



Christiane D

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Awards and Recognition

- 2010 Received an August Wilson Center Fellowship in support of her first solo record.
- 2007 Honored along with fellow ART peers at the New Hazlett Theatre's gala, "Celebrating Women in the Arts".
- 2003 Received the PCA Fellowship for World/Jazz/Blues musical composition.
- 2002 Pittsburgh magazine's "40 under 40" award.
Spoke via video about the importance of the arts as an economic engine at the annual Allegheny Conference.

Exhibitions

- 2009 *SoulPurpose* group exhibit at 709 Penn Gallery in the Cultural District of Pittsburgh.
Souls of my Sisters: dedicated to the first Lady Michelle Obama.
Women of Vision's exhibit at the Mavuno festival.
- 2008 *Living Red: Are You Feelin' Me?* A Women of Visions, Inc. group exhibit at the King Arts At the King Arts Complex in Columbus, Ohio

SoulScapes by Women of Visions, featured at the August Wilson Center's Gallery.

"Executives of Distinction", Installation featured as part of the GESTURES exhibit, Illustrations of Catastrophe and Remote Times at the Mattress Factory.
- 2007 *Blogger Show* at Digging Pitt (Pgh) and Agni Gallery (NY)
In Full Bloom group exhibit curated by Bob Ziller at Space Gallery.

Women's Work, a collection of work by women artists 709 Penn Avenue
- 2006 *Small Works* group exhibit at Digging Pitt Gallery.
- 2005 *4 Women: Celebrating the legend, Nina Simone* at Bridgespotter's Gallery.
- 2004 *Mavuno : First Fruit VIII* exhibit

Best of 2003 at Garfield Artworks exhibit which featuring works from Rodeo Ego collection.
- 2003 "Rodeo Ego", solo retrospective exhibit featuring a decade's worth of Surrealist drawings and paintings.
- 2002 *Sepia II: She who is Brown*. A Women of Visions, Inc., group exhibit at the Kingsley Association in East Liberty.

2002 *Together.* A group exhibit curated by artist T.K. Mundok, featuring the art work of Pittsburgh's art producers.

1998 *Celebrating Visual Traditions: Part V*
Work selected by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts for regional group exhibit.

Curatorial

2007 Curated *POWER*, a group exhibit examining feminine power, at Future Tenant Gallery. Exhibit sponsored in part by the August Wilson Center for their inaugural First Voice festival.

Sun Crumbs Exhibits 1998-2002 : Curated by Executive Director, Christiane D

"The Locker: Beauty of the Male Nude", a group exhibit celebrating the male form at the Spinning Plates Artist Lofts and Gallery. Christiane acted as co-curator along with Mark Babich. She also created a locker installation for which the show was titled after.

"Loaded: Does Art Make People Kill" Artists explored that fine line between self-expression and the perception of responsibility. Group exhibit at the UCP Gallery

"From Point A to Point B" A solo exhibit of artist Mark Lobach exploring eating disorders as seen from the point of view of a man who suffers from bulimia- Spinning Plates Artists Lofts and Gallery.

"Salon des Refuse" An exhibit of rejected works with rejection letters accompanying them. Curated by Susan Constance and Christiane D.

"Womb Journeys: Beyond Regret, Shame and Sorrow" 4 women artists explore the reproductive experience of women; birth, miscarriage and abortion, at Lascaux Gallery.. Curated by Gabriela Strong and Christiane D,

"From Child to Women" Featuring Women of Visions. Artists created artwork based on photos of the artist with their mother.

Writing

2011 Re-release of *"Spinning Standing Still"*, an art/poetry book written by Eden Mcnutt and Christiane D.

2010 Poetry published in yawp's in 2nd issue.

2007 Debut of her play, *"The Only good Artist is a Dead one"* (written under the pseudonym of Rage Stevenson) at Pittsburgh Playwrights Black and White Theatre Festival.

2006 "Saffronia: the mulatto slave". Christiane D received support from the Pittsburgh Foundation to write her first play. The debut of "Saffronia", a multi-media theater production, occurred at the Kelly Strayhorn. The Production of "Saffronia" was supported by a Heinz Endowments Small Arts grant.

Music

2011-2012 Received an Advancing the Black Arts grant in support of her follow up album, ANIMUS.

2010-11 As part of the August Wilson Center's First Voice festival, AWC fellows, Christiane D, offered the public live performance previewing tracks from her forthcoming solo record, Obliquity of the Ecliptic.

As part of her August Wilson Center Cultivation session, Christiane D invited audience participation for the "Satellite Transmission Creation" performance. The performance featured Electro group, Thrum and musician Ben Opie as Christiane D performed a stream of consciousness poem around the theme of World Peace (?)

1995-1999 Musical collaborations and performances include but not limited to, Mosquitos, Scratch Poets, Urban Aesthetics, and CUSP worldwide.

Soma Mestizo: *global dub rebels*. Soma Mestizo has 9 releases under their belt, ERGO, Life of a Toy, Interim I, Peepshow, Silversun ep, NOWARIII, Nasty Boy, Interim II and Telomere.

2010 Indigenous Resistance collaboration with Oceania musician and singer, Olovato on "Ivere...the land" for IR25 release.

2009 Performed at inaugural SunStar Women's Music Festival at the Kelly-Strayhorn

2007 Soma Mestizo's two day release of Telomere as part of Three Rivers Arts Festival's 4th River series.

2005 Release of *Nasty Boy* ep featuring remix by world renowned DJ Strobe.

Won City Paper's Film Kitchen for best sound track.

Collaboration with Indigenous musicians from the Solomon Islands and members of Soma Mestizo. The track, *TATTOO*, is based upon the tattoo ritual of the Ocean Indigenous peoples and featured on Indigenous Resistance records.

2004 Soma Mestizo's 7th release – *INTERIM II*.

2003 The first musical collaboration with Indigenous Revolutions Records. Release of "Eagle Screaming Red Sky Alight", featuring Asian Dub Foundation, Producer, Adrian Sherwood and Chuck D.

2003 Music for David Glanz Productions new website.

2002 International release of *Silversun* ep, featuring remixes by

DJ/Producers MKL vs Soy Sos. Music released on Natural Resources records.

- 2001 Pulse Project/Ampersand Dance Co. A piece was choreographed to a Soma Mestizo song, "*Beneath the Blossoms*". Music used for video project by PMI designs; created by Francisco Jose Muniain.
- 2000-2001 Performances at Toronto's NXNE and at the International performance festival, Philly Fringe Festival.
- 1998-2000 Music used for Furniture Emeritus commercial.

- 1997 Music featured on Sprout Fund's "Best of Pittsburgh Music" CD. Created soundtrack for Curtis Reave's installation video, The John and Sarah Project.
- 1996 Opened for De La Soul at the Graffiti.

3 Generations Walking (an afro-brazilian deep house NY/PGH project)

- 2006 Song "Glory" featured on Suits and Dashikis album.
- 2002-04 Singer/songwriter for the deep house music project called 3 Generations. Music released on Spiritual Life Music, Inc. in New York.
- 2002 Pittsburgh debut of 3 Generations live performance. Live band performances in New York and Boston.

Songwriting

- 2004 Co-wrote three songs with Richard Gartner for Phat Man Dee's second release, *A Torch of Blue*.
- 2003 *Innersections: songwriting workshop*. Christiane D, along with J.G. Boccella taught a songwriting workshop for talented youth.
- 2001 Wrote five songs featured on Phat Man Dee's first album, *Life just Goes on*.

Performances

- 2010 Poetry performance on WYEP's Prosody show. *SPEAK*, spoken word event featured Bassey Ikpi as part of the Three Rivers Arts Festival. Christiane D performed poetry along with CM Burroughs, Brian Francis, and Stacey Waite.
- Featured poet at 14th Annual ACLU's Banned Book Reading, "Typewriter Girls save the Library".
- 2009 Performed "Let's make Art" poem at Swan Day event at the Grey Box Theatre. Poem at Nakturnal's monthly 'women in the arts' event at the Ava Lounge.

- Full Moon Ghost Stories with by Alison K. Babusci; Special Guests: Cynthia Battles, Christiane D, Abby Gagnon at The Grey Box Theatre.
- 2007 Performed poem at Pittsburgh Cultural Trusts' She Said, featuring Sonia Sanchez.
- 2006 Performed "Let's make Art" poem at Beautiful Noise event.
- 2005 Bridgespotter's @ CMU – Poetry, Live Painting and funky intellectualism.
- 2005 The 10th Annual Banned Books reading, featuring Christiane D along with Tim Stevens, and Jan Beaty
- American Shorts. Christiane D will join Michelle de la Reza and Peter Kope of Attack Theater for an American Shorts reading, entitled Sex.
- 2004 3rd place of best spoken-word performer in City Paper's annual "Best of Reader's Poll"
- 2004 *CELEBRATING EAST LIBERTY* . A Tribute to East Liberty draws on Rhythms from the past utilizing video, song and dance. Featuring Christiane D, Lily Abreu, Staycee Walters, Chris Ivey, Tarish Pipkins, just to name a few.
- 2003 Prospectus Two Exhibit :Brew House – Christiane and Judith R. Robinson, will perform their poetry in conjunction with Leslie A. Golomb and Louise Silk's upcoming exhibit examining relationships between Jewish Americans and African Americans. The exhibit is entitled, "Deez nites be all da same to me".
- 2002 Performed her poem, "4 Women", based on Nina Simone's song, for Xpressions Dance Co. at their Spring Concert – Motion/Movement. Choreography by Staycee Walters and the dancers of the company.
- Performed her poem, "*American vs. American*", at the "under my skin" Exhibit.
- 2001 Performed her poem, "*Wake America*" at the Wake America group exhibit and at FLUX. She and Simon Jaeger wrote and created the music. A collaborative dance/poetry piece, choreographed by Staycee Walters.
- "Blues Juxtaposition", a Ken Foley concept, juxtaposing two disciplines, such as music and performance poetry to explore the atmosphere and mood of the blues. These performance poems were commissioned and Christiane D wrote a piece based on Nina Simone's song, 4 Women. This performance occurred at Carlow College along with poet and professor, Michael Dennison and surprise guest, Jimmie Lee Robinson, an APO Blues recording artist.

Performed various poems around the theme of sexual abuse and triumph of the spirit for the Campus Women's Organization, Take back the Night Rally and March.

Debut her poem, "Ophelia: the mulatto slave", with Jazz musicians, Ken Foley, Ted Reynolds and Dan Wasson, at the Pittsburgh Regional History center as part of their program, Jazz Traditions. She also performed this work at Phat Man Dee's presents at the Lava Lounge, and at Oliver High School as part of The Power of the Pen after-school workshop.

2000 She released a poetry/art book along with fellow collaborator, Eden McNutt, entitled, "Spinning Standing Still". They performed their "SSS", with flute player, Amy Lewis, at The Spinning Plate Artists Lofts, as part of The Penn Avenue Arts Initiative's Holiday event, UNBLURRED. They also performed their work at Dark Night Cabaret and at Kuumba Trust's tribute to Stanley Turrentine.

Collaborated with her father, Jazz pianist, Anthony Leach. The work was entitled "Sugar, Slaves, and Rum". It was performed at the Pittsburgh Regional History Center to celebrate Jazz and Black History.

"Peeling the Fruit", a Sun Crumbs Interdisciplinary Poetry and Dance performance celebrating the free spirited and independent woman. A collaborative effort between the Christiane and Christina Springer, co-founders of Sun Crumbs. It was performed at FLUX and featured the Lisa Clark, Emily Amarnick and Staycee Walters as dancers.

1999 Performed her poem "Milkless" at the Sweet water Center for the Arts for their Breast Cancer Awareness Exhibit.

Theater

2011 A selection of "Saffronia" to be directed and performed at Caribbean Theater Festival.

2010 Voice over work for Justin Hopper's project, *Public Record*.

2009 Stage Reading of "Rustle of a Wing", director, Marci Woodruff. *Casino Liberty* @ The Kelly-Strayhorn. Assisted with production and one poem featured in the production.

2008 Featured singer in "Now, or just in General", presented by Viaduct Studio.

2007 "Mother Courage" by Bertol Brecht, directed by John Sheppard, presented at Point Park College, REP Theater.

2006 "Don Juan", a Stage reading presented by Bricolage Theater Group.

"Katrina", a Pittsburgh Premiere of a new docu-drama play by

Jeffrey Bruner, in collaboration of the Gist Reading Series.
Christiane D is one of the featured readers at this staged reading.

Film

- 2010 "Check One Box", featured in short film by Brooke Schooles.
- 2006 "Spitting Java: the last days of an independent artist": A short film featuring Christiane D, by Chris Ivey. Featured at City Paper's Film Kitchen and Vanessa German's 4th River Series performance, "F.I.R.E".
- 2006 Featured as a "Furie" in Squonk Opera's "Inferno", set in the Appalachian coal town of Centralia, PA, where a mine fire simmers underground to this day.
- 2001 Cameo appearances in Fornal Film's "Daestro".
- 2000 "SPOON". Played the lead role in a film based on the poem of renowned writer, Patricia Johnson. Spoon was accepted into Pittsburgh's 3 Rivers Film Festival and aired on MTV. Film by Curtis Reaves.
- 1999 "Quiet Lives". Supporting lead role as an assassin in Chris Ivey's film, Quiet Lives.
- 1998 "Tony". Supporting lead role in the Independent film, "Tony", by the Cashmere Film Family's, now known as Fornal Films.
"An Artist grows in Pgh" Collaborated with visiting/artist-in-residence, Brooklyn filmmaker, Regi Allan. Performed her poem, "This Moment".
- Event Production**
- 2005 *Artists for HOPE: benefit for the Tsunami victims*. Pittsburgh Artists raise money for UNICEF for the Tsunami victims. Produced and organized by Christiane D, Staycee Walters, Janera Solomon and Leslie Anne McIlroy.
- 2004 Listen to This: A Brooke Schooles and Christiane D production, featuring Internationally renowned Performance Poet, Ursula Rucker with locals acts Soma Mestizo, Davu Ayomi, Jack Wilson, Vema and Chasity. Sponsored and funded by the Sprout Fund.
- 2002-2004 *Momentum*: co-created electro-organic music events with Ashwin Tumne and Herman Pearl. Performed new works with the emerging group, Element 5, which helped to organize and promote their event, Momentum. It is an evening of mixing Electronica and Organic sound to create poetic funk that resonates with wavelike transmission of energy. Many of the songs were composed spontaneously. It is known today as City Paper's "Sound Kitchen".
- World Global Aids DaY*: A 2 day musical benefit Produced by Lynn Benson and Christiane D.

2002-2003 *MiniM Music Festivals*. Created and co-produced along with fellow musicians Matt Calvetti and Bruce Harris to present to mini music festivals. Sprout Fund supported Mini M's, a series of mini-music festivals. The first one is called, FUNKEY MONKEY, which focused on Pittsburgh's Funk based bands. JAZZBE JAZZ, featuring the new talents on the Pittsburgh Jazz scene. Performances happened at the Quiet Storm. Received funding from the Sprout Fund.

1999- *Dark Night Cabaret*. One of three producers of the wildly popular and imitated cabaret of Art. Dark Night Cabaret featured the best and the eclectic of Pittsburgh artists in all genres.

Teaching/Workshops

2010 After school Performance poetry class with high school students from North Urban Pathways.

2009-2010 *Young Writers Institute*. Seasonal writing workshops conducted on Saturday mornings at the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust's Education center. Christiane D worked alongside writing teachers and with children of all ages, teaching visual art and performance poetry.

2004-2011 *Performance Poetry Summer Workshop*. Conduct a performance poetry workshop for teachers in the Pittsburgh area.

2005 *Visceral- Mythical Writing Seminar* Presented an unconventional approach to the first step in writing, the instance of germination. The workshop incorporated movement and song in response to the Cuban exhibits at the Mattress Factory.

2004 *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. Worked with school children at the Burgwin Elementary School. An After school writing project to help students re-write about the Grinch as told from his perspective.

Committee

2011 *Q-Ball*. Served on the entertainment committee for Quantum Theatre's 20th Anniversary Gala event.

2009-2010 *Women Rock*. Assisted in the creation of Dress For Success' annual benefit, Women Rock. Co-Entertainment Chair.

2009 Model for Art Institute fundraising Fashion show at Future Tenant. SUNStar committee for the first inaugural women's music festival in Pittsburgh.

2008 *Work of Art Awards*. Entertainment committee for Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council's inaugural Work of Art Awards event.

Panels

2009 *EACH ONE TEACH ONE MUSIC SEMINAR*. A Music Seminar sponsored by WRCT-FM, Soul-Patrol. Com, New Pittsburgh Courier, nuGroove Records, Black Music Education Project at the University Center, CMU. On Women in Music panel.

2008 The August Wilson Center Presents: What Would Zora Do?

African American Women Writers Reading and Conversation at the Shadow Lounge, featuring Faith Adiele, Dessie Bey, Christiane D, Toi Derricotte and Vanessa German.

Fundraising

Artists Opportunity Grant in support of traveling to New Orleans to complete research for Saffronia.

Heinz Endowments for the Small Arts Initiative for production staged reading of Saffronia.

Multi-Cultural Arts Initiative, in support of Saffronia.

Pittsburgh Foundation in support of the writing of Saffronia and Advancing the Black Arts grant for forthcoming second solo release.

Sprout Grant for MiniM Festivals and Listen to this event.

Board Membership & Affiliations

2011-present

C-Clear

2005-2007

Board Member of South Side Counseling & Consultation, Inc.

2003-2006

Xpressions Dance Co.

1997-present

A member –at-large of Women of Visions, Inc., a non-profit arts organization for women of color.

Education

1984-1987

Attended Art Institute of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University, Tyler School of Art and Lehrer Seminar in Switzerland.