

# JOHN EWING

Public Art

Selected Resume

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*John Ewing is a digital media artist who creates activist public art with an emphasis on community participation. He worked for two years in El Salvador, using the arts to organize and inspire dialogue about human rights. Other work includes projects in Nicaragua and Uruguay, as well as various cities in the U.S. His strong background in community organizing, in addition to visual arts, enhances his ability to facilitate a wide spectrum of participation.*

**Education** **Rhode Island School of Design:** Master of Fine Arts with Honors, Digital Media, 2007  
**Cornell University:** Bachelor of Fine Arts, Painting and Drawing, 1992

**Grants** Knight Foundation  
MIT Community Fund  
Berwick Research Institute  
Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities  
New England Foundation for the Arts (Visible Republic)  
Tomfohrde Foundation (two grants)  
New York Foundation for the Arts (Special Opportunities Stipend)  
Boston Globe Foundation  
Boston Cultural Council  
Experimental Television Center  
Visual Studies Workshop  
Media Ithaca  
Center for Creative and Performing Arts

**Public Art Commissions** **Coolidge Corner, Brookline, MA and Dudley Square, Boston, MA 2006-2008**  
*Virtual Street Corners*, A digital media public art installation connecting Dudley Sq. in Roxbury, MA, with a neighborhood in Brookline, MA, and allowing pedestrians in one location, live interaction with pedestrians in the other via giant video screens.

**University of Massachusetts, Boston, MA, 2005**  
Commissioned for mural in the College of Public and Community Service

**Boston Medical Center, Center for Refugees and Human Rights, Boston MA. 2003**  
Interior mural with participation of political refugees and torture survivors.

**Wheelock Family Theater, Boston, MA 2002**  
Mural backdrop and award winning centerpiece for set of "Witch at Blackbird Pond".

**James Michael Curley Elementary School, Jamaica Plain, MA 2002**  
Commissioned to paint large mural on exterior wall near entrance.

**Re-Vision House, Dorchester MA, 2002**  
Re-vision House is a Homeless shelter for young mothers. They have turned surrounding empty city lots into an urban farm, including a greenhouse.

**Symphony of a City, Boston City Hall and Internet, Boston MA. 2001**  
Co-creator and director of major public artwork and recipient of the *Visible Republic* award.

Dynamic individuals nominated by community groups, wore tiny video cameras and documented their lives for an entire day. The videos they created were projected at dusk on Boston City Hall and streamed all day on the Web. An interactive website remains at [www.Symphonyofacity.org](http://www.Symphonyofacity.org).

**The Neighborhood School, Jamaica Plain, MA 2001**

Painted Mural with Elementary School students for placement in homeless shelter

**Teen Empowerment, South Boston High School, Boston MA. 2001**

Painted mural with teens in an after school leadership program.

**City of Boston, Boston MA. 2000**

Supervised 10 youth who were paid to paint murals for the summer.

**Arts in Progress, Roxbury, MA. 2000**

Painted portable mural with participation of elder immigrants at Alianza Hispana.

**Upham's Corner Health Clinic, Dorchester, MA. 2000**

Commissioned to paint mural in teen clinic.

**Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative, Roxbury, MA. 1999**

Brought together Cape Verdean elders and youth to confront community issues and pass on artistic, cultural traditions.

**City Year, Boston, MA. 1999**

Hired to paint mural with City Year Corps members.

**Salem Harbor Community Development Corp., Salem, MA. 1997-99**

Initiated leadership development program for youth, using video and mural painting to organize an immigrant community in Salem MA. Completed three murals and a video,

**Exhibitions**

**FACT, Foundation for Arts and Creative Technology, Liverpool, UK 2009**

*Climate for Change, group show on sustainability including Stefan Szczelkun, N55, Eyebeam, Melanie Gilligan and AIDS-3D. Curated by Heather Corcoran*

**Arsenal Center for the Arts, Watertown, Massachusetts, 2009**

RISD New England Alumni Biennial

**Westport Art Center, Westport, CT, 2008**

*Optimism* exhibition Curated by Michael Connor.

**University Gallery, UMASS/Amherst, Amherst MA, 2008**

*Art in the Public Sphere: Singular Works, Plural Possibilities*, a group exhibition examining the complexities and challenges of producing work in and about the public domain

**Hi-Res, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence Rhode Island, 2007**

A group exhibition of work that addressed issues of environmental and social concern

**Duo Multicultural Art Center, New York, N.Y., 2006**

group exhibition *Translations: Misguided Machines and Cultural Loops*.

Curated by Christiane Paul, adjunct curator of new media arts, Whitney Museum.

**Educator**

**Director H.U.M.A.N., Juvenile Rights Advocacy Project, Boston College 2003-**

HUMAN is a program that teaches art to incarcerated girls, and distributes their work.

## Media

**Big Red and Shiny** “Virtual Street Corners”, July 27, 2008  
**Boston Phoenix** “Virtual Brotherhood”, June 25, 2008  
**Metro Boston** “Connecting Communities”, June 23, 2008  
**The Independent** “A walk in Their Shoes”, October, 2002  
**FOX Television** News Entertainment, May 3, 2001  
**WGBH Television** Greater Boston Arts, April 18, 2001  
**WBUR 90.9FM Radio** Here and Now, April 26, 2001  
**Art News Magazine** “ARTtalk” May, 2001  
**Boston Globe** Calendar Cover and lead story April 26, 2001  
**Boston Phoenix** Film “Head Shots”, April 26, 2001  
**Boston Herald** Scene Magazine Cover, April 20, 2001  
**Z Magazine** “Video Review”, July 2001,  
**Cornell Magazine** “Wall Art”, July, 1998  
**Ithaca Journal** “Cultural Celebration”, August 4, 1995  
**Ithaca Times** “Walls and Bridges”, July 26, 1995

## Panels

### **Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, 2008**

Panel to choose 2009 New Genres Fellowship Awards.

### **Harvard Kennedy School, Harvard University, Arts and Activism Panel, 2008**

Presentation on documentary film/creative media as an advocacy tool.

### **M.I.T. Graduate Consortium for Women’s Studies Conference, 2006**

*Beyond Revolution or Behind It? The Politics and Practice of Contemporary Feminisms Across Academic and Activist Communities.* Presentation of art piece *BioDrag*.

### **Boston Cyberarts, Digital Art and Public Space: Expanding Definitions of Public Art, 2003**

A panel on the pedestrian experience of public art facilitated by Creative Time, and taking place at Boston University and the Harvard University Art Museums

### **Americans for the Arts, Public Art Conference, 2001**

Panel Presentation: New Technology and Public Space. Presentation on Symphony of a City  
With other panelists Liz Canner, Werner Klotz and Natalie Jeremijenko.