

Ilene Spiewak

Philadelphia born artist Ilene Spiewak (1953 -) lives in a 210 year old renovated schoolhouse in rural West Stockbridge, Massachusetts. On her lushly wooded property stands a rugged little red studio where she can be found energetically wielding a paint brush almost daily. Although her career has taken a variety of turns, Ilene's been "coloring" and painting since childhood.

Ilene worked mostly on Sundays in the Education department at the Norman Rockwell Museum when she first moved to the Berkshires almost thirteen years ago.

Ilene also worked part-time at a private residential program in Lee as an art educator and therapist for young adults on the Autism Spectrum. For several years she was an art therapist at the Brien Center for Children and Adolescents in Pittsfield.

Prior to her move to the Berkshires, Ilene was an art and art history teacher at an alternative high school in West Philadelphia.

Her work history also includes both inpatient and outpatient art therapy for adolescents in Philadelphia and New Jersey.

Ilene Spiewak graduated from the Pennsylvania State University with a BA in Art Education and Hahnemann University Hospital, MA in Art Therapy. As a continuing education student, she studied at The Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts (PAFA), Moore College of Art, University of the Arts, Fleisher Art Memorial, Provincetown Art Museum, and the Haystack Mountain School of Crafts.

She received her MFA from the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts in August 2017.

Ilene was a regular contributing writer for ProximityArts.Org.

She is a Board Member of the Berkshire Art Association and was a founding member of the Richmond West Stockbridge Artists Guild. In addition, Ilene Spiewak is on the Berkshire Museum's committee, which organizes a bi-annual juried exhibition featuring current work of local artists.

Throughout her years as an educator and student, Ilene Spiewak has exhibited her paintings in juried shows in regional galleries, as well as the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts and the Berkshire Museum.

Her work is bequeathed to the PAFA Museum via the Linda Lee Alter Collection of Women Artists, and is held in private collections throughout the U.S. and Canada.