

Hopeful by Easter, 20 x 16 x 1 in.,
5/2020, acrylic and collage on canvas

2020 BODY OF WORK

I have been an artist for over 20 years, working primarily in oils, and collage.

In 2020 I completed:
Femme de Courage Extraordinaire, which highlights international female youth activists.

Femmes de Courage
Extraordinaire (Women of
Extraordinary Courage.)

The series of seven paintings was made possible in part by the California Arts Council, a State Agency, and The National Arts and Disability Center at the University of California Los Angeles, UCLA.

Findings, opinions, or conclusions contained herein are not necessarily those of The California Arts Council, The National Endowment for the Arts, and the National Arts and Disability Center.

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MARIA SCHECHTER

ARTIST - ARTS EDUCATOR
-CULTURAL PRACTITIONER-

SUMMARY

Maria Schechter was born in Pasadena, California, and now resides in Northern California. Maria has been an artist for over 20 years. She uses public space to create a public voice for acts of courage, kindness, and compassion. This is captured in oils and collaged paintings that address topics such as child abuse, child trafficking, climate change, gun control, literacy, social inequities, and other issues facing humanity today. She uses mudras and chromotherapy as a methodology to develop her color bands. In blending and shaping the narrative of each painting, she creates a space for a balance between the narrative and developing an architecture intended for continued healing. The 2020 body of work *Femme de Courage Extraordinaire* is meant for girls in trauma recovery. Maria has practiced and engaged 37 healing modalities over 28 years. She has studied Buddhism in the Mahāyāna tradition for thirty years. She binds, sews, and weaves bands of healing hues with historical healing modalities to address global issues affecting humanity today. Working with language, text, various textures, and primarily in oils and collage, she highlights the narrative of unity, healing, grief, hope, the painful history of America, and the resilience of American ideals.

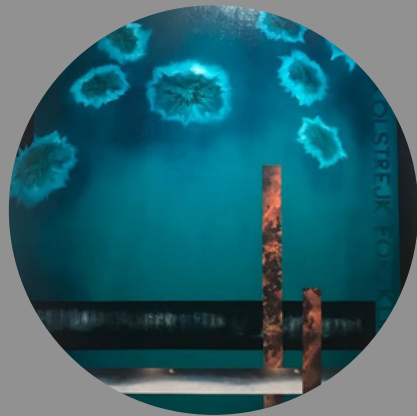
CURATING & ARTS ADMINISTRATION

- 2020 Titans of Touch, an exhibition for the seeing impaired
(opening on hold due to Covid-19) Location TBD
- 2015 Santa Cruz Museum of Art and History, Santa Cruz, California
Curated 'Imagine SLS'/Adults with Disabilities Film Festival
- 2009 De Saisset Museum, Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, California
Provided curatorial support, research, and museum docent tours
- 2006 Klaus Gallery, New York, New York
Co-founder of the initial arts collective and gallery originally located in Brooklyn.
- 2005 Vasco Billboards and Global Trade, Brooklyn, New York
Arts administration assistant: Sr. Fulbright research scholar to Don Fels
- 2003 Art a Revolutionary Tool, A.R.T an at-risk youth program for homeless youth in Boston, Massachusetts
- 2002 Experience Museum Project, EMP, visiting curator, Seattle, Washington
- 2002 Seattle Art Museum, assistant curator in training, Seattle, Washington
Assisted Lisa Graziose Corrin, Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art
- 2000 Independent Media Center, visiting curator, Seattle, Washington
"Stepping From The Shadows"
- 2000 WhatIsArt-WhatIsSound (WIA-WIS), co-founder and senior curator,
Seattle, Washington & Germany, Co-founder of WIA-WIS, an international non-profit arts organization which examined art and culture through technology and tradition. WIA-WIS was a collective of experimental artists and artists exchanges, producing collective city-wide arts education programs. The organization expanded into thirteen countries. A variety of city councils; government; arts and cultural affairs offices; local and national brands; and institutions supported What Is Art - What Is Sound.

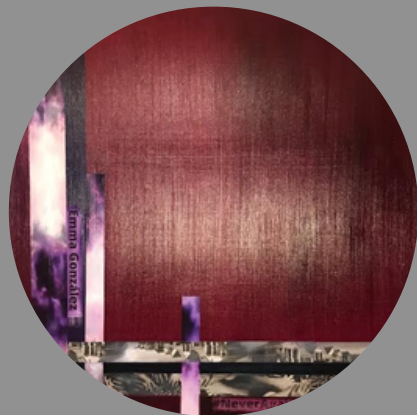
AWARDS AND GRANTS



MacArthur Fellow, nominee, 2002



Greta Thunberg, February 2020,
36 x 36 x 1 in., oils and collage



Emma González: NeverAgain, March
2020, 36 x 36 x 1 in., oils and collage on
canvas

- 2020 California Arts Council, A State Agency, The National Arts and Disability Center, UCLA, Arts and Accessibility Grant, California
- 2020 The Center For Cultural Innovation, *California Relief Fund for Artists and Cultural Practitioners Grant* (Covid-19 related), California
- 2004 Goethe Institute, Grant/*Kulturmittlerin (cultural liaison)*, New York
- 2002 The MacArthur Fellows Program, Nominee, Washington
- 2002 Museum of Pop Culture, Grant, Washington
- 2001 Artist Studios, Studio Grant, Washington
- 1997 Cornish College of the Arts, President's Scholarship, Washington

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 Dab Art Co.: ART IN THE TIME OF CORONA™ a global exhibition with the focus on Los Angeles, Ventura, and Mexico City. The exhibition will run from 2020-2023. (online due to covid-19)
- 2020 20/20 Hindsight Social Justice Exhibition (online due to covid-19)
- 2020 Women Soaring Project Suffragists (online-due to covid-19) Group Exhibition
- 2020 Triton Museum, (online-due to covid-19)
Pocket Exhibition: Covid-19: Life in a Pandemic
- 2020 Triton Museum, (online-due to covid-19)
Pocket Exhibition: We Can't Breathe
- 2020 Abrams Claghorn Gallery, Group Exhibition, Albany, California
The Ground Upon Which We Stand a Women's *Caucus on Art* exhibition
- 2020 Studio Review, Mountain View, California
- 2020 Palo Alto Public Library, solo exhibition, Palo Alto, California
Cancelled due to Covid-19, slated for December 1 2020 - December 31, 2020
- 2019 Palo Alto Art Center, Group Exhibition, Palo Alto, California
a *Women Caucus on Art* group exhibition
- 2018 Humani-fest, Group Exhibition, Indianapolis, Indiana
- 2014 Sophia University, Solo Exhibition, Palo Alto, California
- 2013 Sophia University, Solo Exhibition, Palo Alto, California
- 2009 White Box, Group Exhibition, New York, New York



Pockets of Paradise, 2000, 72 x 60 x 2 in., oils, collage and gold leaf



Simone Biles II, February 2020, 20 x 16 x .5 in., acrylic and collage on canvas



Autumn-Peltier: Water Walker, August 2020, 36 x 36 x 1 in., oils and collage on canvas

2007 Works Art Gallery, Group Exhibition, San Jose, California

2005 Bellevue City Hall, Group Exhibition, Seattle, Washington

2004 Manhattan Social Club, Solo Exhibition, New York, New York

2003 Luisen Park, Group Exhibition, Mannheim, Germany

2003 Nico Gallery, Solo Exhibition, Seattle, Washington

2002 Alte Feuerwache, Solo Exhibition, Mannheim, Germany

2002 Rainer Tower, Group Exhibition, Seattle, Washington

2002 Richard Hugo House, Solo Exhibition, Seattle, Washington

2001 Seattle Art Museum, Group Exhibition, Seattle, Washington

2001 Agora Gallery, Group Exhibition, New York, New York

1998 Oculus Gallery, Group Exhibition, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

1997 Center On Contemporary Art (COCA), Group Exhibition, Seattle, Washington

1997 Cornish College of the Arts, Fisher Gallery, Group Exhibition, Seattle, Washington

1994 Euphrat Museum of Art, De Anza College, Group Exhibition, California

TEACHING

2021 Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, California: Teacher Workshop: Betye, Lezley and Alison Saar. The pedagogy focused on SEL, Social, and Emotional Learning.

2021 Private lessons: I have co-developed an educational program titled: Art Crimes. Art crimes has 4 segments: drawing, painting, art history, and creative writing. Each project is based on real art crimes that took place at museums around the world. The student receives a box of art supplies and case evidence. We are currently solving the following Art Crimes:

a. Project Feather Thief

b. Project Space Bird

c. Project Almond Blossoms.

Details at www.mariaschechter.com

2020 Palo Alto Art Center, Palo Alto, CA, teaching painting, drawing, and art history. (City contract cancelled due to Covid-19)

1997 Washington International School, Lead Arts Instructor

1998 First Place School: <http://www.firstplaceschool.org>: Lead Arts Instructor

EDUCATION

AFFILIATIONS

I have affiliations with
California Arts Council, a State Agency
National Arts and Disability Center, UCLA
Arts Council Santa Cruz County
Santa Cruz Mountain Arts Center
Klaus Gallery, Brooklyn
Lower East Side Girls Club, Manhattan
WhatIsArt/WhatIsSound:
Related Cities for the HQ Offices of The What Is Art
Organization;
Seattle and Mannheim, Germany
New York University
WCA: Women's Caucus on Art

HarvardXOnline

Continued Education Courses, 2019

1. Pyramids of Giza, Ancient Egyptian Art and Archeology
2. Leaders of Learning
3. Women Making History: 10 Objects Many Stories

Schiller International University, Heidelberg, Germany

Masters of International Management in International Business, 2007-2009

New York University, New York, New York

Masters, Visual Arts Administration, 2006-2007

(transferred in 2007 to Heidelberg, Germany)

Cornish College of The Arts, Seattle, Washington

Bachelor of Fine Art, 1994-1998

De Anza Community College, Cupertino, California

Art History, Painting, Drawing, 1993-1994

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Silicon Valley Open Studios - Current
board member, Mountain View, California
PAST

Latin Arts Community board
member/Seattle Art Museum
Homeless Garden Project
What Is Art / What Is Sound
Santa Cruz Mountain Arts Center

INTEREST

Art History, Dancing, Drawing, Gardening,
Germany, Hildegard von Bingen, Heidelberg,
Japan, Kirtan, Meditation, New York City,
Painting, Physics, Phytonutrient rich foods,
Quantum Physics, Reading, Seattle,
Sociology, and Spirit Rock.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

DAB Art Co., "ART IN THE TIME OF CORONA™", (February 2021).

Anna Scola, "Maria Schechter: Meditations of Music and Culture," WhiteHot Magazine (April 2019).

"Junges Kunst Project im Mannheim, Luisen Park," Meier Magazine (September 2003).

"Whatisart-Whatisound," Guida Agli Eventi Culturali (May 2003),
<http://www.undo.net/it/evento/15522>.

"Die Kunst an Sich," Scala Kulture im Rhein-Neckar-Dreieck Magazine (September 13, 2003).

Peter Engelhardt, "Drei Tage lang dreht sich im Luisenpark alles um Kulture, Internationales Festival,"
Mannheimer Morgan, Nr. 201/Montag 1, (September 2003), Seite 17.

"Whatisart-Whatisound," Guida Agli Eventi Culturali (May 2003),
<http://www.undo.net/it/evento/15522>.

Peter Engelhardt, "Die Macher des Kulture events" Mannheim Morgan, (September 2002).

Anna Fahey, "Curatorial Communist," Seattle Weekly, (July 30, 2002),
<http://www.seattleweekly.com/2002-01-30/arts/curatorial-communist/full/>.

"Bionic Artist re-imagines the art event," Resonance Magazine, (2001).

"Latino Artists Outside the Lines," Colors NW Magazine, (October 2001).

/CollageFabric



/CulturedSocial



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