

Ellen Bepp

VISUAL ART

Education and Training

Bachelor of Science Degree, University of Oregon, Eugene 1972

Pacific Basin School of Textile Arts, Berkeley, CA 1984-86

Individual folk art research – Chimaltenango, Guatemala 1973, Lima, Peru 1985, Michoacan, Mexico 1990

Selected Exhibitions/Commissions/Consultancies

2021

Interpreting Día de los Muertos, UNCAPP Gallery, San Francisco, CA

Dhai Akhar: Seeded in Love, Lindsay Dirks Brown Gallery, San Ramon, CA

My American Experience, O'Hanlon Center for the Arts, Mill Valley, CA

2020

Dhai Akhar: Seeded in Love, InnerEye Arts Virtual Site

Recovery A.C.T., Joyce Gordon Gallery, Oakland, CA

Tadama! A Community Virtual Pilgrimage, Fine Art Gallery Virtual Site

Arts and Humanities 2020 Graduate Exhibition: Cultural Studies, Manetti Shrem Museum of Art, Davis, CA

Reflections on Exile, Root Division Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2019

Recognition, National Nurses United Union Headquarters, Oakland, CA

Diaspora Voiced, Rhythmix Cultural Words, Alameda, CA

Shared Footsteps from Exclusion to Injustice, Then They Came for Me, Futures Without Violence, The Presidio San Francisco, CA

2018

(Re)Call Counternarratives, Lindsay Dirks Brown Gallery, San Ramon, CA

2017

Artists' Eyes Art of Incarceration, NJAHS Peace Gallery and MISHistoric Learning Center, San Francisco, CA

Mygration, Joyce Gordon Gallery, Oakland, CA

Bluets: to fall under a spell, GearBox Gallery, Oakland, CA

Shifting Movements: Art Inspired by the Life & Activism of Yuri Kochiyama (1921-2014), SOMArts Cultural Center, San Francisco, CA

4th Annual Juried Show, Piedmont Center for the Arts, Piedmont, CA

2016

All Power to the People: Black Panthers at 50, Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA

Then & Now, A Thread that Connects Us, J-Sei Building, Emeryville, CA

Transformation: 25 Years of Asian American Artists, Harrington Gallery, Pleasanton, CA

United Front Black Liberation & Asian/Pacific Activism, Asian Resource Gallery, Oakland, CA

2015

Group Exhibition, Collector Gallery, Berkeley, CA

2014

Solo Exhibition, Michaelangelo Gallery, Santa Cruz, CA

Group Exhibition, Colorida Galeria de Arte e Design, Lisbon, Portugal

2012

GaNADa, Dohee Lee, Asian Improv aRts and Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Center, Stage Installation Design and Fabrication, SOMArts Cultural Center, San Francisco, CA

2009 ~ 2012

When Dreams are Interrupted, Purple Moon Dance Project Collaboration, Site Specific Set Design and Installation, Berkeley, San Francisco, Lodi, Tule Lake Concentration Camp, Fresno and Sacramento, CA

2011

Time Cocoon, Somei Yoshino Taiko Ensemble, Costume Design and Artistic Consultant, ODC Theater, San Francisco, CA

Atlacualo, Jose Navarrete and Violeta Luna, Costume Designer/Consultant, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, CA

2009

When Dreams are Interrupted, Purple Moon Dance Project Collaboration, Site Specific Set Design and Installation, Berkeley, CA

2005

Ghosts of Little Boy, Artists for Peace, National Japanese American Historical Society Peace Gallery, San Francisco, CA

TransMissions, origins, re/generations & community, Zeum Theatre/Yerba Buena Gardens, San Francisco, CA

2004

Issho/Together: Japanese American/Japanese National Artists in America 1941 – Present, Meridian Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2000

Nikkei 2000 Art Exhibition, Japanese Peace Plaza, San Francisco, CA

1999

Art is Figurative – A Juried Competition, ACCI Gallery, Berkeley, CA

Resilient Images: Reflections of Internment, National Japanese American Historical Society Gallery, San Francisco, CA

1998

Pro Arts Juried Annual Exhibition, Pro Arts Gallery, Oakland, CA Asian Pacific American Artists Today, Laney College Library, Oakland, CA

1997

Ancient Lessons, New Life, Cafe Vox Populi, La Peña Cultural Center, Berkeley, CA

Art Against the Death Penalty, New College of California, San Francisco, CA

1996

HeartWork, Creating Something Together, Euphrat Museum of Art, De Anza College, Cupertino, CA
Richmond Art Center Exhibition, Berlex Laboratories Inc. and the Richmond Art Center, Richmond, CA

1995

Latent August, The Legacy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, National Japanese American Historical Society, Fort Mason Center, San Francisco, CA

BACA 11th Annual Juried National, Berkeley Art Center Exhibition 1995, Berkeley, CA

West Coast Works On/Of Paper Exhibition, The Ink People Center for the Arts, Eureka, C

1994

The Alphabet Show, Okeanos Press Gallery, Berkeley, CA

Stop the Violence, Center for the Visual Arts, Oakland, CA

New World Border, Undocumented Art/Inalienable Rights, Pro Arts Gallery, Oakland, CA

Yellow Forest, SomArts Gallery, San Francisco, CA

1993

Asian Roots/Western Soil: Japanese Influences in American Culture,

Berkeley Art Center, Berkeley CA

63rd Annual Statewide Exhibition, Santa Cruz Art League, Santa Cruz, CA

Object As Identity, 1078 Gallery, Chico, CA
World of Difference - Art, Tourism and Cultural Dialogues, Euphrat Gallery, Cupertino, CA

1992

Executive Order 9066 - 50 Years Later, San Jose Art League Gallery, San Jose, CA
Rediscoveries: The Myth Makers, Jamaica Art Center, Jamaica, NY
Four Directions: Women Honor Native Land, Pro Arts Gallery, Oakland, CA
Ancestors and Experience, Matrix Gallery, Sacramento, CA
500 Years of Resistance Through Women's Eyes, Mission Cultural Center Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Subtle Exchange, 1078 Gallery, Chico, CA

1991

Spirit of East and West, Berkeley Store Gallery, Berkeley, CA
Our History, Our Rituals, Bayview Operahouse, San Francisco, CA and Intercultural Gallery, Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, CA

1990

Layers, Japan Cultural Center Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Pacific Bell Scholarship Winners Exhibition, Artisans Gallery, Mill Valley, CA
Divine Line, Arizona Commission on the Arts Traveling Exhibition, Mesa, AZ

Awards and Residencies

2021

Alameda County Arts Commission's Artist Registry

2017

Second Place Award, Piedmont Center for the Arts, Piedmont, CA

2015

Arquetopia Synergy Award 2015, Oaxaca, Mexico
Arquetopia Artist Residency, Oaxaca, Mexico

2014

Arquetopia Artist Residency, Oaxaca, Mexico

2007

Gaea Foundation: Sea Change Residency, Provincetown, MA
DreamSpeakers Award, Purple Moon Dance Project, San Francisco, CA

1993

Honorable Mention Award
63rd Annual Statewide Exhibition, Santa Cruz Art League, Santa Cruz, CA

1989

Pacific Bell Scholarship Grant, Artisans, Mill Valley, CA
Honorable Mention Award, Fine Art Exhibition, San Rafael, CA
Juror's Award, Galeria Mesa Exhibition, Mesa, AZ

1988

Purchase Award, West Coast Fiber Exhibition, Eureka, CA

Projects and Collaborations

2018-present

Elders Project performance collaborations with Destiny Arts Youth Performance Company, Destiny Arts Center, Oakland, CA

2017- 2019

Sansei Granddaughters' Journey – documentary based on pilgrimage to Manzanar concentration camp, Manzanar, CA - collaboration with Shari Arai DeBoer, Reiko Fujii, Kathy Fujii-Oka, and Na Omi Judy Shintani

2005

Tsukimi Kai Delegation to Cuba - Cultural Arts Exchange/Oral History Project — Taiko performer and Musical Coordinator

1994-2010

Escuela Primaria Netzahualcóyotl, Bilingual School for Indigenous Children, Zihuatanejo, Mexico – Volunteer Teacher

1991

NICCA Construction Project in Matagalpa, Nicaragua – Volunteer Staff

PERFORMANCE ART

Training

Japanese taiko drum training, Grand Master Seiichi Tanaka, Founder of San Francisco Taiko Dojo, San Francisco, CA

Past and Present Affiliations

2009 – 2012

Artistic Consultant, *Somei Yoshino Taiko Ensemble*, taiko drumming performance ensemble

1999 – 2009

Managing Director, Co-Founding Member and Performer, *Somei Yoshino Taiko Ensemble*

1997 – 2007

Founding Member and Performer, *Drumfire*, taiko and Native American drumming performance ensemble

1994 - 1996

Performer, *Tampat: A Sacred Place*, taiko and Native American drumming performance ensemble

1992 – 1994

Founding Member and Performer, *Foreign Bodies Theater Company*, taiko drumming, performance and spoken word company

1974 - 1985

Original Performing Member, *San Jose Taiko*, taiko performance company

Selected Performances

2012

A Joining of Rivers, Drumming and spoken word collaboration, Asian American Women Artists Association Literary & Performing Art Series, curated by Nancy Hom, International Museum of Women, San Francisco, CA

2007

Oakland Has Spoken II, Performance with *Drumfire*, Scottish Rites Center, Oakland, CA

2006

Mahina, Drumming and dance collaboration with Jill Guillermo-Togawa, Purple Moon Dance Project 15th Anniversary Season, Zeum Theater, San Francisco, CA

2005

Tsukimi Kai – Delegation to Cuba, Performances in Havana, Cienfuegos and Isla de la Juventud, Cuba

Selected Performances and Tours with Somei Yoshino Taiko Ensemble

2009

TEN – 10th Anniversary Concert, Somei Yoshino Taiko Ensemble, Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, Mountain View, CA

2007

Japan Tour, University of Kanazawa, Kanazawa City and Wajima City, Japan
SYTE/ON: Taiko X2, Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts, Cerritos, CA

2006

Kingsbury Hall, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT
Southwest Tour '06: Las Cruces, Silver City, Alamogordo, Socorro and Tucumcari, NM
Pacific Northwest Tour '06: Sandpoint and Bonners Ferry, ID and Eugene, OR

2004

Marsee Auditorium, El Camino College Center for the Arts, Torrance, CA
Skywalker Studios, Lucas Ranch, Nicasio, CA
Chains of Color, Collaboration with Robert Moses' Kin, SomArts Cultural Center, San Francisco, CA

2003

Southwest Tour '03: Valencia and Whittier, CA and Taos, Raton, Albuquerque, Farmington, NM
Ovation Series, Collaboration with Dance Brigade, Popejoy Hall, Center for the Performing Arts, Albuquerque, NM
Pacific Northwest Tour '03: Eugene, OR, Seattle and Tacoma, WA
Satsuki Arts Festival, Collaboration with Kenny Endo, Berkeley Jewish Community Center Theater, Berkeley, CA

2002

Disneyland Performances, Disneyland, Anaheim, CA
Také 5, Collaboration with Masayuki Koga, Dance Mission Theater, San Francisco, CA
Skin to String, Skin to Wind, Collaboration with Van-Ahn Vo and Unity Nguyen, SomArts Cultural Center, San Francisco, CA

2001

PoMo Arts Festival, Collaboration with Kularts, Yerba Buena Center Forum, San Francisco, CA
The Nature of Nature, Collaboration with Facing East Dance and Music, Oakland Asian Cultural Center, Oakland, CA

2000

Robert Moses' Kin, Fifth Anniversary Home Season Concert, Collaboration with Robert Moses, Sara Shelton Mann, Kelly Tacunda Orphan, Marcus Shelby, Cowell Theater, San Francisco, CA
Monk at the Met, Collaboration with Sara Shelton Mann, Dance Mission Theater, San Francisco