

Ellen Chuse Art Biography

Ellen Chuse is now best known for her vibrant, color saturated paintings on paper. Working with organic forms in nature - sometimes representational but increasingly abstract - she explores nature and the body in very personal ways. A sculptor for years, she moved into two dimensional work through intense high contrast charcoal drawings which emphasized her passion for line and edge. As a painter she has focused on the emotional impact of color as well as lyrical form. Recent work has distilled this even further creating deeply meditative paintings both large and small.

Ellen Chuse received her BFA in Fine Arts Sculpture from the Philadelphia College of Art in 1967. In 1971 she received her MFA from Queens College, CUNY and the following year she was awarded a Fulbright-Hays Fellowship to Italy in Sculpture. Having worked in ceramic clay since 1966, her year in Florence enabled her to study Etruscan clay sculpture first hand. Upon her return to New York she continued to work in fired clay and also made the first of many series of drawings in charcoal. During the 1970's her sculpture was exhibited in various galleries in New York and New Jersey.

In the mid 1980's her charcoal drawings were widely exhibited throughout Texas in traveling exhibitions with the Texas Fine Arts Association and at the Laguna Gloria Art Museum in Austin. After the birth of her second child in 1986 Ellen worked sporadically as she developed her second career as a childbirth educator and counselor.

In 1996 Ellen began to make art again on a regular basis. Focusing on drawing in charcoal and pencil and beginning to experiment with color in pastel and chalk, she opened up new areas of exploration for her work. In the summer of 2000 she moved her studio to the Gowanus area of Brooklyn and began to participate in the annual Gowanus Open Studio Tours. Soon she began working in paint - often on paper and combined with graphite and charcoal. In recent years her paintings have focused increasingly on abstract forms and deeply saturated color.

Ellen Chuse has shown extensively in New York City and elsewhere. Recent exhibitions have included: Large and Small, a group show at the Kentler International Drawing Space, the Art on Paper Fair in Manhattan, Color Recall at St. Joseph's College, Displacement, Arts Gowanus and BAU Progetto, Milan, Italy. In April 2023 she had her 8th solo show at the 440 Gallery - *Through the Looking Glass*.

Educational Background

1969-71 Queens College, C.U.N.Y., M.F.A.

1963-67 Philadelphia College of Art, B.F.A.

Awards

1972-73 Fulbright-Hays Fellowship to Italy in Sculpture

Solo Exhibitions

- 2023 *Through the Looking Glass*, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2021 *One Thing Follows Another*, Sweet Lorraine Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2021 *The Great Mystery*, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2018 *Dark Matter*, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2016 *Theme and Variations*, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2014 *Finding the Root*, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2012 *Imagined Light: Memories of Rome*, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2010 *Fertile Ground*, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2008 *Recent Works on Paper*, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 1978 *Ellen Chuse: Ceramic Sculpture*, Caldwell College, Caldwell, NJ
- 1976 *Ceramic Sculpture*, Foyer Gallery, Caldwell College, Caldwell, NJ

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2023 *BAU Progetto*, Palazzo Reale, Milan, Italy
- 2022 *True to Form*, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2022 *Displacement*, Arts Gowanus, Brooklyn, NY
- 2022 *Color Recall*, St. Joseph's College, Brooklyn, NY
- 2022 *The Language of Color*, 440 Gallery, NY
- 2021 *Distillation*, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2020 *Continuum*, Established Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2020 *Color Connection*, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2020 *15 at 440*, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2019 *Sweetwater*, Arts Gowanus, Brooklyn, NY
- 2019 *Satellite Exit 19*, Cheongju Museum of Art, Cheongju, Korea
- 2019 *Feminine Reaction*, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2019 *Exit 2019*, Gallery MC, New York, NY
- 2019 *Red*, Site: Brooklyn, Brooklyn, NY
- 2019 *Art on Paper Fair*, 3 Walls Gallery, New York, NY
- 2018 *Meditations*, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2017 *Installation*, Bond Collective, New York, NY
- 2015 *Chronicles*, Project Space, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2015 *Asymmetry*, Brooklyn Creative League, Brooklyn, NY
- 2014 *Large and Small*, Kentler International Drawing Space, Brooklyn, NY
- 2014 *Tender Turbulence*, Project Space, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2013 *Everyone In The Pool*, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2013 *What's My Line?*, Project Space, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2011 *Convergence*, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2011 *Text*, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2011 *Renewal*, Purume Gallery, New York, NY
- 2010 *Small Works*, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2009 *Small Works*, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2008 *The Persistence of Line: Selections from the Kentler Flat Files*, Kentler International Drawing Space, Brooklyn, NY

2007 *Process Show*, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
2005 *Small Works*, 440 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
1988 *Exhibit A*, Austin Visual Arts Association, Austin, TX
1986 *New American Talent Touring Exhibition*, Texas Fine Arts Association
1986 *New American Talent*, Laguna Gloria Museum, Austin, TX
1986 *Texas Fine Arts Association State Citation Exhibition*, Austin TX Citation
1985 *Exhibition 85*, Austin Contemporary Arts Association, Austin TX
1979 *Alumni Exhibition*, Queens College, C.U.N.Y., Queens, NY
1976 *12X12X12*, Philadelphia College of Art, Philadelphia, PA
1975 *Clay, Women Ceramic Artists*, Women's Interart Center, New York, NY
1973 *New Artists*, Janet Fleischer Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
1971 *Women Artists*, Prince Street Gallery, New York, NY
1971 *Outstanding Alumni of the Sixties*, Philadelphia College of Art,
Philadelphia, PA

2002-2023 *Small Works on Paper/Benefit Exhibition*,
Kentler International Drawing Space, Brooklyn, NY

2000-2023 *Gowanus Open Studio Tour*, Brooklyn, NY