

Asherah Cinnamon

Limington, Maine, USA

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My practice as sculptor, installation/performance artist, group facilitator, and teaching artist explores the place of celebration, social justice activism, and cultural ritual in building community.

Exhibitions, Public Art Projects, Performance Art

- 2020 **Woven Together**, juried group exhibition at **Engine Gallery**, Biddeford, Maine
- 2019 **University of New England Gallery** Invitational Sculpture Garden exhibit, June through October
Maine College of Art, Alumni Artist in Residence, Individual Public Installation and open studios
- 2018 **Maine State Museum: Dwelling Place**, interactive public art installation & *sukkah*.
Part of an extensive exhibition on the **History of Jews In Maine**.
Univ. of New England Gallery, Portland Invitational Sculpture Garden Exhibition, June – October
- 2017 **SukkahWood**, Juried Interactive Public Art, curator Goldie Gross, Inwood Park, Manhattan, NY
Women's Body/Women's Mind, interactive public art installation, UNE Gallery. January through March
- 2016 **University of Southern California Hillel Gallery**, Juried Group, Los Angeles, Calif. Sept - Dec
University Of New England Gallery, Invitational group Sculpture Garden Exhibition, June – October
Women's Body/Women's Mind, interactive public art installation, Art Kibbutz New York: International Jewish Artist's Colony, Governor's Island, NY, NY, June
Dwelling Place, solo interactive public art installation and *sukkah*, Maine College of Art, October
- 2015 **Sacrifice**, London Jewish Museum, King's College, England, Invitational group exhibition Sept '15–Jan '16
ECOArt, Muong Cultural Museum, Hoa Binh, Vietnam, November 2015 through 2016
Maine Synagogues, Invitational group exhibition, Maine Jewish Museum. May to July
- 2014 **The Jewish Dance with Planet Earth**. Juried international group exhibition, Colonel's Row, Building 406A, Governor's Island, New York, NY
Sukkah PDX, Juried international exhibition of 6 outdoor installations, Oregon Jewish Museum, Portland, Oregon
- 2013 **Celebration, Tradition, and Change**. Solo Exhibition, Maine Jewish Museum *Shema*: Listen.
Collaborative sculpture, with performance/community-building event. Eden Village Lake, New York
- 2012 **JUMP:War**, interactive collaborative public art performances. Clifford Gallery & Main St, Belfast, ME
Dwelling Place interactive public art installation & *sukkah*, University of New England Gallery
- 2011 **Pay It Forward** solo interactive installation, Modern Woodmen of America, Standish Maine
Dwelling Place solo interactive public art installation and *sukkah*, University of Southern Maine
Love Affair with Trees, incl. **Friendship In Hard Times II**, solo exhibition, Engine, Biddeford, ME
- 2010 **Friendship in Hard Times**, solo public art project with Fred Hall Elementary School, Baxter School for the Deaf, and Bonnie Eagle High School, Southern Maine
Separation Connection, MECA alumni collaborative, contemporary performance art, Portland, Maine
- 2009 **The Spirit of Trees** retrospective solo exhibit, Temple Shalom Synagogue and Center, Auburn, Maine
- 2008 **Olympic Sculpture Exhibition** Tiananmen Square, 2008 Beijing Olympics, China
Tradition and Transformation juried group show: Beth Shadur, juror, Woman Made Gallery, Chicago
Institute of Contemporary Art, "Index" juried exhibition, Portland Maine
- 2007 **Olympic Landscape Sculpture International Exhibition of Finalists** juried group.
Sacramento Convention Center, Sacramento, CA; Lawson Field Theater, Gisborne, New Zealand; Sports Center, Rome, Italy; China Millennium Monument, Beijing, China; Hong Kong Park, Hong Kong; Olympic Museum Park, Lausanne, Switzerland; Sport and Olympic Museum, Barcelona, Spain
Teshuvah: Turn and Mend solo interactive public art installation, Post Office Park, Portland, ME
Kaddish for the Dispossessed solo public art installation, City of Portland, ME
- 2006 **Beijing Olympic Landscape Sculpture Contest Chinese Exhibition** juried group. Jintai Museum, Beijing; Guangzhou Museum of Art, Guangzhou; Dongfanghong Square, Lanzhou, Gansu Province; Changchun World Sculptures Park, Changchun; Wuyuanwan Feature Street Plaza, Xiamen; Tianjin Square, Tianjin, China

Guest Lectures, Workshops, Residencies, Projects

- 2021 **Leader and organizer for two monthly online artist groups** to support the artistic process during Covid 19. Ongoing since May of 2020: one is for a diverse group of International artists, and the other is supported by Art Kibbutz specifically for International Jewish artists members.
- 2020 **Jewish Art Salon** Artist talk online December 15. Recorded and available on JAS Facebook or website **Engine Gallery** online Artist talk
Leader and organizer for two monthly online artist groups to support the artistic process during Covid 19. Ongoing since May of 2020: one is for a diverse group of International artists, and the other is supported by Art Kibbutz specifically for International Jewish artists members.
- 2019 **Making Art About Ending War and Genocide**, 5-Day Invitational Residency, Limington, Maine. August, Funded in part by The Maine Arts Commission and Indo-China Arts Partnership.
Alumni Residency, Maine College of Art, Portland, Maine July
Artist in Residence, Camp MoyMoDaYo, Limington, Maine
- 2018 **Making Art About Ending War and Genocide**, 3-Day Invitational Residency, Limington, Maine. August
Art Kibbutz NY, Program Director for **International Artist Residency** in upstate NY, June
- 2016 **Art Kibbutz New York**, Art and Social Justice Residency, Governor's Island. Leader for guest workshop on women's issues for artists, funded in part by the NY Women's Foundation, June
Artists Wielding Words and Images: Art as Social Change Agent, University of So. Maine, April
Jewish Community Alliance of Maine, Workshop on Creativity and *Schmita*, June
- 2015 **Muong Studio** Collaborative contemporary art juried residency and ECOArt Project, Vietnam, Nov
Art Kibbutz New York, *Schmita* Festival and juried residency, Governor's Island, NY, July/Aug
Maine Conference for Jewish Life, presentations on creativity, June
- 2014 **EMMA International Collaboration** juried residency, Ness Creek, Canada.
- 2013 **Art Kibbutz New York**, International juried residency: "the Jewish Waltz with Planet Earth"
- 2012 "Finding Voice as a Visual Artist", Sculpture Department visiting artist, **Maine College of Art**
- 2011 **Inter-Professional Educational Collaborative University of New England**, "Healing Arts and Creative Spaces for Emotional Renewal"
International Affairs Conference, visual artist in residence
- 2009 **National Association of Social Workers**, Keynote Address, Maine Chapter Annual Conference
- 2008 **Institute of Contemporary Art**, "Index" Juried Exhibition artist talk, Portland Maine
- 2007 **Congregation Bet Ha'am**, "*Shabbat Shuvah*: art and the tradition of mending relationships", Maine
University Of Southern Maine, "Spiritual responses in the visual arts to poverty and homelessness"
Institute of Contemporary Art, Portland, Maine, Public Forum in association with solo public art project of the same name. "Kaddish for the Dispossessed: A Call to Economic Justice", connecting the arts and social justice communities in the active pursuit of economic justice to end homelessness.

Selected Awards, Grants, Media and Publications

- 2021 **American Guild of Judaic Art** Working Artist Grant (one of 6), for supplies and equipment to learn the use of Encaustic methods and materials to begin a new project.
- 2019 **Indo-China Arts Partnership Project Grant**
Maine Arts Commission Individual Artist Project Grant
Maine College of Art Alumni Residency
- 2017 **SukkahWood**, Juried Award, New York, NY
- 2016 **Portland Magazine, 3D Artists**: featuring 30 of Maine's, Annual Art issue, September/October
Jewish Women's Foundation of New York Fellowship for Art Kibbutz New York Residency and teaching
- 2015 **Linda and Joel Abromson Fund Award**, funding for Schmita Project and Art Kibbutz NY Residency
- 2014 **The Oregonian**, October 10. "Big Ideas In Tiny Spaces". Review of juried exhibition
Haddasah Magazine, January. "The Arts: United (Jewish) Artists", by Aaron Rosen
Emma International artist residency, **Maine College of Art grant award**
- 2013 **Daily Forward**, "Art Kibbutz Bears First Fruits" by Rebecca Schischa, May 17
<http://www.artkibbutz.org/environmentalland-art-residency>
<http://www.healingwiththearts.com/?s=asherah+cinnamon>
- 2011 **Linda and Joel Abromson Fund Award**, funding for "Dwelling Place" installation
- 2009 **Juror's Choice Award**, Maine Art Gallery, Wiscasset, Maine
- 2008 **Beijing 2008 Olympic Landscape Sculpture Competition, Five Rings Prize**, with Scott Fuller
Maine State Campus Compact, "**Heart and Soul Award**"
- 2004 "Community Organizing for Social Change", By Asherah Cinnamon, in Linda May Grobman, Editor, **Days in the Lives of Social Workers**. White Hat Communications.

Education

BFA: Sculpture, Maine College of Art, Portland, Maine, USA

MSW: Group Work, Boston University School of Social Work, Boston, Massachusetts, USA

Graduate Diploma in Criminology: Cambridge University, Cambridge, England

BA: University of Wisconsin at Madison, philosophy and ethics

Professional Work History prior to 2003

From 1984 to 2002 I was a founding member of a diverse team of community organizers, conflict resolution trainers, and social justice advocates, whose focus was to bring people together across lines of historic division and conflict. These divisions included race, religion, ethnicity, gender and identity, economic disparity, and others, to assist them to accomplish mutually agreed action goals. This group became a non profit organization, **NCBI International**, begun and led by Cherie R Brown. Starting in Boston, NCBI later moved to its current home in Washington, DC. I was on the International Board of the organization and personally developed local teams as Chapters of NCBI in Portland, Maine and later in Knoxville, TN. We worked with a wide variety of types of groups, organizations, municipalities, colleges and universities. The model then and currently is to build strong diverse teams of community change people, who can work together when things get tough, both personally and politically. NCBI has built and/or strengthened such teams throughout this Continent, in Europe, Australia, and the region of North Africa sometimes known as the Middle East.

From 1980 to the mid 1990's I worked as a **Clinical Social Worker** and group facilitator in private practice with individuals, couples and groups, focusing on what was then known as Women's Issues. This work became part time as NCBI developed more fully.

Community and Professional Involvement

2019 - 2021 Portland Area Women's March, member of organizing committee

2016 - Present Fellow, Jewish Art Salon, New York, New York, USA

2015 - Present Founding member of Town of Limington Democratic Committee

2013 - Present Art Kibbutz, New York, NY Advisory Board

2011 - 2020 - Southern Maine Hillel, Multi-campus Jewish Student Organization, Advisory Board Chair

2009 - 2018 Alumni Council, Maine College of Art, Portland, Maine, USA

1999 Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission, Knoxville, TN 1997 - 1999

1996 Recognized by Education Office of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum for leading community response to racist arson of the Inner City Church, Knoxville, Tennessee, USA

1990 New England United Methodist Award For Excellence in Social Justice Actions