

“New Beginnings”
Arts Ministry Art Exhibit
January 8 – 31, 2023

Enjoy the online exhibit at www.marblechurch.org/engage/ArtsMinistry

Artists Bios

Chris Chalfant



Chris Chalfant is a composer, pianist, vocalist, poet, and visual artist. Studies include a BA in Music with a focus in piano at Kent State with Margaret Baxtresser, Eurhythmics at Longy School of Music with Anne Farber, Jazz with Connie Crothers and an MM from New England Conservatory, with a focus on jazz, composition, non-western and aleatoric music. Her mentor was George Russell.

Recordings as producer, composer and pianist include “Book of Unstandards,” “Love and Light,” “Convergence” with Noah Howard Quartet, “New’d Music” with Dennis Warren and, “All in Good Time” with the Chris Chalfant Trio. The multimedia piece “Looking Through Trees” was premiered at Irondale Theatre in Brooklyn, NY in 2010. Prior incarnations of LTT included a painted paper sculpture, a trio improvisation at Chelsea Museum and a film with live improvisation ensemble at University of Denver. Chalfant co-led the Dojo Band and Lifetime Visions Orchestra with Joseph Jarman which featured her works frequently.

Chris Chalfant’s work has been featured in Nancy Jazz Pulsations and Vision Festivals, Prague Jazzového Mezinárodní Piana, on Czech National Radio, at International Society of Improvised Music (ISIM) Conferences, the Leukerbad (Switzerland) International Composers Conference and in residencies at Atlantic Center with Joan LaBarbara and Morton Subotnick, Bard College of Music Jazz program, and Music Omi International.

Collections of original compositions include *Book of Unstandards* and *First Performances*. Other works may be found in *Notations 21* by Theresa Sauer, *Silent Solos Improvisers Speak*, (Buddy’s Knife,) “Encyclopedia of the 21st Century,” (Maximilien de Lafayette, editor) and *Jazz Improv Magazine*.

Chalfant studied art and music in Akron, Ohio where she was presented in a city-wide art show at age 14 and where she co-curated an interactive art exhibit at age 16 with the Akron Art Institute (now Museum.) Chalfant won second place for two compositions in a city-wide competition. After moving to the East Coast, Chris Chalfant delved into multi-genre collaborations with artists, dancers and poets. In 1990 Chris Chalfant was the merit finalist for “A Portrait of Three Portraits” in a national competition out of Louisville, Kentucky.

While her visual art took a back seat to music for years, Chris Chalfant got back into visual art through photography. Her most recent nature photography has been the result of the need to connect to the ongoing unfolding of life during the time of Covid. Chalfant’s work has been shown numerous times at Marble Collegiate Church and at Blue Door Art Center where she won Best of Show for “Red Rose.”

Photograph: “Letting Go into Newness” (Online only)

P.O.R.

Prices on request. You may contact each artist individually through their email address or website.

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Marie Malluk - Photographer



Somewhere along my way of growing up, I was gifted a Brownie camera. I have no idea who gave it to me, but it sparked my joy of taking pictures. My first outing with camera in hand was the 1964 World's Fair. Ever since then, a camera has been my traveling companion.

My photographic output as a youngster was minimal, as film, and developing it, was expensive. As I got older and began to travel, a camera was always with me. Rolls and rolls of film were my companions throughout my journeys. And then the long wait...what did I get, did it come out okay? Oh, the anticipation, and sometimes the great disappointment of not having what I thought I had!

Today, digital photography has opened up a whole new world and level of creativity. One can just click way until you're satisfied with your creation. I have put my camera aside for the ease of carrying my phone, but I must admit, I miss the feel of holding a camera, the bracing of it for my shot, and the sweet sound of the shutter release. But convenience and practicality work better for me these days, and have me at the ready to capture that shot. All you have to do is open your eyes, and there is always a photograph right in front of you, just waiting to be discovered.

Photographs: “Daybreak, A New Beginning” “Dia de Reyes, Honoring the Three Kings”
“Shoveling Away While the Kids Play” “Joyful! Viva Navidad!”

Susan Ceely Philips – photographer, poet



Susan Barbre Ceely Philips
Susan - my given name from my mom and dad
Barbre - my mom's family name
Ceely - my dad's family name
Philips - my chosen family name
All together, it's the name for me.

I have been a speech therapist and teacher, a television advertising producer/production coordinator, a church member, and a seeker - not necessarily in that order. Now, I 'seek' to find and share all that has brought me to this point in my life and I've begun to offer some of my writings and photography. Poetry through both, for now.

Photographs: “Footprints – Never alone” “Tangled branches in snow – complexity revealed”
“Snow face – Brrr” “Christmas cactus – How does she know it's Christmas?”

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Joan Silinsh - Photographer



Joan did not actively pursue photography until her retirement. By contrast, in her childhood in Mexico, her father, an educator, was an independent film producer documenting the country's culture and screening his films in the United States for ten years.

In her 35-year career with McGraw-Hill (now S&P Global), Joan held various management positions. Her last post was as Director of Advertising and Promotion for two magazines in the construction field - ENR (Engineering News-Record) and Design-Build.

As an avid traveler, photography has enabled Joan to capture memories of the countries she has visited. Besides travel photos, she uses her camera to showcase the variety and beauty of flowers.

Joan studied photography in courses offered by Greenwich House and the Senior Center at St. Peter's Church. She has exhibited her photographs at several Greenwich House art competitions, Su Casa Creative Center and Marble Collegiate. For a number of years she volunteered at Greenwich House's Center on the Square taking photos of events and outings. Joan has produced numerous photo books documenting her travels, and she also uses her photos to design her own greeting cards.

Joan recently relocated to Sarasota, Florida, and is setting her sights on new photo opportunities. She recently exhibited her photographs at Bay Village's Inspirational Art gallery.

Photographs online: “Dali's Vision” “Faith” “Pathways” “Signs of Spring”

Margery Westin – Photographer



As a teenager it was fun to experiment with an old camera of my Dad's, creating double-exposure photos. Serving as the candid photographer for the yearbook in high school was also enjoyable.

Photography remained just a hobby until the age of thirty-seven, when I found out I had a 25% chance of losing my remaining 50% of hearing due to Meniere's syndrome. With that scary possibility, I became intent on building my photography skills. During work vacations, I would take week-long classes with established professional photographers all over the country, creating images of pets, people or locations and studying composition, lighting, posing and marketing.

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When my full-time merchandising position was moved to South Carolina in the late 1990’s, an SBA sponsored class on starting a small business was helpful. I joined the PPA (Professional Photographers of America) and attended monthly meetings of the WPPA (Westchester PPA). Marketing myself for 5 years as a portrait photographer, I specialized in Pets, Children and Families.

Now retired, my iPhone is my camera of choice, and my subject is whatever captures my eye. However, four-legged subjects will always be my favorite. mwestinpix@aol.com

Photographs: “Snowfall at Tucker Square” “Snow White on the Fire Escapes”
“Snowfall at Greywacke Arch”

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