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**Represented by: ACA Galleries, New York: [www.acagalleries.com](http://www.acagalleries.com)**

**Fulbright Fellowship to India 2010-11**

**Fulbright Fellowship to Israel 2016-17**

### **SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

“Blue Like Me: The Art of Siona Benjamin” at Memphis Jewish Community Center, Memphis, TN (Oct 1 - 30 2018) <http://www.jccmemphis.org/the-arts/shainberg-art-gallery/>

“Blue Like Me: The Art of Siona Benjamin at the JCC Stamford CT (Nov 2018) <http://www.stamfordjcc.org/artsfilm/jewish-arts-film-festival-of-fairfield-county/>

“Blue Like Me: The Art of Siona Benjamin at the JCC, La Jolla CA (Feb 25 - May 31 2010) - **Upcoming**

Three artist exhibition at the Newark Museum, NJ (Siona Benjamin, Faith Ringgold and Grace Hartigan - dates TBA). - **Upcoming**

“Blue Like Me: The Art of Siona Benjamin” at ETS Center for Advocacy and Philanthropy in Princeton NJ (May 1 to 31 2018)

“Blue Like Me: The Art of Siona Benjamin” at the William Rolland Gallery of Fine Art, Kwan Fong Gallery of Art and Culture, California Lutheran University (Feb 15 -April 12 2018). <https://rollandgallery.callutheran.edu/2017/11/15/siona-benjamin-blue-like-me/>

“Blue Like Me: The Art of Siona Benjamin” at the Osher Marin Jewish Community Center San Rafael, CA [www.marinjcc.org](http://www.marinjcc.org) (October 3, 2017-January 5, 2018).

“Blue Like Me: The Art of Siona Benjamin” at Peninsula Jewish Community Center Foster City, CA [www.pjcc.org](http://www.pjcc.org) (July 10 to Sept 19 2017)

“Siona Benjamin: Beyond Borders” at ACA Galleries, New York (March 9 - April 22 2017) (*catalog published with exhibit*)

Solo Exhibition at Neve Schecter, Tel Aviv Israel (Dec 22 2016 to Feb 22 2017) - (*catalog*)

“Siona Benjamin: Beyond Borders” at Opalka Gallery, The Sage Colleges, Albany, NY  
[www.sage.edu/opalka](http://www.sage.edu/opalka) . (Aug 2 - Oct 2 2016 TBA) - (*catalog published with exhibit*)

Solo Exhibition at University of North Texas (Mar 3 - April 2 2016)

Solo Exhibition JCC of Northern VA (Oct 20 - Dec 14 2015)

“Blue Like Me: The Art of Siona Benjamin” Gershman Y in Philadelphia (September 18 - December 19th 2014).

“Faces: Weaving Indian Jewish Narratives” at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya (Prince of Wales Museum) in Mumbai India. (Sept 30 - Oct 20 2013)

“Faces: Weaving Indian Jewish Narratives” Flomenhaft Gallery, New York (March 6-April 26 2014)

“Blue Like Me: The Paintings of Siona Benjamin” at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, Stockton College Art Gallery. (Jan 22 - Mar 27 2013)

“Blue Like Me: The Paintings of Siona Benjamin” at Towson University, Asian Arts and Culture Center, Towson MD. (April 6 - May 11 2013)

“Blue Like Me: Recent Paintings of Siona Benjamin” at the Habitat Center in New Delhi, India. Exhibit sponsored by the Israel Embassy in Delhi. (Mar 27 – 31 2012).

“My Magic Carpet: Recent Paintings by Siona Benjamin” at Flomenhaft gallery, New York (Sept 15 – Nov 5 2011) *Brochure and essay by art critic Eleanor Heartney*

Solo Exhibition at Bernstein Gallery, Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University, NJ (Oct 31 – Dec 21 2011)

Solo exhibition at The JCC (Jewish Community Center) in Manhattan New York (May 16 – Aug 15 2011)

Generation D: Identities. An Art exhibit/event celebrating Jewish diversity with the art of Siona Benjamin and accompanying slide show of many artists during the evening. Dec 14 - 5.30-7.30pm.

Exhibit of Megillah Esther at Hebrew Union College - New York (HUC) (March 1 to June 30 2011) <http://www.artsiona.com/commissions2.html>

Solo Exhibition at The Temple Museum of Religious Art at Temple Tifereth Israel, Cleveland OH. (Nov 15 2010 – Feb 15 2011)

“Blue Like Me” at The Ann Loeb Bronfman Gallery, Washington DC Jewish Community Center (Oct 15 2009 – Jan 29 2010).

“Gathering Sparks: The Art of Siona Benjamin” at The Philadelphia Jewish Museum of Art. <http://www.rodephshalom.org/index.shtml> (Dec 11 2008 - Mar 20 2009).

“Lilith in the New World” Solo Exhibition at Flomenhaft Gallery, Chelsea, NY (Oct 23 – Dec 4 2008) – Brochure

“Blue Like Me: Recent Work by Siona Benjamin,” a traveling exhibition curated by Cheryl Kramer and organized by the Handwerker Gallery, Ithaca College, Ithaca NY will travel to The Hermitage Foundation Museum in Norfolk, VA. (Dec 14 -Jan 25 2007-08) - *Catalog*

“Blue like Me” at the Carol Tatkon Center at Cornell University, NY (1-31 Oct 2007).

“Blue like Me: Paintings by Siona Benjamin” at Handwerker Gallery, Ithaca College. (Feb 26 – Apr 1 2007) - *Catalog*.

“Ishq” at Cheryl Pelavin Fine Art, New York, NY (Oct 18 – Dec 2 2006)

“Fereshteh” New/Now features Siona Benjamin at The New Britain Museum of American Art, New Britain CT (Apr 23 – May 1 2005)

“Fereshteh” at Cheryl Pelavin Fine Arts, New York (Sept 9<sup>th</sup> to Oct 16<sup>th</sup>, 2004).

"Exploring Symbolism through Culture: Contemporary Art by Siona Benjamin and the Mithila Folk paintings of India", Denver CO. Apr 15<sup>th</sup> - Jun 4<sup>th</sup> 2004. (cosponsored by The Mizel Museum of Judaica, Asian Art Co-coordinating council and The Museum of Outdoor Art in Denver CO) – *Exhibit Brochure*

“Spicy Girl” at Blackbridge Hall Gallery, The Georgia College & State University, Milledgeville, GA (Aug 18 – Sept 19, 2003).

" Spicy Girl" at Akus Gallery, Eastern Connecticut State University, Willimantic, CT (Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> - Mar 9<sup>th</sup> 2003)

Two Person Exhibition "Finding Home" at Trinity College, Hartford, CT (Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> - Mar 5<sup>th</sup> 2003)

"Siona Benjamin: Multicultural Identities" at Columbus College of Art and Design, Columbus OH (Jan 7<sup>th</sup> - Feb 8<sup>th</sup> 2002)

"Finding Home" at Mitchell Museum, Mount Vernon, Illinois, (23 Feb - 5 May 2002 - upcoming)

Two Person Exhibition "Spicy Girl" at Corridor Gallery, Fine Arts Center Galleries, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island, (3 Oct - 5 Nov 2001)

"Finding Home" Series, at University Museum, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois, (15 Aug - 31 Oct 2001)

"Finding Home" at Visual Arts Gallery, University of Illinois, Springfield, Illinois, (27 Feb - 30 Mar, 2001)

"Spicy Girl" at MacLennan Gallery of Asian Art, St Louis University, St Louis, Missouri, (13 Sept - 27 Oct, 2000)

Solo exhibition at " Lorimier Gallery ", Southeast Missouri Arts Council, Cape Girardeau, (6-29 Nov, 1998)

Solo exhibition at "Tarble Arts Center", Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, Illinois, (10 Mar - 19 Apr, 1998)

Two-person exhibition at "Bockrath Gallery", Cleveland (4 Apr. - 17 May, 1997)

Two-person exhibition at "Walsh Gallery", Chicago (6 Dec., 1996 - 31 Jan., 1997)

Solo exhibition at the "Beacon Street Gallery", Chicago (15-27 Dec., 1994) Exhibition continued at their Geneva, Illinois location (17 Feb.-26 Mar. 1995).

Solo exhibition at "Maison des Dîmes", Gondreville/Nancy, France (15 May-26 Jun. 1994).

Solo exhibition at "The New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art", New Harmony, Indiana (2 Feb.-3 Mar., 1992)

Solo exhibition at "Waltuch Art Gallery" Jewish Community Center on the Palisades, Tenefly, New Jersey (4-30 Nov. 1990)

Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition at the "University Museum", Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Illinois (14-20 July, 1989)

Solo exhibition of enamel paintings on copper at the "Dhoomimal Art Center", New Delhi, India (29 Nov.- 9 Dec. 1985).

Solo exhibition of enamel paintings on copper at the "Jehangir Art Gallery", Bombay, India (9-15 Oct. 1984)

#### **SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS:**

"Jewish geographies" at University of Buffalo Art galleries, NY (April 11-May 25 2019)

"Constructing Identity in America (1766–2017)" Group Exhibition at Montclair Art Museum, Montclair NJ (Sept 1 2018 to Jan 5 2020) <https://www.montclairartmuseum.org/exhibition/constructing-identity-america-1766%E2%80%932017>

“Lost and Found: Jewish Communities of India” group exhibit and artist residency at the East - West Center at The University of Hawaii (June 10 to Sept 16 2018) <https://www.eastwestcenter.org/events/arts-exhibition-lost-and-found-jewish-communities-india>

“One in Three: Comparative Perspective on Gender Violence” Group exhibition at Lesley University College of Art and Design Museum, Cambridge MA (Nov 1 to dec 2 2018) - (Upcoming) <https://lesley.edu/events/one-in-three-global-perspectives-on-violence-against-women>

“Through Compassionate Eyes; Artists Call for Animal Rights” at The Charter Oak Cultural Center Hartford, CT. Curated by Julie Seidman, Joel Silverstein and Aimee Rubenstein (Oct 2018) Artists: Helen Barker, Sigal Ben-David, Siona Benjamin, Filipe Cortez, Dorit Jordan Dotan, Philip McCullough-Downes, Alan Falk, Katerzyna Kotera, Diana Kurz, Jane Lewis, Boris Lyubner, Archie Rand, Corey Rowland, Lynnea Ryshe, Julie Seidman, Joel Silverstein, Jacob Silverstein, Yona Verwer, Brittney West, Nancy Wylie

“Stations of the Cross” exhibition in 14 locations across New York. Siona Benjamin installation at the Riverside Church in the Christ Chapel. [www.artstations.org](http://www.artstations.org) (Feb 15 to April 1 2018) The website for the project: <http://www.artstations.org/>. List of artists: <http://www.artstations.org/art/> Interview: [https://youtu.be/kR\\_KPLU1JgM](https://youtu.be/kR_KPLU1JgM). Installation: <https://youtu.be/O95P11ix-r4>

“Beyond Bridges” a transcultural group exhibit featuring the work of Muslim, Christian & Jewish international contemporary artists travels to St Marks Episcopal Church in Florida Organized by CARAVAN (Feb 28 - Mar 12 2018) [www.oncaravan.org](http://www.oncaravan.org)

Jerusalem Between Heaven and Earth group exhibit at Defner Judaica Museum in Bronx New York. Curated by Ori Z. Soltes (Jan 28 - May 27 2018)

“Jerusalem Between Heaven and Earth” Jerusalem Biennale in Israel 2017. Exhibit planned with Jewish Art Salon, New York. (Oct - Nov 2017)

Female\Feminist/2017 at the Chauncey Stillman Gallery at Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts (August 28 - November 4, 2017)

Featured Artists: Dotty Attie, Siona Benjamin, Judy Cotton, Amy Cutler, Roberto Fabelo, Carla Gannis, Vanessa German, Hilary Harkness, Sophiya Khwaja, Joyce Kozloff, Robert Kushner, Adriana Marmorek, Marilyn Minter, Lissa Rivera, Ruby Rumie, Hank Willis Thomas, Mickalene Thomas, Ella Tulin, Benedicte Vanderreydt

[http://www.lymeacademy.edu/index.php/exhibitions/femalefeminist2017\\_exhibition/](http://www.lymeacademy.edu/index.php/exhibitions/femalefeminist2017_exhibition/)

“Paper Through the Ages” group exhibition at ACA galleries, New York (Feb 27 to April 2nd 2016)

The Mishkan Museum of Art in Ein Harod in Israel presents New York / New Work, curated by Dvora Liss and David Sperber. (November 13 – January 31, 2016)

“Biblical Inspiration in a Secular Age” curated by Judith Brodsky and Harry Naar at Rider University, NJ. Participating artists: Helene Aylon, Siona Benjamin, Hanan Harchol, Marc Malberg, Archie Rand - (Nov 5 - Dec 6 2015) (*catalog*)

Participated in the Jerusalem Biennale, Israel (Sept 24 - Nov 5 2015) (*catalog*)

“Vashti - The Newly discovered chapter” at Neve Schecter, Tel Aviv-Jaffa Israel. (Exhibit opens Feb 20 2015) [www.neve-schecter.org.il](http://www.neve-schecter.org.il) (*catalog*)

“Beyond Bridges” Organized by CARAVAN Exhibition of Visual Art at the historic Church of St. Germain des Pres in Paris, France (Feb 2 - 28 2015). The Bridge will travel within Europe to London, then to Cairo, Egypt and then throughout United States for an 18-month period and will be exhibited in a variety of venues (cathedrals, sacred spaces, governmental headquarters, museums, galleries, interfaith centers, etc.). 4-5 key capital cities in Europe (i.e. Paris, London, Brussels, Rome), Cairo-Egypt, 3-4 strategic large cities in the USA (New York City, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Atlanta, Chicago, Houston), followed by mid-size cities in the USA beginning in Wyoming. [www.oncaravan.org](http://www.oncaravan.org) (*catalog*)

“America: Through Artist’s Eyes,” New Jersey State Museum Oct 25 2014 to April 5th 2015 (*catalog*)

“AMEN-A Prayer for the World,” is an aspirational expression of hope and goodwill coming “out of Egypt” for the peoples of the Middle East and the rest of the world. Organized by CARAVAN Exhibition of Visual Art (August 31 to November 16, 2014), WASHINGTON D.C. & NEW YORK CITY, USA. Exhibition at National Cathedral in Washington D.C. followed by an exhibition in New York City at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. \*Washington D.C.: August 31 - October 6, 2014—National Cathedral, \*New York City: October 12 – November 16—The Cathedral of St. John the Divine. Website: [www.oncaravan.org](http://www.oncaravan.org) -*Catalog*

Group Exhibition at Museum of Biblical Art (MOBIA) New York. (June 13 - Sept 15 2013)

“From Motherhood to Mother Goddess: Transcendence from Self to Absolute” Artists: Diógenes Abréu, Amina Ahmed, Inna Arroyo, Siona Benjamin, Peggy Blood, Neil Chowdhury, Anjali Deshmukh, Asha Ganpat, Sylvia Iskander, Suzanne Jackson, Rasika Reddy, Cepp Selgas, Ramón Vargas Artiz and Tenzin Wangchuk. Exhibition is curated by Neeta Omprakash, Nehru-Fulbright Scholar. Akus Gallery. Eastern Connecticut State University, Willimantic CT (March 14 to April 25 2013)

“Radiate: Art of the South Asian Diaspora” at The Windsor Art Center, Windsor CT (May 12 – June 15 2012) and show travels to Gallery 400, The University of Illinois-Chicago, (October 31 – Dec 15 2012). Exhibition curated by Professor Kathryn Myers.

“Spectrum of Sexuality” at Hebrew Union College, New York (Sept 6 2012 - June 30 2013)

"Ornament and Narrative: Women Artists of Eastern Diasporas" a part of The Fertile Crescent: Gender, Art and Society at Stedman Gallery, Rutgers University, Camden New Jersey, (Oct 15 -

Dec 15 2012) Curated by Professor Martin Rosenberg. Artists: Roya Akhavan, Najla Arafa, Siona Benjamin, Lalla Essaydi, Sissi Farassat, Naomi Safran-Hon, Soody Sharifi, Mitra Tabrizian, Shahar Yahalom.

“Gallery Review” at Flomenhaft Gallery, New York. Curated by Eleanor Flomenhaft. (March 15 – May 5<sup>th</sup> 2012).

“Silent Witnesses: Migration stories through Synagogues Transformed, Rebuilt, or Abandoned” The Holocaust Memorial Center. Zekelman Family Campus. Metro Detroit, Michigan. (February 15 – April 13 2012). Exhibit co-sponsored by The Cultural Heritage Artists Project, Jewish Art salon and Jwalks: Retracing Jewish heritage. 23 artists participated. *Catalog*

“Fluidity, Layering, Veiling: Perspectives from South Asian and Middle Eastern Women Artists,” at Sacred Heart University, CT. Curated by Deborah Frizzell, Ph.D., the five artists included are Samira Abbassy, Jaishri Abichandani, Siona Benjamin, Afarin Rahmanifar and Naomi Safran-Hon. (September 18 – October 27 2011)

Three-year Traveling exhibit: "Women Call for Peace: Global Vistas. Artists: Emma Amos, Siona Benjamin, Chakaia Booker, Judy Chicago, Linda Freeman, Irene Hardwicke Olivieri, Lelia Kubba, Grace Matthews, Faith Ringgold, Aminah Robinson, Betye Saar, Flo Oy Wong, Helen Zughaib. Curator: Professor Lisa Farrington. CUNY New York. Exhibit schedule: Art League of Bonita Springs, Bonita Springs, FL (10-1-2010 - 12-10-2010); University of Arkansas Art Galleries, Little Rock AR (1-10-2011 - 3-24-2011); George A Spiva Center for the Arts, Joplin, MO (7-16-2011 - 10-11-2011); Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery Lincoln, NE (9-18-2012 - 1-13-2013); J. Wayne Stark University Center Galleries, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX (3-9-2013 - 5-28-2013); John Jay College of Criminal Justice New York, NY (10-1- 2013 - 12-10-2013). (*Brochure*)

“A Complex Weave: Transcultural Women Artists” at Stedman Gallery, September 8 - December 18, 2009 Rutgers - The State University of New Jersey, Camden, NJ; Towson University February 12-April 17, 2010 Baltimore, MD; Susquehanna University August 27 - October 17, 2010 Selinsgrove, PA; Penn State University September 22 - November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011 University Park, PA; Carleton College January 13 - mid-March, 2012 Northfield, MN; Fisher Gallery September 08 - December 04, 2012 University of Southern California Los Angeles, CA  
Artists: Helene Aylon, Lalla Essaydi, Tatiana Parcerro, Siona Benjamin, Fujiko Isamura, Sarah Amos, Zoe Charlton, Blanka Amezkua, Sharon Harper, Flo Oy Wong, Judy Gelles, Philemona Williamson, April Wood, Annet Couwenberg, Sonya Clark and Julie Harris.  
*More Info:* <http://feministartproject.rutgers.edu/resources/fare/files/5/> *Catalog.*

*Gathering Sparks: 4000 Year Road Trip* Permanent group show at the Mizel Museum, Denver, CO, Curator Georgina Kolber 2011.

*Hebrew Zodiac*, at Palm Beach Center for Jewish Art, Lantana, FL, and Boca Raton, FL Curator Helene Yentis. 2010.

, *Seduced by the Sacred*, at Charter Oak Cultural Center, Hartford, CT Curators Joel Silverstein &

Richard McBee. 2010

*The Dura Europas Project*, Jewish Art Salon group exhibit at The Philadelphia Museum of Jewish Art (opens Dec 5th 2010-Mar 2011)

The Esther scroll exhibited at the Delaware Center for Contemporary Art. Curator: Susan Isaacs (Dec 22 2010 – April 17<sup>th</sup> 2011)

“Transitional/Transcultural: New Paradigms for a New Century” at the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design. Artists in show: Grisha Bruskin, Carol Hamoy, Tom Jones, Faith Ringgold, Annu Matthew, Roger Shimomura, Jason Yi & Siona Benjamin. (Jan 15 – Feb 27 2010) *Brochure*

Summer Group show at Flomenhaft gallery opening May 7th 2009.

“If I didn’t care”: Multigenerational Artists Discuss Cultural Histories” at The Park School, Richman Gallery, Baltimore MD. (Jan 30 – Mar 30 2009)

“Erasing Borders: Passport to Contemporary Indian Art of the Diaspora” Group exhibition sponsored by The Indo American Arts Council, New York - *Catalog*  
Exhibit travels to several venues: South Asian American Art Festival at The Santa Monica Art Studios, Santa Monica, CA (Feb 23 - Mar 1, 2008), Tabla Rasa Gallery, Brooklyn, NY (March 12-27, 2008), The Guild Gallery, Manhattan, NY (April 3-26, 2008), Brownson Art Gallery, Manhattanville College, Purchase, Westchester, NY (May 11- June11, 2008), Hammond Museum, North Salem, NY 10560 (June 14 -September 5, 2008), Queens Museum of Art, Flushing Meadows, NY (October 19 – November 19 2008)

“Passage to Jersey: Women Artists of the South Asian Diaspora in Our Midst” at Rutgers University, NJ - Brodsky Gallery (Jan 15 – July 31 2008)

“Ornamental Instincts” at Wave Hill Bronx, NY. (Nov 23 – Feb 10 2008)

“Return Home” at the Paul Robeson Center for the Arts and organized by the Arts Council of Princeton, NJ. (Mar – Apr 2008) - *Catalog*

“Ceremonies and Celebrations” at Alva Gallery, CT (Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> – Dec 15<sup>th</sup> 2007).

South Asian Women's Creative Collective (SAWCC) 10th Anniversary Visual Art Exhibition at Exit Art in New York “Sultana’s Dream” (Aug 4th - Sept 1st 2007) – *Catalog*

“Home and Away: The Spaces We Inhabit” Bronfman Center Gallery, New York University, NY (March 26th - May 11th 2007).

"Erasing Borders: Contemporary South Asian Art from the Diaspora" at The Queens Museum, New York. Exhibit sponsored by The Indo American Arts Council in NYC. (Feb 4 - Mar 4 2007) *Catalog*. Exhibit traveling to The Guild Art USA in New York (April 5 - 19 2007)

“Out of the East: An exhibition of works influenced by Eastern Ideas and / or imagery” at The Arts



Guild of Rahway, NJ (February 18 - March 16, 2007)

Prints by New Jersey Artists: 15 Years of the Brodsky Center (Rutgers Center for Innovative Print and Paper) at The Print Center, Philadelphia, PA (Nov 30 2006 – Feb10 2007)

Rutgers Center for Innovative Print and Paper Fellowship recipients traveling to Michaelis School of Art, Cape Town, South Africa and United States Embassy, Mozambique, Africa. Exhibit also travels to venues in Israel and the Middle East. (2006-07)

“Proximities of Distance” at The William Benton Museum of Art, University of Connecticut, CT. - Brochure (October 27 – Dec 2006)

“Intersections: Shifting Identity in Contemporary Art” at John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan WI. (Oct 15 – Dec 31 2006).

“Fire” at The Gallery of Contemporary Art, Sacred Heart University, Fairfield CT (Sept 17 – Oct 26 2006)

“Please Touch” at GASP Gallery (Gallery Artists Studio Projects) Boston MA (May 19th – Jul 8 2006)

“In Diaspora: NJ Artists of Indo-Pakistani Heritage” The Montgomery Center for the Arts, Skillman NJ. (Mar 17 – Apr 30, 2006)

New Jersey State Council on the Arts Fellowship Exhibition at The New Jersey State Museum, Trenton NJ (Jan 21 – Mar 18 2006) – Catalog.

“Water” The Gallery of Contemporary Art, Sacred Heart University, Fairfield CT (Jan 22 – Feb 23 2006) – Some of the artists in the exhibit include Lee Bontecou, Christo and Jeanne Claude, Alex Katz and Pat Steir.

“Being Good: Women’s Moral Values in the New Millennium” Alva Gallery, New London CT (Nov 19 2005 – Jan 20 2006)

“Sweet Basil” Bernice Steinbaum Gallery, Miami FL (Dec 2005)

“New Jersey: Place of Mind” The New Jersey Arts Annual at The Montclair Art Museum, Montclair, NJ (June 18 – Sept 11 2005) – Catalog.

“Women of the Book: Jewish Artists Jewish Themes” group show at Rutgers University, Camden NJ (Mar 28 – May 28 2005)

"Fatal Love: South Asian American Art Now" group show at the Queens Museum NY (Feb 27 -Jun 5 2005) - Catalog.

Rutgers Center for Innovative Print and Paper (RCIPP) - Artist Fellowship Annual Print Exhibition at Mason Gross School of Fine Art, Rutgers University, (Jan 5 - Feb 4 2005)

“Celestial Boundaries” at Montclair State University Art Galleries, Montclair, NJ (Transcultural New Jersey exhibition. Sept 13 - Oct 23 2004) – Catalog.

“Passport to Contemporary Indian Art” Curated by Sundaram Tagore and sponsored by The Indo-American Arts Council in New York at The Gallery, New York City (Sept 15 - Oct 11, 2004) – Catalog.

“Food, Clothing and Shelter” at The Interfaith Center of New York (Sept 14th - Nov 5th 2004).

"Crosscurrents in the Mainstream" at Rutgers University, Zimmerli Art Museum, New Brunswick, NJ (Transcultural New Jersey exhibition. Apr 4th – July 31st 2004) - Catalog.

"Masala: Diversity and Democracy in South Asian Art" at The William Benton Museum of Art, University of Connecticut, Storrs CT (Jan 20th - Apr 9th-2004). Siona is co-curator for this exhibition and also has work in the show. – Exhibit Brochure

“Hearing Voices: Personal Narratives” Gallery at Bristol Myers Squibb, Princeton, NJ (Feb 5 – Apr 11 2004) – Catalog.

"Home/land: Artists, Immigration and Identity" at The Society for Contemporary Craft, Pittsburgh PA (Jul 11 - Nov 1 2003); "Home/land" exhibit travels to the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, TX 2004 - Catalog.

Group exhibition of South Asian Women's Creative Collective (SAWCC) at Bose Pacia Modern in Chelsea, New York (Aug 1 - 23 2003)

"Art Chicago 2003" at Navy Pier, The Eleventh Annual Exposition of International Galleries. Exhibitor: Walsh Gallery, Chicago, IL (May 9-12 2003).

"Asian Art Now 2003" at the Las Vegas Art Museum - sponsored by The Asian Cultural Exchange Association, Tokyo Japan (Apr 25 - June 22 2003) - Catalog.

"If the shoe fits: Asian issues of femininity in contemporary art" at Bard College, NY (Feb 1st - 28th 2003) - Catalog.

"Hybrids" at Wave Hill, Bronx NY (Mar 3rd - May 11th 2003) - Brochure.

"Finding Home" at University of Southern California (Hillel), Los Angeles, CA (Aug 25th - Oct 25th 2002)

SAVAC - South Asian Visual Arts Collective juried exhibition, at The Living Arts Center, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada (Apr 25th to May 26th, 2002) - Brochure.

"If the shoe fits: Asian issues of femininity in contemporary art" at Lehman Gallery (CUNY), New York, (Feb-Mar 2002) - Catalog.

"In Search Of" at Walsh Gallery, Chicago, IL (Nov 30th 2001 - Jan 5th 2002)

"Why Asia" A public art project by Godzilla, Art in General on Canal, New York, NY, (9 Oct 2001 - 28 Feb 2002) – CD of exhibit available.

"Divine" at the School of Fine Arts Gallery, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, (4 Sept - 6 Oct 2001)

"Encountering the Second Commandment" at the American Jewish Museum (JCC), Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, (juried touring exhibition- 2001-2002). - Catalog.

"HOME? Crosscurrents in South Asian/American Art" at The Brush Art Gallery (co-organized by the Univ. of Massachusetts), Lowell, Massachusetts, (18 Feb - 15 Apr, 2001). - Catalog.

"Celebrating the Sephardic Woman" at American Sephardi Federation, New York, (14 Nov 2000)

"East meets West" sponsored by Asian Art Society and The St Louis Artists' Guild, St Louis, Missouri, (19 Mar - 22 Apr, 2000)

Group show of new faculty at SIU-C at University of Evansville, Indiana and at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois, (28 Oct - 11 Dec, 1999)

Group exhibition at Institute of Fine Arts, Jewish Community Center, Fairfax, Virginia, (17 Oct- 9 Dec, 1998)

Group exhibition at "Gallery at 678", New York, (14 Mar - 21 Mar, 1998)

Group exhibition at "Gallery at 678", New York, (1 Aug. - 25 Sep., 1997)

"Around the Coyote 7th Annual Arts Exposition", Chicago (5-8 Sep., 1996)

Group exhibition at "Walsh Gallery", Chicago (12 Apr. - 18 May, 1996)

Group invitational exhibition at "Wood Street Gallery", Chicago (6 Apr. - 4 May, 1996).

Group exhibition at "Walsh Gallery", Chicago (10 Nov. - 8 Dec., 1995).

Juried exhibition at the Fifth International Conference on Enamels sponsored by the Enamelist Society at the Charles H. Taylor Art Center in Hampton, Virginia, (14 Jul. - 27 Aug., 1995). The

exhibition then traveled to the Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery in Waterloo, Ontario (17 Sept. - 19 Nov., 1995). - Catalog.

Group exhibition at "Gallery at Work: East + West", Chicago (May, 1995).

Group Exhibition at "Gallerie Ovadia", Nancy, France (Mar. 1994).

Group exhibition *Stage Art* at the "I-Space", Chicago (July, 1994).

Group exhibition at "Palais Thurm und Taxis", Bregenz, Austria (June, 1991). - *Catalog*.

National Invitational Group Enamel Exhibition at "Liberty Gallery", Louisville, Kentucky (1 Oct. - 29 Nov 1990)

*Colors of India* sponsored by the Red Cross Blue Chip Committee in Melbourne, Australia (Jan.- Mar. 1986)

## **SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY**

<https://wepair.org/purim/> Share her story - Featured by Repair the World (March 2019)

<http://aumag.org/2019/03/01/siona-benjamin-artist/> A&U Magazine article by Michael Schreiber (Feb 2019)

**Can Art Aid in Resolving Conflicts?: 100 Perspectives** (Book published Dec 18, 2018)

by [Noam Lemelshtrich Latar](#) (Author), [Jerry Wind](#) (Author), [Ornat Lev-er](#) (Author)

About the book: Throughout the centuries, art has documented the atrocities of wars, participated in propaganda campaigns, and served as an advocate for peace and social justice around the world. The aim of this project is to explore how art can assist in creating dialogue and bridges across cultures. Over 100 leading and emerging architects, artists, curators, choreographers, composers, and directors of art institutions around the globe explore the potentially constructive role of the arts in resolving conflicts or building bridges among opposing groups.

**Food and Wine Magazine** online "Celebrating the traditions of an Indian Hanukkah" by Gowri Chandra (Dec 13 2017)

<http://www.foodandwine.com/holidays-events/hanukkah/indian-hanukkah-traditions>

**NBC News:** "How the Indian Jewish community is preserving traditions for the next generation" by Lakshmi Gandhi (Dec 11 2017)

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/asian-america/how-indian-jewish-community-preserving-traditions-next-generation-n827226>

**WUWM Milwaukee Public Radio 89.7FM Lake Effect** interview (Siona interview at around 33min in recording) - in conjunction with artist talk at the Milwaukee Art Museum sponsored by

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (7th Nov 2017) <http://wuwm.com/post/tuesday-lake-effect-randy-bryce-insights-when-world-seemed-new-artist-siona-benjamin#stream/0>

**Hartford Courant** (Sept 12 2017) ‘Female/Feminist’ at Lyme Academy  
<http://www.ctnow.com/arts-theater/museums/hc-lyme-feminism-art-exhibit-20170912-story.html#share=email~story>

“Indian Jewish artist turns ‘blue’ at Peninsula JCC” by Rob Gloster in **The Jewish News of Northern California** (Arts/Culture section - August 8 2017)  
<https://www.jweekly.com/2017/08/08/indian-jewish-artist-turns-blue-peninsula-jcc/>

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**Listing till 1996**

**Press in India: (New Delhi) The Statesman** (Dec 5 1985), **National Herald** (Dec 8 1985), **The Hindustan Times-Evening News** (Dec 2 1985), **The Hindustan Times** (Dec 2 1985), **Delhi Diary** (Dec 6 1986).

**Mumbai: Indian Express** (Oct 12 1984), **Mid-Day** (review by Nissim Ezekiel Oct 13 1984), **Free Press Journal** (Oct 9 1984), **The Bandra Star** (Oct 15 1984), **Society Magazine** (Oct 1984), **Femina** (Oct 23 1984), **Bombay Magazine** (Oct 7 1984), **Financial Express** (Oct 21 1984), **Free Press Bulletin** (Nov 27 1984), **Blitz** (Oct 20 1984), **Kesari** (Oct 14 1984), **Subarban Echo** (Editor Arun Gandhi Mar 16 1986).

## **VISITING ARTIST LECTURES, EVENTS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS.**

Artist in residence at Congregation Ohev Shalom, in Wallingford PA (March 29 to 31 2019)

Invited presenter at Limmud festival in Birmingham, England (Dec 21 to 27 2018) <http://limmud.org/festival/>

Artist presentation and workshops at the JCC in Stamford CT ( Oct 28th 2018)

Artist lecture and workshop residency at the East West Center at the University of Hawaii (Sept 5 - 15 2018)

Artist presentation and workshops at JCC in Memphis TN (Oct 7 to 9 2018)

Artist lecture and workshop at Baruch College, New York (May 3rd 2018)

Artist lecture & Blue Like Me film showing at JCC of Middlesex County, Edison NJ (Apr 29 2018)

“Blue Like Me: The Art and Life of Siona Benjamin” Artist residency weekend at Temple Beth Shalom in Santa Fe NM (March 9-11 2018)

Artist presentation at University of Hartford, CT - (Feb 20 2018) [http://www.hartford.edu/a\\_and\\_s/greenberg/events/2018/greenberg-events-spring2018.pdf](http://www.hartford.edu/a_and_s/greenberg/events/2018/greenberg-events-spring2018.pdf)

Artist residency at Congregation Kol Ami in White Plains, NY - (Jan 31 to Feb 8 2018)

The Modern Jewess - Conference presentation at Georgetown University. (Interviewed by Professor Ori Soltes - Feb 1 2018). <https://cjc.georgetown.edu/ModernJewessConference>

Artist talk at the Milwaukee Art Museum sponsored by University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. (Nov 7th 2017 at 7pm)

Artist residency, lectures and workshops at Osher Marin Jewish Community Center, San Rafael, CA [www.pjcc.org](http://www.pjcc.org) (Oct 27 30 29 2017)

Artist presentation and panel discussion “Female/Feminist 2017 at the Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts and the University of New Haven. Curated by Alva Greenberg and Nancy Gladwell ( Oct 12 2017)

Artist residency, lectures and workshops at Peninsula Jewish Community Center Foster City, CA [www.pjcc.org](http://www.pjcc.org) (Sept 5 to 11 2017).

“Blue Like Me: The Art of Siona Benjamin artist lecture ” Wednesday, March 22, 7:30 p.m., Fairfield University, Fairfield CT.

Blue Like Me documentary film selected for the Portland Maine Jewish Film Festival Film Festival (March 2017)

Artist presentation at “Shirei Hodu” International conference on Art, Culture and Heritage on the Jews of India at Indira Gandhi National Center of the Arts, New Delhi, India (Feb 5 to 7th 2017).

Blue Like Me collaborative dance performance with co-Fulbright scholars Kelsey Greenway (dancer) and Ethan Hoppe (musician) Venue: Neve Schechter at Siona’s solo show opening reception on Dec 15th 2016.

Participating in “Friends of Tsedek” art auction and gala event benefitting disadvantaged children in Israel at the Metropolitan Pavilion in New York. (Sept 7th 2016)



Artist presentation at Solo Exhibition “Siona Benjamin: Beyond Borders” Opalka Gallery, The Sage Colleges, Albany, NY [www.sage.edu/opalka](http://www.sage.edu/opalka) . (Oct 8th 2016) (*catalog/book published with exhibition*)

Four city tour, artist presentation and Blue Like Me film showing in conjunction with “Bridges” Exhibition Organized by CARAVAN Exhibitions [www.oncaravan.org](http://www.oncaravan.org) (*catalog*) in Laramie, Cody & Powell, Lander and Rock Springs Wyoming. (Sept 14 thru 18 2016)

Artist talk and presentation of film Blue Like Me at Agudas Israel synagogue in Hazleton, PA (Sept 11th 2016).

Blue Like Me documentary film selected for the St Louis Jewish Film Festival (2016)

Blue Like Me documentary film selected for the Dallas South Asian Film Festival (2016)

Blue Like Me documentary film selected for the Toronto Jewish Film Festival (2016)

Blue Like Me documentary film selected for the Atlanta Jewish Film Festival (2016)

Blue Like Me documentary film selected for the San Diego Jewish Film Festival (2015)

Artist talk at University of Massachusetts - Dartmouth MA on Nov 18 2015

Blue Like Me documentary film showing at the Jerusalem Biennale, Israel (Sept-Oct 2015)

Blue Like Me documentary film selected for the Cincinnati Film Festival (2015)

Blue Like Me documentary film selected for the San Diego Jewish Film Festival (2016)

Blue Like Me documentary film showing at the American Sephardic Federation, New York (Center for Jewish History) co-sponsored by the Indo American Arts Council with special guest Ambassador Dnyaneshwar Mulay, Indian Consulate New York. (Nov 3 2015)

Blue Like Me documentary film showing at the Washington DC Jewish Film Festival (special event on June 30 2015)

Blue Like Me documentary film showing at the Indo American Arts Council Film Festival in New York (May 8 2015)

Artist presentation at Lesley University, Boston. (March 24 2015)

Artist presentation at Virginia Commonwealth University, VA at Art and Religion conference (April 11 2015)

Blue Like Me: The Art of Siona Benjamin, documentary by Hal Rifken. The Indian Consulate in New York held an event for the screening of the documentary on July 23rd. <http://www.indiacgny.org/pages.php?id=855>

Teaching a workshop in painting at The Center for Book Arts in New York (August 12 2013)

Artist presentation at Kings College in London (June 13 2013)

Presentations for upcoming solo shows: “Blue Like Me: The Paintings of Siona Benjamin” at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, Stockton College Art Gallery. (Jan 22 - Mar 27 2013) and at Towson University, Asian Arts and Culture Center, Towson MD. (April 6 - May 11 2013)

Artist presentations at Limmud Colorado conference (Feb 9 - 10 2012) <http://www.limmudcolorado.org/2013-presenters>

Central Reform Congregation in St Louis MO. Artist/ scholar in residence (Feb 22 - 24 2013)

“The Fertile Crescent: Gender, Art and Society” artist power point presentation at Stedman Gallery, Rutgers University, Camden New Jersey, (Nov 15 2012)

“Radiate: Art of the South Asian Diaspora” panel presentation at Gallery 400, The University of Illinois-Chicago, (Nov 1 2012).

Mizel Museum, Denver CO, Artist talks and painting workshops on May 17 to 22 2012

Lecture presentation for Congregation B'nai Jacob in Jersey city NJ on May 10 2012.

University of Wisconsin, Madison. Visiting artist lecture and teaching workshops Sept 28 & 29 2011

Programs in conjunction with Siona’s exhibit at the Laurie M. Tisch Gallery at the Jewish Community Center NYC:

- Rang de Nila at the Laurie M. Tisch Gallery at the JCC in Manhattan on June 1<sup>st</sup> 2011 at 7.30pm.
- Tikkun Leil Shavout discussion of visual midrash by artist Siona Benjamin at the JCC NYC on June 7<sup>th</sup> 2011
- Indian Miniature Painting workshop at the JCC NYC on 4 Sundays June 5-26<sup>th</sup> 2011 10-am to 1pm
- Jewish Art Salon Panel on Diversity in Jewish Art at the JCC NYC on June 27<sup>th</sup> 2011 at 7pm. Panel participants: Matthew Baigell, Lacey Schwartz, Siona Benjamin and Yona Werver.
- Identity inspired collage workshop taught by Siona at the JCC on June 29<sup>th</sup> 2011 at 7pm.
- The Making of Summer Superheroes: Siona Benjamin, Artist in Residence at the JCC Summer Camps 2011.

Artist presentation at Ramaz Upper School 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Book Day in New York. May 25<sup>th</sup> 2011.

Participated and presented work at the Be'chol Lashon International Think Tank, in San Francisco CA, May 13 – 16 2011.

Artist lecture on “The Use of Illuminated Manuscripts in a Jewish-Indian-American Contemporary Artist’s Work” at THE K R CAMA ORIENTAL INSTITUTE 24th March 2011, Mumbai.

Art exhibition: Artist presentation on 9th April 2011, Exhibit on for two weeks At Vaishwik Art Environment Aundh Pune.

Democracy under the Challenge of War: Comparing the U.S. and India. Conference organized by United States-India Educational Foundation (USIEF) and Jawaharlal Nehru University New Delhi, India April 18-19, 2011

Artist talk "Blue Like Me: The Art of Siona Benjamin at The American Center, Mumbai, India on April 21st 2011

Artist talk at Symbiosis College in Pune, India April 26th 2011.

Fulbright senior scholar research fellowship to India (Dec 27<sup>th</sup> 2010 – April 28<sup>th</sup> 2011).

Artist workshops and Rang de Nila dance collaboration show at The Temple Museum of Religious Art at Temple Tifereth Israel, Cleveland OH – Nov 20 and 21 2010).

Artist lecture at Ursinus College PA (April 20 2010)

Presentation of Esther Megillah commission with midrash teacher Rabbi Burton Visotzky at Bnai Keshet Synagogue (April 22 2010 at 8pm).

Symposium: A Complex Weave: Women and Identity in Contemporary Art with Keynote Speaker Eleanor Heartney. Towson University, Towson MD (Friday, April 9 2010, 1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.). Eleanor Heartney is a contributing editor to Art in America and Artpress and author of numerous articles and books on contemporary art, including After the Revolution: Women who Transformed Contemporary Art (co-author) and Art and Today. Other speakers at the symposium include artists Blanka Amezkua, Helène Aylon, Siona Benjamin, and Sonya Clark.

Panel Discussion: Tuesday, November 10, 7 p.m. at Montclair Art Museum Montclair, NJ. Panel topic: "Belief and the creative Imagination – the influence of religion on Postmodern art". Eleanor Heartney, Contributing Editor to Art in America and Artpress. Ms. Heartney will moderate the evening’s panel discussion. The panel will involve a group of artists whose work is not necessarily identified with religion or belief, but whose work reflects in various ways their religious upbringing and traditions. The point here is not to see art as a form of proselytizing for any specific dogma, but rather to acknowledge how religious training and beliefs are essential elements in understanding the often apparently irreligious work of certain artists. PANELISTS: Mierle Laderman Ukeles,

Petah Coyne, Tim Rollins, Siona Benjamin, Eleanor Heartney, Moderator

Participating in Panel at (CAJM) Council of American Jewish Museums in Los Angeles CA (Jan 31-Feb 3 2010) Panel topic: "Making the artistic transition: Identity and Politics encountered by the Jewish institution in the 21st century"

“Rang de Nila” – Color Me Blue Dance/Visual art collaboration program presented by L.E.A Hadassah Chapters of Denver and The Mizel Museum – (April 19 2009)

Artist Presentation at Lehigh University in collaboration with musician and singer Galeet Dardashti - <http://divahn.com/> (April 5<sup>th</sup> 2009)

Artist Presentation and teach a painting workshop in Indian/Persian miniature painting at Susquehanna University, Harrisburg PA (Mar 14<sup>th</sup> 2009)

Artist presentation at The Philadelphia Jewish Museum of Art. (Feb 8 2009)

Artist presentation at Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Philadelphia (Dec 9 2008)

Artist presentation for HIAS (Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society) in New York (Dec 7 2008)

Cultural Studies Association Conference at New York University. Visual Culture Division – Panel title: Feminist Art: Histories. Kelly Dennis - Panel Chair, University of Connecticut. Participants: Anja Zimmerman - Hamburg University, Gail Levin - CUNY, Michelle Meagher - University of Alberta, Siona Benjamin - Artist, Montclair, NJ, Deborah Frizzell -William Paterson University- Respondent (May 22-24 2008).

Artist presentation and workshop at The Peabody Essex Museum, Salem MA (Mar 14-16 2008)

“Passage to New Jersey: Women Artists of the South Asian Diaspora in Our Midst” at The Douglass Library, Rutgers University, NJ. Panel discussion moderated by V. G. Julie Rajan of the Women & Gender Studies Department, Rutgers University, featuring artists Siona Benjamin, Anuradha Das, and Swati Khurana, with Wendy Tarlow Kaplan of Brandeis University, co-curator of exhibit Tiger by the Tail. (March 6, 2008)

"Rang de Nila" (Color me Blue) visual art/dance collaboration at Mason Gross School of Fine Arts auditorium, Rutgers University- (Jan 31<sup>st</sup> 2008).

Artist presentation and dance collaboration at the Arts Council of Princeton-Contemporary Arts Center, Princeton, NJ - (June 2008)

Artist presentation at The Hermitage Foundation museum, Norfolk VA (Jan 17 2008)

Jewish Artist panel at Sarah Lawrence college NY - organized by Avoda Art NYC (Dec 5<sup>th</sup> 2007)

Artist presentation at the Carol Tatkon Center at Cornell University, NY (Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> 2007).

Artist presentation and painting workshop at Cornell University, NY. (June 25 and 26th 2007).

Artist presentation at The Elizabeth A. Sackler Center for Feminist Art, Brooklyn Museum, NY.  
Lecture series: "Bridging The Gap". April 7th 2007.

Artist presentation with Prof Judith Brodsky (Rutgers University, NJ) for the Feminist Art Exhibit at the Morris Museum, NJ (May 22nd 2007)

Panelist for: College Art Association (CAA) 95<sup>th</sup> Annual conference, New York. Panel title: "Blue"  
Chair: Prof Steve Shipp, Emerson College, MA. (Fed 14-17, 2007)

Artist presentation for "Gateway to India" a celebration of India by ABC Carpet and Home Company in New York. Artist panel with Caron Smith from The Rubin Museum of Art, New York. (March 13 2007)

On the Lip(s) of Miriam's Well: Jews|Women|Cultures. 18-20 March 2007 Vanderbilt University, TN. An international conference that undertakes a global examination of Jewish women's cultural practices. March 18th: An Evening of Musical and Visual Midrash of Biblical Women (in Sarratt Cinema @ 7:30) Collaboration with musicians Galeet Dardashti and Lila Sklar of Divahn as well as visual artist Siona Benjamin—for a debut performance featuring original works celebrating Women of the Bible. Siona's conference presentation: "what's a nice South Asian Jewish "girl" artist doing in a place like Jersey?"

Artist talk at the 92<sup>nd</sup> Street Y in New York – Feb 2 2007

Artist presentation at: South Asian Conference at Rutgers University. Conference title: Being and Becoming: Perspectives on Global South Asia. (November 11-12 2006)

Panelist for: American Studies Association, Annual Meeting in Oakland CA. Panel title: "Neither Here nor There: Themes and Debates in Contemporary Transnational American Art" Co-organized by Prof Lorraine Morales Cox and Prof Jerry Philogene, Union College, NY. (Oct 12-15, 2006)

"Rang de Nila" (Color Me Blue) performance at The Queens Museum, NY in conjunction with Asian Contemporary Arts Week in New York. (May 27 2006)

Artist Panel: "The Creative Active Female Principle: Women from South Asia in the Arts" at John Hopkins University, Washington DC, Panel participants: Siona Benjamin, Mansoor Hassan, Navina Jafa, Smita Tewari Jassal, Anu Ghosh-Mazumdar, Manjula Kumar and Nuzhat Sultan. Organizer: Kenneth X. Robbins and the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University, Washington DC. Friday April 14 2006.

Artist presentation and panel discussion at Columbia University, Art Department, New York. Class titled "Multiple Modernities" Taught by Professors Vidya Dehajia and Susan Vogel. Participating artists: Wangechi Mutu, Siona Benjamin and Alan Michelson. (March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2006)

Artist lecture and mural workshop at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology, Chicago IL. March 13th and 14<sup>th</sup> 2006.

“Rang de Nila” (Color Me Blue) Performance on Saturday, March 11 2006, 8:00 9:30 p.m. Rang de Nila is a collaboration with South Asian dancers Pranita Jain and Ishrat Hoque and artist/painter Siona Benjamin. Venue: Columbia College Chicago, Film Row Cinema, 1104 S. Wabash (8th Floor)

Rang de Nila is sponsored by Genesis at the Crossroads and the Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies, Chicago IL.

Artist lecture in Baltimore, Maryland – Hosted by Beth El Congregation. 25 synagogues and Jewish institutions will participate in the 2006 theme “Jewish communities around the world”. March 5<sup>th</sup> 2006.

Keynote speaker for The Society for International Education Training and Research (SIETAR USA) in Jersey City, NJ on Nov 9-12 2005. The 2005 conference theme is Blending Cultures, Building Strengths.

Panelist for Asian and Pacific Islander Women: Indigenous and Diasporic at Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven CT. Panel chair: Margo Machida Panel: Plenary Session: “Asian American Women Artists” Oct 28-29 2005

In conjunction with “The New Jersey Arts Annual: Place of Mind” group exhibition at Montclair Art Museum, NJ; Siona will present her work while collaborating with two South Asian dancers: Pranita Jain and Ishrat Hoque. Event title: “Rang De Nila” (Color Me Blue) Sept 9 2005 at 8pm.

Artist lecture at The New Britain Museum of American Art, CT. June 1 2005.

In conjunction with - Women of the Book: Jewish Artists Jewish Themes" group show at Rutgers University, Camden NJ 2005 - Martin Rosenberg, professor of fine arts at Rutgers University-Camden will moderate a panel discussion “Transforming Tradition: Women, Art, and Judaism in the Contemporary World”. Panelists: curator Judith Hoffberg, Rabbi Geri Newburge, Judith Brodsky, Department of Visual Arts - Rutgers University and Siona Benjamin, Artist. April 14 2005

Artist lecture at Princeton University, Princeton NJ. Feb 2005

Artist talk and workshop at St Lawrence University, Canton NY. Feb 2005

Artist talk and painting workshop at Queens Museum, NY, March 2005.

Artist lecture in Denver, CO. sponsored by Hadassah and The Mizel Museum of Judaica. April 2005.

Panelist for “Women and Holiness: Approaching the Sacred Feminine in Visual Culture” conference at Brigham Young University, UT. Jan 2005, chair: Prof Gloria Orenstein, University of

Southern California. Session title: "Twenty-first Century Artistic Representations of the Feminine: Explorations in Multicultural, Ecological and Techno-Matriarchal Fusion Mythologies.

Artist talk at Bnai Keshet Synagogue. Montclair, NJ. Jan 2005.

Artist lecture at The Jewish Theological Seminary in New York. Mar 29 2004.

Panelist for AAARI South Asian Conference Program, at Baruch College, CUNY New York. March 19<sup>th</sup> 2004.

Artist talk at Columbia University, New York NY. "Religion and the Modern World" class, Department of Religion. Spring 2004.

Visiting artist at Union College, Dept. of Visual Art, Schenectady, NY. Spring 2004.

Artist lecture and workshops, April 15 – 19 2004 at solo exhibit "Exploring Symbolism through Culture: Contemporary Art by Siona Benjamin and the Mithila Folk paintings of India", Denver CO. Apr 15<sup>th</sup> - Jun 4<sup>th</sup> 2004. (cosponsored by The Mizel Museum of Judaica, Asian Art Co-coordinating council and The Museum of Outdoor Art in Denver CO).

Keynote speaker at the Conference of the German Association for American studies titled "America and the Orient" at Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany. May 2-7 2004.

Panelist for American Council for Southern Asian Art conference at the Peabody Essex Museum MA May 6-9 2004. Panel title: "Boundaries, Havens and Home: South Asian Artists in the United States" (Chair: Prof Mary Ann Milford – Mills College CA) Artist participants: Rina Banerjee, Siona Benjamin, Zarina Hashmi, Shahzia Sikander and Annu Palakunnathu Matthew) May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2004 2-4pm.

Panel for "'Masala: Diversity and Democracy in South Asian Art" exhibition at The William Benton Museum of Art, University of Connecticut, CT. Panel title: "Art of the South Asian Diaspora". March 1<sup>st</sup> 2004.(Chair: Professor Margo Machida. Art Dept., UConn CT)

Panelist for symposium at the Society for Contemporary Craft, Pittsburgh, PA. Panel titled: "Finding Home: Contemporary Art from Bicultural Perspectives" Nov 1. 2003.

Drew University, Madison NJ 2003 (sponsored by Humanities, Art, Asian studies, Jewish studies, Near Eastern Studies and Women's Studies)

Panelist for Midwest Art History Conference at the Andy Warhol Museum. Paper is titled: "Andy Warhol and his impact on Contemporary Asian Artists in the Diaspora" in Pittsburgh PA in Apr 2003. (Chair: Tom Sokolowski; curator at The Andy Warhol Museum)  
Trinity College (sponsored by: Hillel, Jewish studies, Art Dept., Women's center), Hartford CT, 2003.

Public lectures for Hadassah and synagogues: Hadassah (Montclair NJ), (W. Bergen County NJ), (Fairlawn NJ), Beth Israel Synagogue, Hartford CT, 2003

Panelist for "The Contemporary Other: Immigrant Artists In Western Cities". Paper is titled: "Contemporary South Asian Artists In The Diaspora". The College Art Association conference in New York in Feb 2003. (Chair: Prof Sunanda Sanyal; The Art Institute of Boston at Lesley University)

In conjunction with the Hamzanama Mogul Painting exhibit at the Brooklyn Museum of Art, NY teaching/presenting a painting workshop and talk on Jan 12 2003.

Nassau Community College Visiting Artist Lecture, Long Island, NY 2002.

Montclair State University Art Forum Visiting Artist Lecture Series, Montclair, NJ 2002.

University of Southern California (Hillel and for The Center for Feminist Research) 2002.

"Contemporary South Asian Artists in the Diaspora". Presented at the Midwest Art History Society Conference, Milwaukee Art Museum, WI. 2002. (Chair: Prof Ying Wang; University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee)

"Finding Home and the Dilemma of Belonging". Presented at the "Siting Secularism Conference", -Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH. 2002.

Amherst College, Amherst, MA. 2002.

Trinity College, Hartford, CT. 2002.

Columbus College of Art and Design, Columbus, OH. 2002

South Asian Literary Association annual conference (MLA), Keynote speaker. New Orleans, LA. 2001

"Reconstructing Jewish Ethnicity"- Symposium at The American Jewish Museum, Pittsburgh, PA. 2001.

University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT. 2001

University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI. 2001

Fairfield University, Fairfield, CT. 2001

South Asian Women's Creative Collective. New York. 2001

University of Illinois, Springfield, IL. 2001



DePauw University, Greencastle, IN. 2000

South East Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, MO. 2000

Wabaunsee Community College, Sugar Grove, IL. 2000.

St Louis University, St Louis, MO. 2000

Listed till 2000

## **TEACHING, FELLOWSHIPS AND OTHER EXPERIENCE**

**Fulbright Scholar Fellowship to Israel 2016-17:** Conducted research, interviews and videos of members of the Indian Jewish community in Israel for art project titled. "From Motherland to Fatherland: Transcultural Indian Jews in Israel. (Oct 2016 to Jan 2017)

**ELI Talks: Invited to** ELI talks which are 15-minute presentations on "inspired Jewish ideas." The talks explore the central themes of Jewish literacy, religious engagement and identity, presented in light of their presenter's own work, personal experiences, or Jewish or secular texts - 2015

**Artist Residency:** LABA at 14th Street Y artist residency 2014. Theme of residency "Mothers". Large scale installation project and performance done on this theme.

**Documentary Film:** Blue Like Me: The Art of Siona Benjamin. Film made by Hal Rifken production company 2013-15. now also available on Amazon: [https://www.amazon.com/Blue-Like-Me-Siona-Benjamin/dp/B07FKWDY81/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1543600303&sr=8-1&keywords=blue+like+me](https://www.amazon.com/Blue-Like-Me-Siona-Benjamin/dp/B07FKWDY81/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1543600303&sr=8-1&keywords=blue+like+me)

**Fulbright Senior Scholar Fellowship:** Conducted research, interviewed and videotaped members of the Indian Jewish community for art project titled. "Faces: Weaving Indian Jewish Narratives" in India. (Jan 1 – April 30 2011)

**Curatorial advice** for group Exhibit "Transitional/Transcultural: New Paradigms for a New Century" at the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design. Artists in show: Grisha Bruskin, Carol Hamoy, Tom Jones, Faith Ringgold, Annu Matthew, Roger Shimomura, Jason Yi. ( Jan 15 – Feb 27 2010) *Brochure*

**Artist in Residence.** Artist residency and commission for SAR Jewish High School, Bronx NY – 2009. Siona designed and painted a Torah Ark during the residency. Also, Siona did several art assignments with the students, which will be permanently installed in the school. Artist residency on the website of Emory University's School of Theology journal, Practical Matters. Film by Sonia Narang. <http://www.practicalmattersjournal.org/issue/2/centerpieces/visions-of-ezekiel> – (March – May 2009)

**Visiting Professor.** Drew University, Madison NJ – (Spring 2007)

**Painting Instructor.** BIMA (Berkshire Institute of Music and Art) summer camp for Jewish youth at Williams College MA - (summer 2004)

**Visiting Assistant Professor.** Studio Arts Program, Trinity College, Hartford, CT- (Spring 2003)

**Associate Curator.** for exhibition at The William Benton Museum of Art, University of Connecticut, Storrs CT titled "Masala: Diversity and Democracy in South Asian Art" (Spring 2004)

**Adjunct Instructor.** School of Art and Design, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale IL. Teaching a new class on the topic of "Contemporary Asian Art in the Diaspora" for Art and the Honors program. (1996-2002)

**Lecturer.** Art and Design Department, Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, MO. Teaching class on "Contemporary Asian Art in the Diaspora". (Spring 2001)

**Professional Painter and Muralist.** Creating and exhibiting works for sale and by commission. (1984 – present)

**Artist in Residence.** Directing and organizing workshops with students in painting, enameling and theater scenography. Working with a core group of selected students to prepare a permanent mural for the school/organization/community from 1996 to 2002. Funded by the Illinois Arts Council.

**Theater.** Studying and designing sets for theaters, scene painting and prop design from 1991 to 1994.

## **SELECTED FILM FESTIVALS**

**Documentary Film:** Blue Like Me: The Art of Siona Benjamin. Film made by Hal Rifken production company 2015. Film Festival participation list:

**South Asian IAAC Film Festival, New York 2015 - Film Premier**

**Washington Jewish Film Festival 2015**

**Cincinnati Film Festival 2015**

**San Diego Jewish Film Festival 2016**

**Atlanta Jewish Film Festival 2016**

**South Asian Film Festival - Dallas & Ft Worth 2016**

**Toronto Jewish Film Festival 2016**

**Portland Maine Jewish Film Festival 2017**

**Blue Like Me was shown in Russia and France through film distribution company 2017.**

**The documentary has been shown in numerous museums, universities, cultural and art**

**events nationally and internationally.**

## **SELECTED COMMISSION WORKS**

Six works of art, 6 foot each in size commissioned for MC Hotel in Montclair NJ - 2019

Four paintings commissioned for private patron in Chicago IL - 2018

Painting commission for Sammy Ofer School of Communications project - IDC, Herzliya, Israel 2017

Painting commission for a page in the Misaviv Circle Calendar 2017

15 Foot diameter porcelain tile Floor commission for Central Reform Congregation in St Louis 2015. Commission video 2015 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xIuqDjYvQyk>

Private painting commission for private home in Palm Beach, Florida 2014

Commission sculpture for Caravan exhibition [www.oncaravan.org](http://www.oncaravan.org)

Private painting/mural commission for home in Montclair, New Jersey. 2013

Commission for SAR Jewish High School, Bronx NY – design a Torah Ark for the school 2009.

Esther Scroll (Megillah) done in Indian/Persian miniature and illuminated manuscripts style on parchment for a private commission Moriah Galleries in New York 2010.

Ketubah (illumination for Jewish wedding contract) for private commissions

Painting commission for "Women of the Book" on parchment for a traveling group show in Israel. 2011.

Illumination for Shomrei Emunah Synagogue, Montclair NJ Centennial Year celebrations and Ketubah (illuminated Jewish marriage contracts). 2007 - 2010.

## **THEATER**

**Scene design** for *Aladdin*, Magical Mystical Puppet Theater. Carbondale, Illinois (Spring 2003)

**Scene designer** for *The Skin of Our Teeth* at the Illinois Repertory Theater, Urbana, Illinois.  
Director: David Knight (Fall, 1993)

**Scene designer** for *Cabaret* and *Phantom* at the Little Theater on the Square, Sullivan, Illinois.  
Director: Seth Reines (Summer, 1993)

**Scene painter** at the Opera Theater of St. Louis (Summer, 1993)

**Assistant scene designer** for *Woman in Mind* at the Illinois Repertory Theater, Urbana, Illinois.  
Director: Wendy McClure (Spring, 1993)

**Scene designer** for *Rigoletto* at the Illinois Opera Theater, Urbana Illinois. Director: Bruce  
Donnell. (Fall, 1993)

**Scene designer** for St. Louis Black Repertory Company touring shows *City of Gold, The  
Adventures of Sinbad and The Pullman Porter Story*. Producer: Ron Himes (1992-1993)

**Assistant scene designer** and **properties master** for *Oklahoma* at the Illinois Opera Theater,  
Urbana, Illinois. Director: Nicholas DiVirgillio (Summer, 1992).

**Assistant scene designer** for *Merchant of Venice* at the Illinois Repertory Theater, Urbana, Illinois.  
Director: David Knight (Spring, 1992)

**Associate scene designer** for *Broadway Bound* at the Illinois Repertory Theater, Urbana, Illinois.  
Director: Jason Dunn (Fall, 1991)

**Scene painter** for the main stage productions at the McLeod Theater at Southern Illinois  
University at Carbondale, Illinois including *Baby, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Camelot, The Odd  
Couple, Pajama Game, Trojan Women, Philadelphia Story, and Hotel Paradiso*.

**Scene designer** and **technical director** for Southern Illinois University at Carbondale Laboratory  
Theater production entitled "An Evening of New Plays" including *Autumn Rain* by B. Holtz, *Man  
and Wife* by J. Reeves, *Not to Be* by D.K. Dillard, and *The Gathering* by K. Rathunde (1.91-5.91).

#### **PRIVATE AND PUBLIC COLLECTIONS:**

Hunterdon Museum, New Jersey

Morris Museum, New Jersey

New Jersey State Museum, New Jersey

Newark Public Library, New Jersey

Noyes Museum, New Jersey

Montclair Art Museum, New Jersey

Jersey City Museum, New Jersey

Newark Museum, New Jersey

Zimmerli Museum. Rutgers University, New Jersey

(Above list of museums has the Print edition made during Siona's fellowship at Rutgers Center  
for Innovative Print and Paper (RCIPP/Brodsky Center) 2004-05)

The Philadelphia Museum of Jewish Art

The New Britain Museum of American Art, Connecticut

The William Benton Museum of Art. University of Connecticut, Storrs. CT

Eastern Connecticut State University, Connecticut  
Rodeph Shalom Synagogue, Philadelphia, PA  
American University, Washington DC  
Several Private collections in the US and abroad.

Esther scroll original commission in collection of Moriah Galleries. New York.  
Selected list of Esther scroll limited edition in collection:  
The National Library of Israel. Jerusalem, Israel  
Jewish Theological Seminary. New York  
Bnai Keshet synagogue. Montclair NJ  
Central Reform Congregation. St Louis MO  
Temple Tifereth Israel, Cleveland OH  
Rabbi Burton Visotzky. JTS New York  
Rabbi Marvin Tokayer  
Flomenhaft Gallery New York.  
Several other private and public collections.

### **PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS (past and present)**

American Alliance for Museums.

College Art Association (CAA).

South Asian Women's Creative Collective (SAWCC - NYC)

American Council for Southern Asian Art (ACSAA).

Jewish Artist Salon – New York (founding member)  
<http://jewishartsalon.com>

### **AWARDS AND GRANTS**

Fulbright Scholar Fellowship to Israel 2016-17: Conducted research, interview and video tape of members of the Indian Jewish community in Israel for art project titled. “From Motherland to Fatherland: Transcultural Indian Jews in Israel. (Oct 2016 to Jan 2017)

Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture Grant, New York, 2014-2015

Fulbright Scholar Fellowship in 2010-2011 for art project titled: Faces: Weaving Indian Jewish Narratives. Research for this project was conducted in India in 2011.

Received New Jersey Print and Paper Fellowship from Rutgers Center for Innovative Print and Paper (RCIPP), Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University, New Jersey – 2004.

Artist Fellowship from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, 2004.

Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture Grant, New York, 2000-2001.

Women's Studies and Professional Advancement Juried Competition Award,  
Southern Illinois University., 1998-1999 and 1999-2000.

Missouri Arts Council Arts-in-Education Residency Grant for 1999-2002.

The Illinois Alliance For Arts Education Service Recognition Award, 1998.

Illinois Arts Council Arts-in-Education Residency Grant for 1996-2002.

Illinois Arts Council Special Assistance Grant, Dec. 1994.

Honorable Mention Award (Set design for *The Skin of Our Teeth*), Regional  
American College Theater Festival (ACTF), Green Bay, WI, Jan. 1994.

## **EDUCATION**

**Master of Fine Arts (MFA).** University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL, USA, (8.91-12.93).  
Emphasis in Theater Set Design.

**Master of Fine Arts (MFA).** Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL, USA (8.86 - 8.89).  
Emphasis in Drawing, Painting, Metals and Art History.

**Diploma in Metals (Enameling).** J.J. School of Art, Bombay, India (6.81 - 5.83).

**Apprenticeship in Photography.** J.J. School of Art, Bombay, India (6.81 - 5.82).

**Diploma in Fine Arts.** J.J. School of Art, Bombay, India (6.76 - 5.81).