

EDUCATION

- 2015 MFA University of Miami-Miami, FL
Graduate Teaching Assistant, Fellowship in Painting
- 2009 BFA Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Boston, MA
Double Major: Painting/ Art History; Graduated with both Honors and Distinction in each major

EXHIBITIONS

• **Solo Exhibitions/ Two Man Shows**

- 2022 Jena Thomas: *Thatcherians*. Solo Exhibition, The Village Greenwich, CT
- 2021 *Acid Summer*, 701 Center for Contemporary Art, Columbia, SC
Only Natural, Alvarez Gallery, Virtual Exhibition: <https://alvarezgallery.com/only-natural-the-art-of-jena-thomas/>
- 2019 *Liminal Spaces*, Greenwood Center for the Arts, Greenwood, SC
Jena Thomas: Solo Exhibition, Alvarez Gallery, Stamford, CT
- 2017 *Liminal Landscapes*, Solo Exhibition, Alvarez Gallery, Stamford, CT
- 2016 *New Narratives*, Converse College, Spartanburg, SC
Jena Thomas: Solo Exhibition, Alvarez Gallery, Stamford, CT
- 2015 *Thesis Exhibition*, Wynwood Gallery, Miami, FL
Artificial Oasis @The Projects: Contemporary Art Space, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
- 2014 *Manmade Summer*, Fernando Luis Alvarez Gallery, Stamford, CT
- 2013 *Jena Thomas: Solo Exhibition*, Green Monkey, Miami, FL

• **Group Exhibitions and Fairs**

- 2023 *Worldly Constructions*, Alvarez Gallery, Virtual Exhibition: <https://alvarezgallery.com/worldly-constructions-colective-show/>
Seven Reasons, Alvarez Gallery, Virtual Exhibition: <https://alvarezgallery.com/seven-reasons/>
- 2022 *Festival of Flowers: Juried Art Show*, Greenwood Art Center, Greenwood, SC

- Emergence*, Bascom Center for the Arts, Highlands, NC. Showing in conjunction with Converse Art and Design student, Mable Ni.
- 2021 *New Faces*, Upstairs Art Space, Tryon, NC
Curbside, Alvarez Gallery, Virtual Exhibition: <https://alvarezgallery.com/curbside-show/>
100 Miles, Bascom Center for the Arts, Highlands, NC
- 2020 *State of the Art II Crystal Bridges Museum*, Bentonville, AK
Art Palm Beach, Palm Beach, FL
Whitmyer IP Financial Group, Commercial Installation, Stamford, CT
- 2019 *Faculty Exhibition*, Milliken Art Gallery, Spartanburg, SC
Seattle Art Fair, Seattle, WA
- 2018 *Art Palm Beach*, Palm Beach, FL
South Caroline ETV Exhibition, Palmetto Curatorial Project, Columbia, SC
30th Anniversary Exhibition, South Carolina State Museum, Columbia, SC
701 CCA Prize Finalist Exhibition, Center for Contemporary Art, Columbia, SC
Personal Structures, 57th Venice Biennale, GAA exhibition, Venice, Italy
Dallas Art Fair, Dallas, TX
Art Hamptons, Long Island, NY
(Be)come a Collector, Fernando Luis Alvarez Gallery, Stamford, CT
Art Fields, Mosaic Gallery, Lake City, SC
- 2017 *Faculty Exhibition*, Milliken Art Gallery, Spartanburg, SC
30th Anniversary Gala, Bruce Museum, Greenwich, CT
4th Annual Collegiate Invitational Art Exhibition, Spartanburg, SC.
- 2016 *701 CCA Prize Finalist Exhibition*, Center for Contemporary Art, Columbia, SC
Art Hamptons, Long Island, NY
Art Context, New York, NY
Art Miami, Miami, FL
Art Palm Beach, Palm Beach, FL
- 2015 *Building Culture Equity*, Sacred Heart University, Fairfield, CT
Bastions, Wynwood Gallery, Miami, FL
- 2014 *5*, Fernando Luis Alvarez Gallery, Stamford, CT
PULL, Wynwood Art Space, Miami, FL

- Seafair*, Miami International Art Fair, Miami, FL
- 63rd Annual All Florida Juried Exhibition*, Boca Raton Museum of Art, Boca Raton, FL
- 52nd Annual Juried Exhibition*, South Florida Cultural Center
- Water is Life*, Coral Gables Museum, Coral Gables, FL
- Lowe Art Museum*, University of Miami Masters Candidates Exhibition
- Finalist Exhibition*, Young Painters Competition, 2014, Miami University, Oxford, OH
- Miami International Art Fair (MIA)*, Miami, FL
- Art Palm Beach*, West Palm Beach, FL
- You Are Here*, Armory Art Center, December 21st- February 1st, 2014, West Palm Beach, FL
- 2013 *Home*, Grin Event Space and Gallery, Providence, RI
- New Works, University of Miami CAS Gallery, Coral Gables, FL
- 62nd Annual All Florida Juried Exhibition*, Boca Raton Museum of Art, Boca Raton, FL
- 6th All Media Juried Biennial*, Hollywood Arts and Culture Center, Hollywood, FL
- Annual Juried Exhibition*, Lowe Art Museum, Coral Gables, FL
- Art Palm Beach*, International Art Fair, West Palm Beach, FL
- Miami International Art Fair (MIA) Sea Fair: The Mega Yacht Venue*, Miami, FL
- Salon d'Refuses, CAS Gallery, Miami, FL
- 2012 *5th Annual Canes Fair*, Wynwood Project Space, Miami, FL
- Incoming MFA Show*, CAS Gallery, Miami, FL
- 2009 *Beg Borrow Steal*, La Montagne Gallery, South Boston, MA
- Senior Show*, Godine Gallery, Massachusetts College of Art and Design Boston, MA
- All School Show*, Juried by Joseph Ketner, professor of Contemporary Art at Emerson
- Midnight Blooming Fund*, GASP Gallery, Boston, MA
- 2008 *Six Degrees of SOA*, Curated by Carolyn Sickles, Lake Worth, FL
- All School Show*, Juried by Paul Stopforth, professor at School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
- 2007 *Midnight Blooming Fund* (In Collaboration with the School of the Museum of Fine Arts)
GASP Gallery, Boston, MA
- All School Show*, Juried by Emily Eisenberg, La Montagne Gallery, Boston, MA
- **GRANTS, RESIDENCIES, FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS**
- 2019 701 CCA Residency, Center for Contemporary Art, Columbia, SC

- 2018 *701 CCA Prize Winner*, Center for Contemporary Art, Columbia, SC
- 2016 *701 CCA Prize Finalist*, Center for Contemporary Art, Columbia, SC
- 2015 *Teaching Assistant Award, Finalist*, University of Miami, Miami, FL
Leadership Award, Finalist, University of Miami, Miami, FL
- 2014 *Vytlacil Artist Residency*, Art Students League, Recipient of the Ruth Katzman Scholarship,
Sparkhill, NY
University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL
Young Painters Competition, Finalist, Miami University, Oxford, OH
- 2013 *Graduate Fellowship*, Teaching Assistantship, University of Miami, Miami, FL
Painting Art Department Award, Annual Juried Exhibition, Lowe Art Museum, Coral
Gables, FL
- 2009 *Presidential Scholarship*, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Boston, MA
Patrick Gavin Painting Award, Boston, MA
Art History Auction Award, Boston, MA
Student Leadership Award, Boston, MA
International Arts Travel Grant (Egypt), Boston, MA
- 2008 *Artist Supply Award*, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Boston, MA
All College Show Painting Department Award, Massachusetts College of Art and Design,
Boston, MA
- 2006 *Honorable Mention*, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, All School Show, Boston,
MA
Student of the Year Scholarship Award, Studio Foundations, Massachusetts College of Art
and Design, Boston, MA

- **PRESS AND PUBLICATIONS**

- 2024 Carmen Alicia Di Pascuale: *JENA THOMAS AND THE CAPTURE OF ATMOSPHERE*, April 9, 2024,
<https://alvarezgallery.com/jena-thomas-and-thecapture-of-atmosphere/>
- 2023 Mayer Rus: *Tour a Color Packed Miami Home That Rethinks Art Deco Style*, January, 20, 2023,
<https://www.architecturaldigest.com/gallery/tour-a-color-packed-miami-home-that-rethinks-art-deco-style>, *Architectural Digest*, January 20, 2023, (Included in AD France, AD Italia, and AD Spain).
Arts to Hearts Magazine, Issue #2, Juried by Marina Grainger, February-March 2023

Yeong, Sassall: *A waterfront Miami Beach home scores a bold Art Deco-style makeover*, Vogue Living, <https://www.vogue.com.au/vogue-living/interiors/miami-beach-citizen-artist/image-gallery/9b97fa85cd1b504832a684890052de9c>, Australia, March 21, 2023

Mayer Rus: *Casa de praia resgata decoração art déco em ambientes repletos de cor Em Miami, este projeto do escritório Citizen Artist transforma imóvel dos anos 1950 e resgata atmosfera glamurosa do início do século 20*, <https://casavogue.globo.com/arquitetura/casas/noticia/2023/07/casa-de-praia-resgata-decoracao-art-deco-em-ambientes-repletos-de-cor.ghtml>, Casa Vogue Brazil, May 7, 2023

- 2021 Tom Mack: *Landscapes Exhibition in Columbia Ably Contrasts Natural World and Artifice*, July 30, 2021, https://www.postandcourier.com/free-times/arts/landscapes-exhibition-in-columbia-ably-contrasts-natural-world-and-human-artifice/article_45a34b34-f087-11eb-8665-bf452c04c08e.html?fbclid=IwAR2vDGhRZOLIFzO6sNewURCO0iwrcRZ3iAwoBTF33d5uuL9SpTFGbB1whSQ

Columbia artist explores our relationship with the natural world in new exhibition, Vincent Harris, July 14, 2021, https://www.postandcourier.com/free-times/arts/columbia-artist-explores-our-relationship-with-the-natural-worldinnew-exhibition/article_380f5c2a-e320-eb-a8f-eb09aeb7788a.html

- 2020 *Professor Thomas' Work Featured at Contemporary Art Museum Opening*, February, 27 2020, <https://www.converse.edu/community-news/professor-thomas-work-featured-in-contemporary-art-museum-opening/>

Ben Davis: *Arkansas's Crystal Bridges Museum Just Opened a Sprawling Show About the State of American Art Today. Here's What it Looks Like*, Davis, Ben, February 24, 2020 <https://news.artnet.com/exhibitions/state-of-the-art-2020-momentary-1784589>

Creative Quarterly 61: Winners, Winter 2021

Creative Quarterly 59: Runner Up, Summer 2020

- 2019 *Artists tackle memory and artificial oases in new Arts Center exhibit*, Gilbert, Aleks, August, 18, 2019 https://www.indexjournal.com/news/artists-tackle-memory-and-artificial-oases-in-new-arts-center/article_cff4f5b6-0e6a-5bfd-8db4-65022750398a.html

Creative Quarterly 53: Winners, Winter 2019

2018 Creative Quarterly 51: Winners, Spring 2018

- 2017 Studio Visit Magazine, *Summer 2017 Issue*

Sleek Magazine, "Introducing Jena Thomas, the Artist Painting with All the Colours of Miami" <http://www.sleek-mag.com/2017/04/13/jena-thomas-art/>

Wall Street International Magazine, "Liminal Landscapes"

August 10, 2017, <https://www.meer.com/en/28615-liminal-landscapes>

- 2016 New York Times, "Things to do in Connecticut", June 9, 2016, <https://www.nytimes.com/2016/06/12/nyregion/12listingsct.html? r=0>

Jena Thomas: The Studio Project, LINEA The Artist's Voice, March 25, 2016,
<http://asllinea.org/studio-project-jena-thomas/>

Sleek Magazine, "We're Going to Miami: Interview with Jena Thomas" October, 2016,
<http://www.sleek-art.net/stories/interview-with-jena-thomas/>

New American Painting, Juried Exhibition in Print, *MFA Edition, Issue. 123*, 2016

2014 All Florida Artists at the Boca Museum, Art South Florida, August 13th, 2014

Two Coats of Paint, Sharon Butler, August 14, 2014

<https://twocoatsofpaint.com/2015/08/connecticut-news.html>

New American Painting, Juried Exhibition in Print, *MFA Edition, Issue. 111*, 2014

- **GALLERY & WEB AFFILIATION**

Fernando Luis Alvarez Gallery, Stamford, CT

InSitu Works, Online Marketplace, Backed by the Rockefeller Foundation, New York, NY

Sleek Magazine, Online Representation, Sleek Art-New York, NY/ Berlin, Germany

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2016 - present Associate Professor of Painting and Drawing Converse University, Spartanburg, SC

Responsible for teaching 2D Design, Drawing I-IV, Painting I-IV, Senior Seminar and Senior Exhibition, serve as BFA Coordinator for the Department of And Design and the Admissions Liaison for the School of the Arts.

2016 - 2015 Adjunct Professor of Drawing, New York Film Academy, Miami Beach, FL

Part-time Lecturer of Painting and Drawing, University of Miami, Miami, FL

Art Instructor, Teens College, Miami Dade College, Painting and Drawing, Miami, FL

2015 - 2012 Graduate Teaching Assistant (Instructor of Record) Drawing I, University of Miami, Miami, FL

Art Center South Florida, Figure Drawing, Painting, and Summer Instructor, Miami Beach, FL

2012 Continuing Education and Pre-College Instructor, Painting and Drawing, Lyme Academy College of Fine Art, Old Lyme, CT

2009-2008 Pre-College Instructor, Summer drawing intensive, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Boston, MA

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2012-2010 Senior Admissions Counselor, Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts, Old Lyme, CT
Responsible for recruiting students locally and nationally through class presentations, portfolio events and social media. Worked closely with applicants and families to counsel them through the admissions process. Review applicants for admission and merit-based scholarships.

- 2008 Student Gallery Manager, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Boston, MA
Responsible for curating and preparing shows, maintained three on campus galleries at Massachusetts College of Art and Design.
- 2008 Exhibitions Coordinator Intern, The New Art Center, Newton, MA
Assisted with online public relations, installing community and public art displays.
- 2008-2007 Gallery Artist Studio Projects (GASP Gallery) Intern, Brookline, MA
Gallery Intern for gallery owner and artist Maria Magdalena Campos Pons. Assisted customers and artists, installing and de-installing shows, clerical duties, and preparing for openings.

LECTURES/ ARTIST TALKS/ WORKSHOPS

- 2021 In Conversation with Poet Worthy Evans, 701 CCA, Columbia, SC
Curbside, Panelist, Zoom talk moderated by Anthony Haden, Virtual
- 2019 Artist Talk Studio Visit, 701 Center for Contemporary Art, Columbia, SC
- 2018 Artist Talk, 701 CCA Prize Exhibition, Columbia, SC
- 2017 Tri State Sculpture Conference, Presented on "Finding and Applying to Graduate Programs and Artist Residencies, SC
TALK 20, Hub Bub Artist Residency, Spartanburg, SC
- 2016 Converse College, Spartanburg, SC
- 2015 Artificial Oasis, Box Contemporary Gallery, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
- 2014 Art Students League of New York, White Plains, NY