpreted on a real-time video monitor.
<http://www.kahrl.com>

Ray Goh

Ray Goh has worked in Australia, New Zealand, London, India and now Beirut, Lebanon. Throughout the years, he has travelled the world appreciating art - visiting the "permanent" art galleries in Paris, London, New York, Sydney, etc however, art (through all different mediums) is available for all to express emotions, hope, inspiration and the fears, pain and anguish of generations, cultures and communities without the barriers of language. Art in its raw form found in open spaces (tube stations, beaches, children's drawings) is powerful.

Mariana Castro

Mariana Castro holds the position of National Information Officer at the UN Information Centre in Mexico City, providing communications support to United Nations activities in Mexico, Cuba and the Dominican Republic liaising with government agencies at all levels, media, academic institutions, NGOs and civil society. She is responsible for media relations as well as the development of communications strategies, including social media and viral campaigns, to bring the objectives of the United Nations to new and diverse audiences. Previously, she worked in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico and in the office of UNESCO in Mexico where she handled communications and public information activities as well as sponsorship programmes, public relations and spokespersons training programmes. She has previous experience working as editor of university magazines in Mexico City and Hidalgo, and collaborating in one of the country's

most import public radio stations belonging to the system of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM).

Liz Cohen

Liz Cohen is an artist and art teacher. She has been an elementary art teacher for close to 40 years at the Oak Knoll School in Summit, NJ. As Picasso stated, she believes that "the only authentic art is children's art." Her degrees in art are from Rutgers Univeristy and the University of California at Berkeley. She is the president of hob'art Hoboken's only non-profit artists' co-operative. She believes that art will change the world for the better and that it is a force beyond all others.

Nandhini Iyer Krishna

Nandhini Iyer Krishna is an Indian national who works on sustainable development issues at the UNCCD/CBD liaison office in New York. She has holds a post graduate degree from London University and a doctorate from St Johns University. She is a keen photographer and painter. Her preferred medium is pastels and her work is largely figurative. She has held several solo exhibitions and also participated in many group shows in several cities in India and in New York.

Adrienne Batra

Adrienne Batra works in human resources at the United Nations Field Personnel Division at the Department of Field Support at UN Headquarters in New York and is a member of the UNSRC Singers. She has degrees in English and Psychology and has studied photography, creative writing, visual art, and music in high school and as an undergraduate. She has worked in video production, research, counseling, and law and enjoys seeing art used as a means of inspiring positive change in the world.

Annette Swierzbinski

Annette Swierzbinski is the founder and Chief Creative Officer of Others Are Us, an organization that brings children and youth from different backgrounds and cultures together through art. She started drawing as soon as she was able to hold a crayon and went on to train in visual arts, education and law. She designs innovative programs, workshops and events that have taken place in locations ranging from schools to parks and museums. Her own artistic reach extends from painting to ceramic sculpture, mixed media and fiber art. She loves to orchestrate community-co-created installations focused on issues of importance to the community. For more information, visit www.OthersAreUs.org.

Yukako Satone

Yukako Satone graduated from Kyoto Seika University in Visual Design, Japan. Yukako founded a weaving studio "Loop of the Loom" in New York in 2005 and currently serves as Executive Director. She is also a certified weaver of *SAORI* weaving since 2001. Prior to opening her weaving studio, she worked as a graphic designer for 15 years in Tokyo and New York. *SAORI* is also a part of VSA Arts Japan, an International NPO that creates learning opportunities through the arts for people with disabilities.

Ndèye Marie Fall

Ndèye Marie Fall had been a university teacher and head of the English department at the University Institute of Technology (Dakar University, Senegal) from 1972 to

1980, before working for UNESCO (1980 to 2003) where she started at its regional office in Nairobi. She was then transferred to the Headquarters in Paris, in 1982, as a programme specialist. Ms. Fall was then appointed as Director of the office and UNESCO Representative to Canada, until 2001, then to Amman as Director of the office and UNESCO Representative to Jordan and Iraq. She retired in 2003 but remained involved in humanitarian and volunteer work for children, young adults and elderly people. Ms. Fall is President of the Daara de Malika, a home for street and deprived children in the poorest suburbs of Dakar, since February 2005, and President of the Senegalese section of the "Association internationale francophone des aînés" since 2004. This association has become the "Réseau international francophone des aînés" i.e. international Francophone Network for the Elderly, in January 2012.

Alice Taub Farber

Alice Taub Farber graduated from Tyler School of Art of Temple University, with a B.F.A. in 1968. For the last 35 years, she has taught art at public schools in - Philadelphia, PA. For 1993 to 2005, she worked at Anne Frank School, Philadelphia, and previous to AFS, she has taught at Waring Elementary, Franklin Learning Center, Anderson School, Lea Elementary School, Powell Elementary School, Dunlap Elementary School, Morton Elementary School, Longstreth Elementary School, and others. She is also an exhibiting artist active in Philadelphia area.

Valerie Van Pham

Valerie Van Pham has received a Master's degree from Arcadia University and continued her art education at the University of the Arts and Tyler School of Art, Pennsylvania. She has been teaching since 1992. Valerie currently teaches world art to sixth, seventh and eighth graders at Hill Freedman World Academy in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She is also a wall mural artist.

Toshiyuki Watanabe

Toshiyuki Watanabe is an oil painter, graphic art designer, and also an architect designer. Toshiyuki has been working with computer graphic media for last ten years and his intensive search in color modules led him to participate in the 2004 Kodansha Famous Art Competition and received the Honorable Mention which followed by winning the Prize in the same competition of Kodansha Famous Art Competition in the year 2010. He also was awarded the prizes from the 2009 and 2010 Yamaguchi Prefecture Art Exhibitions. In the most recent submissions, Toshiyuki received 2012 Art Move Contest Grand Prize. In spring 2012, he exhibited at the Group Exhibition, Yamaguchi City Museum, Japan. Toshiyuki is the recipient of Peace Award of International Peace Art Exhibition 2010 presented by Harmony For Peace Foundation.

Mary March

Mary March is an MFA Candidate at San Francisco Art Institute, starting fall 2012. She holds a MA in Integrated Arts Education from the Plymouth State College, Plymouth, NH. She also holds a Fine Arts Diploma, from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston MA. She studied abroad at AKI university, Enshede, The Netherlands. She holds a BA in History of Religions May 1999 Earlham College, Richmond, IN and spent a year abroad at Aberdeen University, Scotland. From

2000 until now, she has been part of both group and solo shows in San Francisco, Albany, Boston, Los Angeles, Santa Ana, New York, and outside the US in the Netherlands. She has also organized two international collaborative projects including artists from 17 other countries.

Kathryn Hart

Kathryn Hart is a professional artist and the founder of 6Friends (an international education nonprofit focused on world peace by creating relationships among children and schools across borders through cooperative projects, art-focused projects to be used as cooperative opportunities and art therapy for children all across the world who are participating). She holds a BA in International Relations with a concentration in Art from Boston University. She also holds an MBA from the University of Texas and she has worked globally for a dozen years. She is a multiple award winning abstract and figurative expressionist painter. She has participated in several annual group and solo shows in New York, California, Arizona and Italy. Her work is archived in National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington DC.

Victoria Goro-Rapoport

Victoria Goro-Rapoport graduated from Moscow Art College with a BFA in set design. After graduating from MAC until 1990, she worked at puppet and drama theaters as a set designer. From 1990 to 1994, she studied etching in Jerusalem, Israel. In 2002, Victoria received a MFA in printmaking from the University of Illinois at Urbana, Champaign. She is currently an Associate Professor of Drawing and Printmaking at the University of Nebraska at Kearney. Her recent international exhibitions include: International Print Triennial, Krakow, Poland; 2009, The 2nd Qijiang International Juried Print Exhibition, Chongqing, China; 2009 International Traveling Juried Exhibition, Printmaking Council of New Jersey; Johannesburg, South Africa; 2009-2010 Art Domain Gallery; International Juried Competition and Exhibition, Leipzig, Germany, 2008.

Libat Ohayon

Libat Ohayon was born in Bear Sheva, South Israel. She studied art in various institutes, and was able to experience many different aspects of art, such as drawing, painting, sculpturing, mixed media, make-up art, jewelry, fashion design, and more. Libat is a New Age artist. Her works are a visual allegory and demonstrate a sense of hope and novelty. Her topics are inspired by powerful subjects: transformation, rebirth, unity, peace, love, and more, as she combines spiritual symbols from various cultures, something she absorbed while travelling in many countries. At the age of 18, she was called to the Israeli Mandatory Army and served in high risk areas, where she was exposed to many things most women would never see, things that led her to becoming a peace activist.

I-Uen Wang Hwang

I-Uen Wang Hwang was born in Tainan, Taiwan and moved to the United States in 1994. She studied music composition at the Taiwan National Normal University (1987-1991, B.S.) and the University of Pennsylvania (1994-1998, Ph.D.). At the University of Pennsylvania, which awarded her the Halstead Prize (1996, 1998) and the Nietzsche Prize (1997), she studied with George Crumb, James Primosch, Jay Reise, and Richard Wernick. Her pieces have been performed at the Asian

Composer's League Music Festivals (Malaysia 1997 and Korea 2002). As the winner of the Bohemians New York Musicians Club piano composition competition, she performed her piano composition, *Dream Garden*, at the New York Kosciuszko Foundation House in 2004. The Taiwan National Symphony Orchestra has also commissioned and performed three of her compositions, *Timeless Reflections* in 2006, *Lily Pond* in 2008, and *Diptych of Taiwan* in 2010. The orchestra performed *Diptych of Taiwan* in Taipei, Taiwan for the premiere performance of the new Music Director, Maestro Shao-Chia Lü and in Guangzhou, China for the 2010 Canton Asian Music Festival. In 2011, she was awarded a grant from the National Art and Culture Foundation of Taiwan for *Watercolor Sketches*, a composition for guzheng (Chinese zither), cello, and violin to be performed in the Taiwan National Concert Hall in September 2012. She is currently working a violin concerto commissioned by The Egret Cultural and Educational Foundation of Taiwan. Her music has been strongly influenced by painting and art since her early years by her father who was a professional oil painter. In addition to composing music, she has been a watercolor artist with several exhibitions in the Philadelphia area. Many of her recent compositions, including the commissioned works listed above have been inspired by her own paintings.

Satoko Ogura

Satoko Ogura is an artist with media of metal casting. Satoko received a doctorate degree in Fine Arts from Tokyo University of the Arts and is currently holding seminars and workshops for art students in Tokyo. Her art has been displayed in several exhibitions: 2012- Bumkamura Gallery and others. She received Grand Prize, AAC Art Meets Architecture Competition 2008.

PD Packard

PD Packard is a watercolorist, printmaker, and book artist. Packard holds a degree in Textile Design from St. Martins School of Art, in London. Earlier in her career, she worked as a cosmetic package designer. In her creative pursuit, she has been working in monotype printing transitioned into fine art printing. She also studied Sumi-e painting with the 86 year old Japanese Master, Sensei Koho Yamamoto, at the Manhattan School. Packard has been studying Chinese Brush Painting and Calligraphy with Kwok Kay Choey in Brooklyn, New York. Packard has been showing her works in group and solo shows in Manhattan and Brooklyn galleries. She participated and exhibited at International Peace Exhibition at Chelsea Art Museum, New York in June 2011.

Priscilla Smith

Priscilla Smith is a professional artist and printmaker. She holds a BFA from Texas Tech University and a MFA from the University of Illinois. Her dual interests in science and art led her to work as a medical photographer, photographing surgery and forensic documentations revealed extremes of human experience as compelling content for fine art photography. Smith incorporated the experience in work on location for National Geographic Society and Odyssey Marine Exploration when she photographed artifacts discovered in a civil war era shipwreck. As a graduate student her large-scale figurative photographs were recognized by critic Donald Kuspit. Smith's current figurative work combines contemporary and archaic materials incorporating digital printmaking technology with encaustic wax process, gold leaf, and pigment. As photographic artist, she has exhibited nationally and

internationally, with photography included in the collections of The Philadelphia Art Museum, Woodmere Art Museum, Munson-Procter-Williams Art Institute and George Eastman House, International Museum of Photography and Film. Smith was awarded a Lightwork Fellowship, and Delaware State Arts Council Emerging and Established Artist grants. Currently, she teaches Photography in the University of Delaware's Department of Art. Awards for her work include a Light Work Artists Grant, Research Fellowships, and two NEA-supported Individual Artist Fellowships.

Diana Delgado

New York-based painter Diana Delgado received her MFA from The University of the Arts (2007) and her BFA from Syracuse University (2005). National and international exhibitions include shows in New York and Sitges (Barcelona), Spain. Most recently: SCOPE, NY (Saatchi Online), Cirkers Fine Art Storage, NY and Andrew Martin Showroom, NY. Her work is in private collections throughout the US, as well as Hong Kong. Residencies include: Vermont Studio Center (Partial Fellowship, 2010) and Ox-Bow (Merit Scholarship, 2004). She received the Augusta Hazard Painting Award from Syracuse University in 2005.

Sheng Kuan Chung

Sheng Kuan Chung is a Professor of Art Education at University of Houston, Professional Artist. He holds a doctorate in Art Education from the School of Art and Design at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. His artworks have been shown in over 20 juried exhibitions and widely collected by private collectors. He has recently shown his art at Dishman Art Museum, Lawndale Art Center, and The Arts Alliance Center at Clear Lake. Over the last 6 years, he has served as an art judge for the National Scholastic Art Competition and many Houston-based art competitions. He was a grant review panelist for Texas Commission on the Arts and Houston Arts Alliance. He was on the editorial board for the Journal of the National Art Education Association and is the sole Editor of the book, Teaching Asian Art, published by the National Art Education Association in the United States.

Takuma Ikeda

Takuma Ikeda holds a BA in Fine Arts, majored in Painting at Tokyo Zokei University and a MFA in Oil Painting from the Graduate School of Fine Arts at the Tokyo University of the Arts., Takuma exhibited at over 30 group shows since 2005; and a solo show in 2007 "Tokyo Wonder Site- Emerging 74". Takuma received Prizes at Tokyo Wonder Wall 2006, Wonder Seeds 2007 and Wonder Seeds 2008. He was a residence artist at Cimetri Art Foundation, Jarkarta, Indonesia, and Bank Art Studio NYK, Yokohama, Japan. Takuma is currently conducting art workshops in Tokyo and Kamakura, Japan.

Yoko Tamura

Yoko Tamura graduated from the Sacred Heart Women's College, Tokyo. She received MFA from Musashino Art College, Tokyo. Yoko is a watercolorist, and painter who held annual solo shows at Simmons Gallery, Tokyo from 2002 – 2004, Okura Act City Hotel, Shizuoka, and Gallery Wisteria, Tokyo; and many group shows since 1993 - Kyobashi, Shizuoka, Mishima, Tokyo and others. Yoko received Awards at "Expressing Japan's Nature Exhibition", and "Expression of Floral Images Exhibition", Ueno No Mori Museum, Tokyo, Japan. She also owns

Ecru-no-mori Art Group representing artists in the Shizuoka region of Japan.

Kazuhito Sahara

Kazuhito Sahara is a painter, water-colorist (Aquarellist), installation and videography artist. Sahara creates paintings and video works with water-soluble materials such as watercolors, acrylic paint, and sumi ink. Having hand-drawn paintings as his basic style, he has committed to creating the works in which viewers are able to feel warmth. Since 2000, Sahara held over ten solo shows and group shows respectively throughout Japan as well as England and France. In 2004, he received the grants from Nomura Cultural Foundation and in 2005 from The Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation. He regularly conducts art workshops in Japan for children and adults and lectures at Toho University and Ryotokuji University.

Delphine Poussot

Delphine Poussot began drawing and painting at age 3. She has exhibited extensively in national and international shows over the past 18 years: the American College, Bryn Mawr, Morris Arboretum and Rosenfeld Gallery, Philadelphia, Garrubbo Bazan Gallery, West Chester, PA; Galerie du Sud, Atlanta, GA, and Port Grimaud, France. Signature Member of the Pennsylvania Watercolor Society, Philadelphia Watercolor Society and Baltimore Watercolor Society. Served as a trustee on the Board of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts and is currently lecturing in their Visiting Artists Program.

Kitty Kono

Kitty Kono is a wild life nature photographer. She graduated from Hollins University with BA in Psychology. After having worked in the corporate world for over thirty years, she switched her interest to photography. She recently published e-books on her photography on bugs and birds.

Nancy Campbell

Nancy Campbell has served in the position of Executive Director of the Wayne Art Center since 1987. She has curated and coordinated nearly 300 exhibitions showcasing the works of artists from a local to international representation. The Center annually offers close to 500 programs to over 5,000 students while welcoming over 20,000 visitors through the facility for a diverse range of exhibitions and events.

Hinako Kubotani

Hinako Kubotani graduated from Tamagawa University, Tokyo, Japan, majored in Fine Arts. Her media is Watercolor, Drawing and Painting. She also focuses on the healing method through the arts, for young patients with serious diseases. Her paintings often have imageries of children and animals that touch the hearts of young people. She publishes children's story books. She is also licensed optometrist; and is Harmony For Peace Artist Exhibited at Chelsea Art Museum, NY, 2011.

Shoko Miyake

Shoko Miyake graduated from Painting Course, Department of Fine and Applied Arts at the Kyoto University of Art and Design, Kyoto, Japan. Shoko is a graduate student of Fine Art, Department of Fine and Applied Arts, Kyoto University of Art and Design, Kyoto, Japan. She has participated in several projects including: Gallery Sousensha, Moccheke, Kyoto, Japan in 2007; 2008-Kyoto University of Art and Design, TenTen, Kyoto, Japan; 2009, 2010- art project room ARTZONE, MITSUTSU, Kyoto, Japan; 2010- Gallery Haneusagi, INSIDE-OUTSIDE, Kyoto, Japan; 2010- ISE Cultural Foundation, Art Students' Exhibition in NY, NY, USA; and 2010- Gallery a, Bon-Clase#6, Kyoto, Japan.

Noriko Hatanaka

Noriko Hatanaka is an installation artist, jewelry artist, and craft artist; Noriko Hatanaka participated in the several competitions and contests including the Japan Jewelry Art Competition, the International Jewelry Art Competition, the International Pearl Design Contest in 1991, the Jewelry Today Japan (Norway) 1996, the Platinum Design of The Year 2009, the International Jewelry Tokyo 2010 and the Japan Jewelry Designer Association Exhibition Armory Art Center USA. As a Harmony For Peace Artist, Noriko Hatanaka exhibited at Chelsea Art Museum, New York, 2011.

Michiru Takizawa

Michiru Takizawa graduated from Kyoto University of Education in 1970. She majored in Western Painting, Art Dept. She has been working in embroidery design since 1973. She is the owner of and designer at a graphic design company.

Owen Biddle

Owen Biddle is the owner of and instructor at Owen Biddle Photography School. Born and educated outside of Philadelphia, PA, he grew up in a household with oil painters as his mother and grandmother. After college, Owen worked at Hedgerow Theater designing and building sets and working in light and sound. He also worked in the audio-visual department at Elwyn Institute, taking pictures of students' lives. Since 1983 he has been a photography instructor at a number of locations including Mainline Center for the Arts and Mainline School, PA.

Sandrine Han

Sandrine Han is an Assistant Professor in Taiwan Hsuan Chuang University Visual Communication and Design Department. Earned Ph.D. in Art Education from Northern Illinois University. In 2007, she taught at National Taichung University in Taiwan on Research in Contemporary Art Education. She also taught at an elementary school in Taiwan for three years, in grades three through six. In addition, she worked as a curriculum and assessment designer and writer for Hikids Inc., an animated gaming K-12 e-learning company. In 2007, she founded the International Art Education Association (InAEA) on the web (<http://www.inaea.org>).

Celina Lafuente de Lavotha

Celina Lafuente de Lavotha is a serious patron of artists and owns extensive art collection, focusing mainly on young and upcoming artists, in Modern & Contemporary art paintings. Photographer and a freelance journalist. She is a

member of the Monaco Project for the Arts, a state recognized, NPO, with a mission of supporting art and education, a part of a cultural network that supports the Ecole Supérieure d'Arts Plastiques, the only art school in the Principality of Monaco that offers Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts programmes. She is also a member of the Association of Friends of the New National Museum of Monaco.

Isabelle Dupuy

Isabelle Dupuy is a procurement officer in Department of Management since 2010. She was previously working at NATO and has one Master in Public Administration and one in Computer Science. She is French and lives in New York city. She also has been an active art curator in the 90s. After having attended the European school for art curators in Le Magasin, Grenoble, France in 1992, she worked as assistant to major contemporary art curators in Documenta IX, Kassel, Germany and Domaine de Kerguehennec, France. She was granted a stay at Villa Kujoyama, Kyoto, Japan in 2000. She has organised numerous conferences and panel discussions on art and technology (Maison Francaise Ebisu, Tokyo, Japan, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France, ...).

Sophie Laguës

Sophie Laguës currently lives in New York where she works as a Translator at the UNHQ. She has studied film making and animation extensively at the Film Academy of Prague, FAMU, and at the Utrecht School of the Arts where she graduated in Animation. Alongside her translating activity, she has been making several short animated films since 2001 which have been screened at numerous film festivals worldwide, some of them award-winning.

Vanessa Sperduti

Vanessa Sperduti interns at the UN in Protocol and Liaison Service, contributing to enhanced dialogue and cooperation among Member States. She has degrees in Political Science, Spanish, and Education from the University of Windsor, Canada and has studied abroad in Wales U.K., Italy, and P.R.China at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. She is currently working toward the completion of her Masters degree in Education, Social & Cultural Contexts from Brock University, Canada. Her love of visual art from a young age and her enrolment at the Royal Conservatory of Music have helped foster her passion and appreciation for many art forms. Thus, as an Ontario Certified Teacher (OCT), she has frequently used various artistic media cross-curricularly in her classroom.

Zsolt Lavotha

Zsolt Lavotha is a serious art collector and patron of emerging artists worldwide. His extensive art collection also includes young new artists works and focusing on Modern & Contemporary paintings and sculptures. He was registered member at Christies in NY (1994 ~ 1996). He has organized several exhibits in Monaco for young painters, and is actively supporting the Nouveau Musee National in Monaco.

John Pacer

John Pacer graduated with an MFA from the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts after receiving his BFA in Fine Art from the Academy of Art University in San Francisco, CA. He also studied illustration at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, PA and classical drawing and painting at the Barnstone Studios in

Coplay, PA.

Karin Esposito

Karin Esposito works as an associate political affairs officer at the Department of Political Affairs. She has previously worked in the field of democratization, human rights, and rule of law, particularly in Tajikistan. She has advanced degrees in law and international relations from universities in the United States, Switzerland, and Iran. She has also been an assistant professor of law and politics in Kazakhstan and Turkey. Since 2007, she has volunteered annually to score applications and interview international students wishing to receive a fellowship for graduate studies in the United States.

Susan Herpel

Susan Herpel began her professional photography career shooting for Associated Press at age nineteen. For over 30 years she has covered numerous assignments in the USA and in many parts of the world including Australia, Cuba, France, Italy, Norway, Spain and the UK. Currently, Susan works at Esto, representing a group of the leading photographers of architecture and design. Born and raised in Philadelphia, Susan holds a BFA in photography from Moore College of Art and MFA in Communications from Temple University

Edita Bezegova

Edita Berzegova currently works at the Development Section of the Department of Public Information of the United Nations in New York. She holds a degree in Media and Cultural studies and Political Science from the Masaryk University and another degree in Economics from the Brno University of Technology. She pursues her graduate studies in management at the Universite Rene Descartes in Paris, where she moved because of her love of art and architecture. Also, she spent a year at the University of Plymouth studying international relations. She finished a year course in art history in Brno. Since her childhood she draws and paints and last four years creates also digital photography. In the UK, she actively worked with Plymouth Art Centre and a university association for art, design and architecture. In her home city Brno she was involved in many local cultural organizations, was in charge of marketing of a community radio or of a web communication of a design company. Actually she externally works for young promising architectural studio Chybik+Kristof as a director of international communication.

Rossen Popov

Rossen Popov is a former Bulgarian diplomat that currently works in the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in Vienna. He has participated with his paintings in numerous exhibitions, including two solo exhibitions in Vienna. His paintings are in private collections in Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Switzerland, Germany, Denmark and USA.

Christopher Bayne

Although he has a background in Textile Design, Christopher Bayne discovered his love for painting in Vienna, Austria. He has had numerous exhibitions of paintings in Vienna and of textiles in Cape Town, South Africa, his home town, and his works are scattered around the globe. Chris is also passionate about new media, and he currently holds a diploma in Web Design and Development, a certificate in

Transmedia Storytelling and is busy completing a Masters Degree in Creative Media Practice.

Louise Barber

Louise Barber is the Coordinator of the Cultural Activities Programme at the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG). In this role she is in regular contact with artists and performers, and is responsible for managing almost 100 exhibitions, concerts, film screenings and cultural conferences each year in the Palais des Nations. She also takes care of the UNOG Art Collection, comprised of donations by Member States. Ms. Barber's background is in international relations and library science and she recently took a year out to study design in Madrid.

Elena Stocchi

Elena Stocchi is an Intern at the UN DESA in the E-Government branch. Previously she has been volunteering in NGO, Foundation, Social Cooperation and Church which job is directed to the protection of Children Rights. She has degrees from Universita degli Studi di Perugia (Italy), from Universita degli Studi di Roma Tre (Italy) and Pontificia Universidad Javeriana (Colombia). She has been member of a Cultural Association for several years and she loves the arts: dance, painting and music. She studied different kind of dance since she was 5 years old: ballet, contemporary and modern Jazz.

Sarah Velud

Sarah Velud is currently interning at the United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI), within the NGO Relations Office of the Outreach Division. She is also finishing her Masters degree in Political Science and European Affairs at the Institute of Political Studies of Bordeaux, France, and studied abroad at Washington State University in the United States while an undergraduate student. She really enjoys photography as a hobby.

Lisa Liberatore

Lisa Liberatore is a Public Diplomacy Masters Student at the University of Southern California where her focus is on the empowerment of young women as crucial participants in society with a special emphasis on the intersection of religion and culture. She currently serves in the Governance and Leadership Section of UN Women as an intern. She spent 3 years as the administrative director of a faith-based nonprofit organization in Honolulu, Hawaii where she learned to appreciate the roles of diplomacy, politics, and culture apart from the traditional government setting. She has a passion for fashion diplomacy and recently started a blog to showcase her research on the role of fashion in diplomacy and how it can be used to empower women.

Suzanne De Strooper

Suzanne De Strooper is an intern at the Permanent Representation of Belgium to the UN, primarily focusing on the Disarmament and International Security Committee. She has a Bachelor in Political Science, a Master in Comparative and International Politics and a Master After Master in International and European Law from the University of Leuven and the University of Brussels. As a child, she followed courses at drawing school and attended lessons in aesthetics in high school. Currently interested in photography and European paintings of the 19th en 20th

century.

Christine Kuhn

Christine Kuhn works as a New Media Designer for the United Nations in Vienna. Her eye for design and visual structure can clearly be seen in her photography, which she has been passionate about since her high school years. A mother of three, she is always trying to pass on the joy of catching the beauty of the moment in a picture, sharing the experience, and through all this, working, educating and visual expression, she has still found the time to complete a diploma in Web Design and Development.

Ann-Sophie Persson

Ann-Sophie Persson studied film production at the New York Film Academy, and later at the New School. In 2002 she discovered silversmithing and is since then producing wearable sculptures in metal and alternative materials. She has a Bachelors degree from the New School University in New York and has been working in the Department of Public Information at the United Nations in New York since 2006.

Mae Cayir

Having reached 20 years of working experience with UNODC, Mae Cayir, International Civil Servant, has decided to channel her institutional knowledge into developing her writing skills as a Creative Non-Fiction Writer with the purpose of raising awareness and advocacy in the various thematic areas that is covered by the United Nations Charter and its mandates. She comes from a culturally diverse background, born in the Philippines, crossing oceans and continents since she was a child, finally settling down in Austria with her husband originally from Turkey and their two children. Her university studies at the University of Natal, Durban and University of Namibia, grounded her skills as an educator, while her residences in the US, South Africa and Austria have cultivated her appreciation for art. Mae Cayir is the author of many articles including one about the exhibition of Roy Lichtenstein's drawings last year in Vienna at the Albertina Museum (the article can be accessed here: <http://austriantimes.at/?id=30733-newentry>).

Joan Yoka

Joan Yoka has always been creatively involved. At the age of 17 she won a four year scholarship to Moore College of Art. She graduated in 1968 with a BA in advertising, and was a graphic designer for 37 years. The last 10 years she ran her own design studio. Some of her clients were top banking institutions and major pharmaceutical companies. She is now retired but still stays involved with children and the art world.

Kevin Dooley

Kevin Dooley spent the last decade studying and teaching art, as well as working at the Vienna Academy of Fine Arts. He is involved with an international drawing collective, who were responsible for Vienna Drawing Club (Vienna DC), as well as its Jerusalem and Glasgow counterparts. His practice is largely based on an expanded approach to drawing and writing and has been involved in many exhibitions, mostly in Europe, but also in Canada and Indonesia. He has also been

involved in animation projects and does a fair bit of writing on art theory (recently delivering a lecture at the University of Lancashire UK on emerging artists and economies).

Joycelyn Tay Kee Wah

Joycelyn Tay works at the UNOG library describing and indexing official UN documents. She has an 8 year background as an educator, teaching Language and Communications in Singapore Polytechnic, and Physics and Chemistry in a juvenile home and as a private tutor. Her interest in art was cultivated from a tender age and she took art classes up to her O-levels. As a librarian at the National Library Board, she spearheaded a project recruiting juvenile youths to create wall murals in public libraries and her pastel art was also selected for an exhibition for local amateurs and artists.

Princy Elamthuruthil

Princy Elamthuruthil works in UNIDO, Vienna as a junior consultant on Creative Industries, since November 2010. She studied at the Vienna International School, then graduated (International Baccalaureate) from United World College, India. She has a degree in International Relations from the University of Leeds, UK and LL.M in international law with international relations from the University of Kent, Brussels campus. She was the human rights chair person for CIMUN in Barcelona. Photography, travelling and contemporary development issues, particularly women's rights are her great interests.

Jennifer Payson O'Kane

Graduating with a degree in Graphic Design from Moore College of Art, Phila., '68, Jennifer Payson O'Kane has worked in ad agencies, animation, retail display, signage, and book illustration. She has painted murals on wood, glass, exterior & interior walls, learned basketry, beaded jewelry, handmade book making and letterpress printing. Mostly she has made her living running a custom stained glass studio, including design and fabrication, for private homes, businesses and public places, and sells glass panels in galleries in PA and Arkansas where she has lived since 1973. She volunteers her talents for area fund- raising posters, signs & T-shirt designs, does local river clean-ups, and speaks to undergraduate university classes about making a living in the visual arts.

Lizzie Holden

Lizzie Holden is a History and Humanities Tutor at Tong High School, Bradford, UK. Prior to this she has worked in learning support work and as a mentor to teenagers and young adults in schools and universities in West Yorkshire. She has a deep passion for both History & Politics and Art and running alongside her professional life is a life long keen illustrator who writes and illustrates short stories, children's books and album covers.

Kelly Armour

Kelly Armour has had an appreciation and love of art from a very young age, participating in special, advanced art classes as early as elementary school and throughout high school taking advantage of a state of the art photography and communications department. By senior year of high school, Kelly became the photography and communications lab assistant within the school. Kelly attended

Temple University and Tyler School of Art from which she received a bachelor's degree from the Temple University School of Communications and Theater in Journalism, Public Relations and Advertising. In February of 2009, she launched Kelly Armour Photography, a fine art photography business specializing in children and animal candid portraiture.

Jennifer Murphy

Jennifer Murphy is a practicing artist for the past 20 years with shows in Brazil, United States and Canada. Her teaching experience includes Arbutis Grace Studio, Muskoka Chautauqua, The Kenneth G. Mills Foundation, Rogers Communications Inc and RBC Dexia. She focuses on introducing children and adults to the joys of art making. Jennifer achieved Level II certification from Toronto's Royal Conservatory of Music, Artist Educator, Mentor Artist. In addition she is a full-time professional with an MBA and accounting certification. She also serves on the Membership Outreach Committee, Ontario Art Education Association.

Claire Hawkins

Currently on internship in UN Geneva, Claire Hawkins's background is in sculpture and performance art. In 2007, her art took a change of direction after returning from a summer volunteering in Kenya as a programme officer for a local NGO. After graduating from IADT with a first class honours degree in her home town of Dublin, Ireland she became part of the Richmond Art collective with group exhibitions in galleries around Ireland. In 2010, with a job opportunity at Irish NGO Goal she decided to put her art career on hold and from there went on to also work for Concern Worldwide later that year. In order to pursue this further she began an MSc in Development Practice in Trinity College Dublin - UCD. In 2011, during a placement in Rwanda working for Care International, she researched their enterprise programme set up to empower women. While there she volunteered for a local NGO where she used art to teach children about conservation in the schools on the periphery of the national park, which is home to the silver back gorillas. On her return from Rwanda she was chosen to represent her university and present her report on gender equality at a research event.

Ms. Hawkins's current art practice crosses the field of art and humanitarian action, drawing from experience through the medium of painting, photography and sculpture.

Livia Cheng

Livia Cheng holds an honors degree in Visual Communication from the University of Technology, Sydney. She has worked for many years as a graphic designer and photographer and holding exhibitions in Australia and in France, and publishing two books featuring her photographs. She has also worked in Shanghai and France as an English teacher for children and teenagers. She has always been interested in art and creative expression and entered her first major art competition (Pentel International Children's Art competition) at the age of 7, winning a silver prize. She currently works for the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in Geneva where she enjoys her work as a document formatter and conference photographer.

Stefan Stoev

Stefan Stoev fulfills his passion about the Arts in his role as the Founding Chairman of the Society for International Development and Enhancement of Art (IDEA Society). In this role he is primarily engaged in Art Diplomacy activities, setting up international events for artists from all over the world. He worked as the Austrian Foreign Service Representative at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, in Washington DC. Along his scientific and diplomatic duties he was also engaged in the organization of international events and exhibitions. Stefan has a PhD degree in Safety Culture and is author of numerous academic and non-academic art related articles.

Andrew Sherriff

Andrew Sherriff graduated from St Peters School, York, England with “A” level in Art/Art History (1972) and Oxford Polytechnic (now Oxford Brook University) Oxford, England (1975). He subsequently continued his art education at The Wayne Arts Center, Wayne, PA. He is a ceramic potter and watercolor painter, and since 2005, he had several group shows at Wayne Arts Center and other regional art venues.

Adrienne Kochman

Adrienne Kochman has over 25 years experience in the arts, as an art historian Ph.D., University of Chicago. She is an artist, curator, writer and teacher. Adrienne is a Board member at Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, Chicago, IL and also teaches art history at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Previously, Adrienne was an Associate Professor of Art History at Indiana University Northwest, for 12 years. She also taught Ukrainian language to elementary-age children.

Allison Tolman

Allison Tolman graduated from Yale University with a BA in Japanese Economics. She is a second generation private dealer of contemporary Japanese works on paper based in New York City. Her parents own the Tolman Collection of Tokyo, specializing in limited editions by living artists working in Japan and known as the largest publisher of limited edition Japanese prints. Allison is also Director at The Tolman Collection of Tokyo. Since 2011, Allison is serving as Chair of the Print Selection Committee at Print Club of New York and on the board of Japanese Art Society of America (Served as President from 2003 – 2009).

Linda Colsh

An American artist residing in Everberg, Belgium, since 1990, Linda Colsh has lived in America, Asia and Europe. A lifelong artist with two degrees in Art History (MA and BA from the University of Maryland), she exhibits in the US and internationally. Recent highlights were selection to show in the 4th Riga International Textile & Fibre Art Triennial; her Strassen Szenen solo show in Freiburg, Germany; and invitation to exhibit in 3 Artists at Galerie Holtop, Tilburg, the Netherlands. She has curated, juried and judged exhibitions throughout Europe and the US. Her work is published and in collections worldwide, including the Collection of John M. Walsh III. Among the awards her artwork has won are the first prize at European Quilt Triennial and top prize of the Fabric of Legacies Exhibition in Colorado. Linda is a Board member and Secretary of Studio Art Quilt

Associates; and, in addition to her work on several SAQA committees, she was the organization's first Representative for the Europe/Israel region.

Bernd Liebert

Bernd Liebert studied art from 1972 to 1976 at the Art Academy Hamburg. Since 1978 he is president and owner of Beli Design. The company is specialized in the production of wooden toys and as an artist he creates PlayArt objects. The company is located in Trittau, Germany.

Dena Crain

Dena Crain holds a BS in Fashion Design, a MA in Interdisciplinary Studies (Art Anthropology) from University of Cincinnati, Ohio and a MS in Textiles, from University of Maryland, Maryland. In addition, she studied post graduate courses in ceramics, color physics, painting, sculpture, print-making and other media. Dena moved to Kenya in 1990 and for one year taught clothing construction and design at Egerton University, as Assistant Lecturer. Moving then to upcountry in 1992, Dena took up patchwork quilting as a career. Presently, she teaches design fundamentals to patchwork quilters worldwide by being on Faculty at Quilt University (<http://www.quiltuniversity.com>). Dena travels and teaches internationally (Canada, USA, Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, France, Kuwait) at various international quilt festivals. She also writes articles and tutorials for magazines and for her blog (<http://www.denacrain.com>) about patchwork quilting and quilting in Kenya, and e-books about her patchwork design methods. Dena co-founded the Kenya Quilt Guild and continues to serve on its Executive Council; she is a Professional Artist Member of Studio Art Quilt Associates and has served as its Africa Zone Rep. In 2011, she earned a judge certification through the South African National Quilt Guild. She served many jury panels over many years for the East African Women's League Homecraft Exhibitions both in quilting and in fine arts.

Diane Love

Diane Love is a nationally acclaimed designer of jewelry, home fragrance, decorative accessories for the home, and author of Yes/No Design, and Flowers are Fabulous; also a painter, photographer, actor and playwright. She is a graduate of Barnard College, earned BA, in Art History. Diane also studied at Connecticut College, New London, The Art Student's League in New York and The National Academy of Design among others. Before she opened her Madison Avenue shop Diane was creating one of a kind precious jewelry designs for Bergdorf Goodman and a collection of silk flower arrangements for Sak's. Using her Madison Avenue shop as a model she created Diane Love Boutiques in department stores. Bloomingdale's, Burdines and Bullocks all had Diane Love boutiques. As an artist, Diane held number of Solo Shows and Group Solos: 2011-The Cultural Landscape Foundation; 2007- LA Art Show, Santa Monica, California; 2007- PB3 Art Fair, West Palm Beach, Florida; 2006 - Moviehouse Studio Gallery, Millerton, NY; 2004 - Liman Studio Gallery, Palm Beach, Florida; 2002-2003 - SKH gallery, Great Barrington, Mass.; 2001 - Art Placement International, New York City and others. Her works are represented by Eckert Fine Art, Bonita Springs, Florida; Staley Wise, New York City and Corporate Art Directions. Diane's works are in the collection at Central Park Conservancy, Meridian Capital Partners corporate offices, Bear Stearns corporate offices on Madison Avenue. She has contributed her

photographs and articles in Homestyle magazine; Arts and Antiques magazine; Yes/No Design- Rizzoli; Je Eigen Woonstijl- Terra; Creez Votre Style.

Ernst Lurker

Ernst Lurker, is a graduate of the University and Art Academy Hamburg, MFA and also studied at the University of Kansas and Art Academy, Stuttgart. Ernst, Founder of the international PlayArt movement, is currently concentrating on promoting this new art form. The first large public exposure of PlayArt was when he had a commission for a large scale PlayArt sculpture for the Munich Olympics (1972). The city of Berlin had accepted a proposal for a PlayArt Museum. He has created and manufactured six designs, which were selected for sale and distribution by the Museum of Modern Art; he also created and manufactured a worldwide promotion for a heart medication for Bayer and Pfizer. Ernst has lectured on the subject of PlayArt at MIT Center for Advanced Visual Studies and at the annual conference of TASP (The Association for the Study of Play) in Las Vegas. As Creativity Consultant, Ernst conducted workshops for the Creative Education Foundation in Buffalo and for various large corporations. Over the years, he participated in shows in New York, London, Paris and other cities in the US and Europe. Ernst's publications are *Zen and the Art of Playing* (TASP Journal, 1991); *PlayArt: Evolution or Trivialization of Art?* (TASP Journal, 1990); *PlayArt and Creativity* (Bayer AG, 1985). He also plays the piano and records electronic music.

Fred Voss

Fred Voss, studied at the school for applied arts in Hildesheim, Germany and became art director in various advertising agencies in Hanover. Simultaneously he developed a number of PlayArt objects for Naef in Switzerland. He exhibited in museums in Zurich, Stuttgart, at the National Gallery in Berlin (1980) and at the Zeta Gallery in Olten, Switzerland. His PlayArt objects received numerous awards in Switzerland and Germany.

Ivonne A-Baki

Ivonne A-Baki is a diplomat, politician, peace negotiator, humanist, and artist. In 2010, Minister A-Baki was named by Ecuador's President, Rafael Correa, to lead the Yasuní National Park -ITT negotiations which will protect the Amazon's most biodiverse area in all of South America. In 2012, President Correa named Minister A-Baki Secretary of State for the Yasuní-ITT Initiative through Executive Order no 1030. Born in Guayaquil, Ecuador, of Lebanese parents, Minister A-Baki was instrumental in helping Ecuador and Peru reach a peace agreement on October 26, 1998. Then, as Minister of Ecuador to the United States, she extended Andean trade preferences, fighting drug trafficking in the Western Hemisphere. After the oil spill in the Galapagos Islands, Minister A-Baki created the Galapagos Conservancy Foundation, which has been instrumental in the protection of the environment. In 2002 she ran as a candidate for the Presidency of Ecuador on a social justice platform aimed at shrinking the great schism between the affluent rich and the desperately poor through education, and sustainable development. In 2003 she becomes Ecuador's Minister of Foreign Trade, Industry, Regional Integration, Fisheries, and Competitiveness. In 2006 she was elected to the Andean Parliament, and in 2007 she was elected President of the Andean Parliament by a unanimous vote. In 2009, UNESCO's Director-General Irina Bokova named Ms. A-Baki as a

UNESCO Goodwill Minister for Peace. She has been honored by the U.S. House of Representatives, and received awards from the governments of Lebanon, and Ecuador, among others. As a professional artist, she has exhibited her paintings in many countries on four continents. In 1990 she became Artist-in-Residence at Harvard University, where she created the Harvard Art for Peace Foundation which organizes joint exhibitions and art shows between countries at war. At the same time, she started the Beyond Boundaries Foundation to improve the health of poor people of Ecuador through prevention and education.

Jerome G. Demuth

Jerome G. Demuth is a professional artist residing in Paris. Using mixed media, Jeromes experiments in many forms particularly in pursuit of a playful portrayal of things happening around you in motion. Primarily he creates public art projects, participatory art and PlayArt. He installs swings in numerous cities and calls them Swing City.

Jette Clover

Jette Clover worked for the daily newspaper information in Copenhagen for five years, where she was originally from but traveled extensively and lived outside Denmark in many countries. Jette moved to Los Angeles, CA where she opened a textile gallery, The Apple Room, and also taught fiber classes at the Barnsdale Art Center. Later, while living in the Netherlands, Jette worked as Curator of Education at the National Dutch Textile Museum. Among many exciting projects, she curated the first major and very successful European Art Quilts exhibition. After 12 years of working at the museum, she became a full time studio artist. Since then she has exhibited widely in the US, Europe and Asia, and she is a sought after teacher for workshops in surface design. In 2000 she organized a two year course, Quilten Speciaal, for experienced quilters in the Netherlands for furthering their artistic development. This course is now being held in connection with the Dutch Quilters Guild. In 2001, with her family Jette moved to Florida, where she maintained a studio, exhibited and taught workshops. Since 2005, she now lives and continues her art creation and education in Antwerp, Belgium. Jette is a PAM (Professional Artist Member) of SAQA (Studio Art Quilt Association) and served as the international representative to Europe and Israel for three years; and is also a member of the European Group Quilt Art.

Kazuhiko Tanaka

Kazuhiko Tanaka graduated from School of Fine Arts, Tokyo University of the Arts in Japan, earned a degree in Department of Architect. He is a licensed architect and Member of Tokyo Society of Architects and Building Engineers. Tanaka founded his own architecture design studio, Zakurosha Ltd. and has designed many commercial and residential buildings in Japan. He has also been active in his pursuit of creating sculptures and painting. In his recent creations, he has introduced his design of miniature sculptures of figurines that portray everyday lives of people. The project titled “Lifescapes” had been exhibited in both Tokyo, at Gallery Kabutoya in Ginza (in Feb. 2012) and Boston, at Keiko Gallery (in 2007 – 2009, 2011). His works are collected by many private and corporate collectors including Daiichi Life Insurance Technology Systems Inc., Tokyo, Japan.

Kenichi Ogoshi

Kenichi Ogoshi is a professional photographer renowned with his photography of Ikebana flower arrangements, culinary shots, ceramics and potteries. Ogoshi is specialized in photography in publishing books. He frequently undertakes the flower arrangements photography for publications by Japan Ikebana Art Association, Ryuseha School of Ikebana and Ohara School of Ikebana. He regularly works with curators of museums and galleries, such as Fukushima Prefectural Art Museum for their publications. He has his studio in Tokyo and Miyagi Prefecture, Japan.

Kevin Casha

Kevin Casha (FMIPP FSWPP AMPS AMPA Hon FMPS). Over the several decades, Kevin Casha has been working tirelessly to raise the standards of photography in Malta and contributing in the country's education and training of photography. He is instrumental in launching, and teaching, the new Higher National Diploma course in photography at the Malta College of Art and Design. He first became a Member of Malta Photographic Society (MPS) in 1982, and elected to the Malta Photographic Society's Executive's Committee (1982-1996). Since 1986, Kevin held many solo exhibitions: 'Images '86' at the National Museum of Fine Arts; Collective Exhibition in aid of the Social Assistance Secretariat at the Fine Arts; 'Malta, Così Vicina, Così Diversa.' in Sicily; 'In-Nicca' at the Wignacourt Museum, Rabat (1992) and in the USA; 'Photofest 2000' at the Malta International Trade Fair (2000). In 1996, Kevin founded the MIPP (Malta Institute of Professional Photography) and has been President and Chairman of the organization. In 2003, Kevin was instrumental in bringing over to Malta the first International Congress of the Federation of European Photographers. In 2008, he was invited by the Ministry of Chinese Culture to participate in the Jinan Photography Biennial and won best Classic Portrait Award. In 2011, The Maltese Government appoints him Technical Co-ordinator of a new major project aimed at establishing a National Picture Archive on the island. Kevin has earned numerous awards since the early years of his career: MPS Photographer of the Year (1983); Dunhill Photographic Competition-Gold Medal (1989); Gold and Silver Medals, International Competition of the Universal Postal Union, France (1990); 'Torn Apart' awarded for 'Best Human Element' picture in the 15th Colour Print Biennial, Spain (1991); MPS Photographer of the Year (1990-1994). In 2011, he was awarded the Master of The Societies (SWPP) of UK's highest accolade for his indefatigable contribution to photography and achievements in the international arena of photography. Kevin regularly lectures on photography and serves as a juror for such panel as the International Colour Slide Biennial. His photographs illustrate many books on Malta, and in 1999 his book 'Malta' was reprinted the first run of 20,000 copies and sold out. He also publishes his own monograph book "Reflections on Life."

Marcel Kakhak

Marcel Kakhak was born in Morocco and educated in France. In 1980, he resigned a career as a French language professor to devote himself to art. This brought him to America, where he has devoted 30 years to creation and teaching, supplemented by European sojourns. Since 1999, Marcel has owned Kakhak Fine Arts & School near Aspen, CO. Although initially schooled in Realism, his vision matured along the lines of Impressionism, Expressionism, Action Painting, and currently, Abstraction.

Marcel believes that style is only a tool to express the “momentness” of personal creativity. He teaches art classes and workshops that uncover the unique creativity in every student. Marcel also paints live, on location, at special musical and sports events. His presence has been requested by prestigious institutions such as Georgetown University, the Kennedy Center, the Aspen Jazz Festival, the National Women’s Museum and the Skin’s Game. In addition, Marcel has given many motivational presentations of painting demonstrations for noteworthy organizations, including TIAA-CREF. In 2001, Marcel became a lifetime member of the National Registry of Who’s Who.

Mark DiPaolo

Mark DiPaolo is currently an Executive Director at Novartis Pharmaceuticals, and has been a Board Director on the Harmony for Peace Foundation for the last two years. Mark has held various roles in the healthcare strategy area spanning the last 25 years across multiple organizations and countries. He obtained his MBA from Harvard Business School, and completed a BA in Musicology, summa cum laude, from Columbia University. In addition to his love of music, Mark is also an art collector, with works extends from several countries and genres. Last year, he served as Chair of Peace Art Competition and Exhibition presented by Harmony For Peace Foundation and participated in it as one of the jurors of the art competition.

Mark Mace

Mark Mace studied art and art history at Hartford Art School although his degree is in Economics. As an oil painter, Mark has a long history of working with brilliant colors expressing exuberantly with full body motion. Paint on brush or gloved hand, he interprets with fun and humor from landscapes, people and to fully abstract, calling himself a kinetic expressionist. For past eight years, he conducted a ‘paint along’ session for children and adult during summer at his fine arts gallery in Colorado.

Mark Paul

Mark Paul is of Mexican/Swiss German descent born 1970 he grew up in Los Angeles, California. He graduated with a degree in Interdisciplinary Field Studies with an emphasis on the Socio Economic Development of the Developing World with an emphasis on AIDS IN CUBA from the University of California at Berkeley. He picked up his first camera at the age of five. He has worked professionally around the world. At 23, Mark documented Chernobyl Victims in Cuba. Last year he was one of a few photojournalists willing to hike in and document the rural areas affected by the Easter earthquake in Mexicali. Mark has photographed several countries around the world. His work has appeared in various magazines and newspapers, including The Los Angeles Times, The San Fernando Sun, The San Francisco Chronicle, The Excelsior (Mexico City), Reforma (Mexico City), Art and Living Magazine, Maxim, and City of Los Angeles. He has also worked with various non-profits as a freelance photographer: Global Exchange, Teens Beyond Boundaries, JACCC (Japanese American Cultural Community Center in Los Angeles), Los Angeles Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Friends without a Border and others. On his free time, Mark photographs fellow artists at work documented on his blog site www.eyes2010.blogspot.com

Michael Kehl

Michael Kehl, a Wisconsin native, is currently working from his studio in Bedminster, New Jersey. For over twenty-five years, he has been capturing one of a kind photograph. His works comprise several collections of diverse subjects including Landscapes, Architecture, Flora, Scenes of Ireland, Scenes of Italy, and Classic Cars. He photographs in color as well as black and white, using both medium format and 35 mm cameras. Having spent many years in his own darkroom, he recently started producing his own archival Giclée prints on coated watercolor papers. Michael Kehl Productions is under an exclusive agreement to produce fine-art photographs of classic sports and racing automobiles for 2004 at Lime Rock Raceway in Connecticut. He also achieved Best of Show at the "Art of Freedom" charity auction for 9/11 families, where his photograph "Remember" became an emotional icon. Michael's fine art works are held in many private collections in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Virginia, Arizona, Colorado, Wisconsin, South Carolina and Rome, Italy.

Molly Weiss

Molly Weiss is a graduate of Maryland Institute College of Art. She is a professional painter and program developer working with a concept for creating art project especially for children. For the past 3 years Molly Weiss has been teaching a course at Gateway School in Manhattan about public visionary art. The key objective of this program is to turn a certain "problem" to solve through art, as in the birdhouses symbolizing rebirth for communities like New Orleans, that have been stricken by natural disaster. This year, the program has a theme for "hope." Molly is also a curator for Gallery 151 in Chelsea, New York and has her own company Molly Morgan Weiss Projects. She states her work has grown off the canvas and into space. She loves envisioning rooms, and working with kids.

Philip Rosenfeld

Philip Rosenfeld is a graduate of University of Pennsylvania earned Architectural Design Degree and Art History, and obtained additional studies at the Wharton School. Philip is Co-founder of The Ardmart Antiques Market, Ardmore, PA, 1975 to 1978. Subsequently, he worked as a licensed appraiser at Spiller & Associates for Fine Arts, Furniture, Porcelain, Crystal, Rugs and Jewelry. After Philip received his apprenticeship training for restoration and conservation techniques, he founded Pennsylvania Art Conservatory specializing in the restoration and conservation of paintings, works on paper and frames; where he is also Gallery Director. The Pennsylvania Conservatory is one of the leading restoration houses in the Northeast in the US known with their highly skilled work and sought after by many private collectors and museums in the region. Its gallery where Philip is the curator specializes in the purchase and sale of 18th, 19th and early 20th century American and European Artwork

Sergio Muscat

Sergio Muscat is an emerging artist working in the photographic medium. His work is instinctive, sensitive and contemplative, focusing on a reality that is continuously changing through the evolution of nature and the intervention of mankind. His work in Architecture Photography has been received with critical acclaim, and has earned him a Fellowship of the MIPP and SWPP. He has always stated that his "natural

habitat” is on the street, observing the environment, society and the eternal battle between mankind and nature. Sergio’s work has garnered various awards, including the “Press and PR photographer of the year award” from the SWPP in 2008 and multiple nominations in the International Masters Cup and the Black & White Spider Awards in 2009, 2010 and 2011. His work has been exhibited locally and overseas, and is found in private collections across Europe and the US.

Shinji Ohno

Shinji Ohno is a graduate of Nihon University, Department of Graphic Design, School of Fine Arts. In the early years of his career as a graphic designer, he worked in the area of commercial planning design in the Foods Specialty store and space decor design. He received many Design awards including JCD (Japan Commercial Design) Awards. In 2002, Ohno founded his own firm, McFarland Inc. Since 2003, he has been exhibiting in many shows, Lifescape Show; Hands Grand Prix; Sakai Art Grand Prix; and many others. He also published several books on his own creations.

Toshiyuki Maru

Toshiyuki Maru was born in Osaka, Japan, currently works as an editor and publishing consultant. He is a graduate of Art Department from Aichi Prefecture Asahigaoka High School and of Department of Fine Arts from Aichi Prefecture University of the Arts. In 1995, Toshiyuki, after worked as a graphic designer in Tokyo, established his own design studio “Office Admarl”. He has been interested in photography besides painting and in 2006, he held a solo show, “Memory of Light” at Gallery EM, Tokyo, Japan.

Victor Rugg

Victor Rugg received his MPA from LI University and has been a professional photographer for over 40 years. His last show in Bridgehampton, Long Island was very successful. Some of his clients include, People Magazine, Donna Karen, Wollfer Estate, LA Times, East Hampton Star, Mitchem Motorsports to name a few. He lives six months in Florida and six months in New York. He is married to the Artist Edith Ingenhaag

Takemi Odajima

Takemi Odajima, Ph.D. specializes in visual cultural aspects of Japanese folk religion. Dr. Takemi Odajima’s concentration of study is visualizing invisible religious belief. He curated the exhibition of “Mukasari-Emas” (votive tablets of wedding) in 2010 in Sendai, Japan. The scenes of weddings painted on the tablets are imaginary, and for those who died unmarried, mostly children. These rare Emas only exist in certain regions of Japan and are very difficult to locate. Dr. Odajima is currently continuing his research as a postdoctoral researcher at Graduate School of Art and Literature, Tohoku University. He researches visual cultural aspects that appear in religious folklores. He also devotes his time for archiving the municipal history at the Archival Division of the Board of Education of Iwanuma City, Miyagi, Japan. Dr. Odajima has published many journals on his specialized field of Musakai Emas of Japanese Folk religion. He is a graduate of Tohoku University, in Faculty of Art and Literature, Sendai, Japan with M.A. and Ph. D. Takemi lived in the US, and graduated from Cabrini College, Pennsylvania, with a B.A. in religious studies.

Tomoko Torii

Tomoko Torii is Founding Partner of Harmony for Peace Foundation, currently serves as its President and Executive Director. Internationally known for her myriad accomplishments in the areas of the visual arts, classical dance, and Ikebana, Ms. Torii is a frequent speaker on such topics as Japanese art, culture, and theater. Working through an arts-focused division of The Tori Group, she became in 1984 the first Japanese to coordinate and conduct a Kabuki workshop in English with Japan's leading Kabuki actor, Ishikawa Ennosuke. In the mid 80's, Ms. Torii worked with Morishita Ballet Company, one of the most celebrated and internationally known ballet companies in Japan, for coordinating their world tour and performances. In 1997, she was responsible for bringing forty masters of Ikebana from Japan to Philadelphia for their award winning center exhibit at the annual Philadelphia Flower Show (PNC Bank Award, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, Flower Show 1997). In 1999, Ms. Torii coordinated, "Sho & Ki", a Japanese calligraphy exhibit of the Hokuriku Academy of Japan, the first and largest calligraphy exhibition in the US by 150 professional calligraphy artists, at Moore College of Art in Philadelphia and workshops at Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. As curator of The Tori Collection, she has represented over twenty contemporary artists globally, curated multiple group and one man shows across the United States. Many of the artists she has represented have grown in stature to have their work placed in private and public collections. Under the auspices of the Harmony For Peace Foundation, Ms. Torii created the juried global art competition, "Peace Art Competition 2010" that attracted over 180 submissions globally. The finalists were exhibited at the Chelsea Art Museum, New York in June 2011. Tomoko was educated in Japan, the United States, and Europe.

Kay Haerland

Kay Haerland has been a textile artist and quilt maker for 25 years. She was born in New Zealand, surrounded by natural beauty which has been a source of inspiration for her quilt designs. She has travelled and lived in several European countries, and lived for 20 years in Pennsylvania, USA, where she first took up quilt making. Her work has been exhibited and published on four continents, and has won many prestigious awards, including the Australian National Quilt Award (Best of Australia). She has been a prolific teacher for the past 6 years, and continues to give classes and workshops throughout Australia and New Zealand while living near Sydney, Australia.

Rosalie Dace

Rosalie Dace, is an artist and teacher. Rosalie is a full time quiltmaker whose work reflects her passion for colour, pattern and texture. She has had a lifelong interest in textiles and embroidery. She has BA in Fine Arts and English from University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. Rosalie began her teaching career in South Africa teaching art and English at a high school in Pietermaritzburg, and later taught in Grahamstown at the Johann Carinus Art Centre, the Grahamstown Technical College and at Rhodes University. In addition, she has been teaching quiltmaking and embroidery in South Africa since 1983, and has been invited several times to teach at quilt conventions and workshops abroad such places as Washington, Kentucky, New York in the US and Mulheim and Berlin, Germany. Apart from her normal art and teaching commitments she has been involved in programs aimed at

training Zulu women embroidery skills for the Durban Manufacturing Advisory Centre and for a trust operating in rural KwaZulu-Natal. Rosalie is a national quilt judge and, with Paul Schutte and Suzette Ehlers, developed the South African Quilters' Guild training program for judges. She was a judge at the South African National Quilt Festivals in 1989, 1994 and 2002, and was chief juror for the Innovative Threads 1999 exhibition in Cape Town. In 2002 she was also chief judge at the New Zealand National Quilt Symposium

Caroline Pratt

Based in Leeds, UK, Caroline Pratt is a Printmaker and Surface Pattern Designer producing illustrations for a variety of applications including one off prints, artist books, paper goods such as cards and gift-wrap and childrenswear fabrics. She also lectures part time on the BA (Hons) Textile and Surface Pattern Design course at Leeds College of Art. Inspired by bold colour palettes and retro graphic prints and textile designs she uses a combination of processes within her practice from hand crafted techniques such as paper cutting and screen-printing through to digital design and print.

Elena Cooke

Originally from London, Elena Cooke works as a consultant for the United Nations Industrial Development (UNIDO) in their Business Partnerships programme. She has a master's degree in Business from the University of Edinburgh and also studied Video and Video Installation at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna, Austria. Living and working in Vienna, she has taken part in many exhibitions and screenings, both in Austria and abroad.

Bob Maes

Bob Maes graduated from University of Colorado, Boulder, CO in BA, Fine Arts. Bob paints in mixed media incorporating metals into the process, in addition uses copper, metal washers and foils. These materials help with the creation of depth and space which gives his paintings the sculptural feel. His works have been exhibited in many solo and group shows: Solo Show - Dixon's, Denver, CO, (2010, 2007); Square Deal Gallery, Denver, CO (2010, 2009, 2008); Bonacquisti Winery, Denver, CO. Group Show - Artistica Art Gallery (2012), Perlow Stevens Gallery (2011, 2009, 2007); Artwork Network, Denver, CO (2010, 2006); Schilling Studio Gallery, Telluride, CO (2010); Remmi Fine Arts, Denver, CO (2006); Space Gallery, Group Show 2, Denver, CO (2005-2003). Bob also support through his art to such places as hospices and hospitals; Denver Hospice, April 2012; Benefit Art Show for Huntington's Disease, Denver, CO (2006-2004). Bob Maes is represented by Art Movement Colorado; Perlow-Stevens Gallery, Columbia, MO; Artistica Art Gallery, Denver, CO. His works are found in many private and corporate collections: Berry Petroleum, Denver, CO; St. Julien Hotel & Spa; Boulder, CO; Boone County National Bank, Columbia, MO; Four Seasons Hotel and Spa; Pinnacol Assurance, Denver, CO; for overseas, Dahlin Star Inc. in China. He participated at the 1st International Peace Art Exhibition by Harmony for Peace Foundation, at Chelsea Art Museum, June 2011 in New York.

Nozomi Terao

Nozomi Terao is the Founder and Executive Director of HappyDoll, Inc., a nonprofit organization connecting children through the making and exchanging of unique and fun dolls. In 2001, she became Founder and Director of MSTERIO, a summer camp in Japan. She is also a team member of Keio University Hospital's "Kokoro no Care" project in Koriyama, Fukushima Prefecture. She is a board member of Midori & Friends, Princeton in Asia, and Find Your Voice, and Co-chair of Friends of Children and Youth Programs at Japan Society. Nozomi was an Executive Director at Morgan Stanley, working in various capacities for 18 years. She has also worked at the American Embassy in Tokyo, Fuji Television, and Itochu International. Nozomi resides in NY.

Michael Cardacino

Michael Cardacino is a multimedia artist who lives and works in Springs, East Hampton, NY. His art, realized in sculpture, installations, stills and performance pieces on paper and video, evidences an unusual representational take on how art can expand awareness, creates a shared experience of timely events, and provokes a constructive conversation about the causes of suffering and conflict in the world. His work, built with popular images and ideas appropriated from the streaming collective consciousness – including the Internet, TV, movies, cave painting, stand-up comedy and his own photographs – constitutes a kind of un-sensory language that can be easily read, the purpose of which is to foster compassion through recognition and understanding.

Rosalind Brenner

Rosalind Brenner is a painter-poet, and owner of Manor Art Glass Studio in East Hampton, New York. Her unique designs and master craftsmanship have won her continuous commissions. Rosalind's paintings and collage blend her own repurposed work and mixed materials to explore color and its emotional impact in lyrical, figurative abstract works. Rosalind received her MFA in poetry from Sarah Lawrence College. Her poetry has been published in many literary journals. She has written two books of poetry and art: "All That's Left" and "Omega's Garden," the latter about to be published by Finishing Line Press. In 2011, Rosalind produced a fundraiser, "Poetry Against Hunger," to support the Springs Food Pantry in East Hampton, NY. She is currently co-producing another fundraiser to earn money for The Retreat, which provides domestic violence services. Her poetry reading for the Jackson Pollock Centenary will be in August, 2012.

Ho Hyun Kim

A fashion designer at Cheil Industries of Samsung, Ho Hyun Kim was born in Seoul, Korea. She graduated from the Kingston University Art and Design Faculty Fashion Department in United Kingdom in 2008. She studied fashion design at Samsung Art & Design Institute (SADI) from 2001 to 2004. Unlike other fashion design majored students, she chose to work in a workwear field as a designer with a belief that a better quality of workwear would make a better world. She has designed many workwear, including police jacket, firefighter's suit, Korean Olympic athletes uniform which are actually manufactured and performed to be a protective and functional workwear.

Leslie Chung

Leslie Chung was born in Seoul, South Korea. She graduated from Pratt Institute in New York with Masters and Bachelors in Art Education. She has instructed art in various settings in New York public school as well as at Pratt Institute. She is currently working as a freelance photographer.

Jheel Mehta

Jheel Mehta is an Adviser for the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations for the Second, Third and Sixth Committee. Previously she has worked for Congressman Cleaver II's office as Press and for the National Public Radio as a Radio Programmer. She graduated with her bachelors in Political Science and Philosophy from University of Missouri-Kansas City and is a Master of Arts candidate at Seton Hall University for Asian Studies. Jheel has been a painter since a very young age, having learned techniques for abstract painting. Given her academic achievement, her multi-cultural life experiences, and an eye for beauty gives her the vision to use the brush strokes to create a story with art.

Tim Braham

Tim Braham was educated in fine arts at the University of Melbourne completing his Honours in 1992. He then spent 4 months completing an internship at the Peggy Guggenheim Museum in Venice. On His return to Australia he studied Museum Management at Deakin University. Tim worked as Assistant Curator at the National Trust S H Ervin Gallery prior to taking up his current role of Gallery Director / Curator at the Gosford Regional Gallery in February 2000. Over the Past 12 Years Tim has been responsible for organizing and curating over 250 exhibitions.

Phyllis Hammond

Phyllis Hammond is a sculptor with regular solo and group shows held since 1980's. Her interest in art began when she was awarded a scholarship to the drawing classes at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts when she was a young girl. The sculptures at the Museum also made a deep impression on the young artist and, in her 20s, led her to start pottery and ceramics. Ms Hammond later returned to the School of the Museum of Fine Arts where she graduated with a four-year diploma and a fifth year Graduate certificate. After a traveling scholarship from the museum took her to Japan, Hammond later received a B.S. in Education from Tufts University in 1964. Eventually Ms. Hammond moved to New York City, Westchester and then on to East Hampton in 1985, where she currently has a studio and sculpture garden. She is the recipient of "Museum of Greenery, Flowers and Sculpture Prize" Award; Japan's Ube Tokiwa Museum's International Biennale sculpture competition in 2009. Her sculptures are at many private and public collections: 2006-The Will Award, Shakespeare Theatre Company 450 7th Street NW Washington, DC; 2006- Sculpture Garden, East Hampton NY. Studio Sculpture Space; 1973-Exhibitions Garden and Studio, Scarborough NY; 1992-Memorial Hall Library, Andover, MA; Acquisition, 1989- Stoneware Sculpture; 1991 American Savings Bank, Corporate Headquarters, White Plains, NY; 1987-Cadillac Fairwell Corporation Headquarters, White Plains, NY; 1982-Connecticut State University, New Haven, CT; 2 Clay Wall Panels.