

Arts & Science Center for Southeast Arkansas

May 20—August 28, 2021



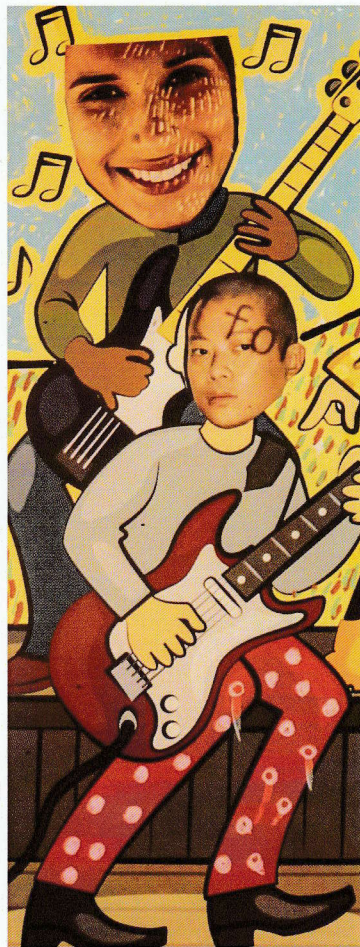
**1989-2021:
A RETROSPECTIVE OF JERRY COLBURN**

Jerry Colburn, artist statement

Born in Little Rock in 1945, my first exposure to art came around the age of 6 with comic books, DC and Marvel mainly. My first attempt at art was copying frames from comics. A few years later, I read that an artist needed a firm grounding in realism before going any further. I never could do realism very well, so I gave up on creating art until 1988. At that time, I had just gone through a divorce and had lots of free time but no money. So I decided to try making art again (and music). I couldn't really afford art supplies so I started dumpster diving at a local photo lab. They worked 24-7 and threw away a fair amount of photos; hence my first photo and magazine collages. By 1989, I was ready to start showing my work and was accepted in a competition at Henderson State University in Arkadelphia.

In 1990, I was invited to decorate the walls of the Arkansas Arts Center student space by David Bailin, the school director. I was also strongly encouraged by local artist friends, Sammy Peters and Hamid Ebrahimifar. By the early 1990s, I began doing more drawing and painting in addition to the collages. Local galleries started showing my work. Music creation was also important to me during this time. In 1992, I began recording myself on a 4-track cassette deck. That same year, I formed a garage band, the Bloodless Cooties, with my son, Jeremy, and our friend, Louisa Rook. In 2003, I began loop recording, releasing CDs of these recordings in 2005 and 2007. I still do loop/sample composition, recording several hundred songs. In 2007, I retired from 31 years of working for the State of Arkansas. And began devoting even more time to art and music.

Over the years I've tried many different approaches to creating art collage, canvas and paper painting, ink, watercolor, pastels, charcoal and graphite drawing and photography. I've always tried to walk a thin line between figuration and abstraction. That's the type of art I've always found most attractive. I don't feel that I chose art as much as art chose me. Making art and music is like breathing to me. I don't feel like I create art as much as I facilitate its manifestation. There is a creative energy much greater than myself and I try to surrender to it. Basically, I just love making art and music. And if my art and music bring joy into someone's life, that's a great bonus for me.



Exhibited works:

Fish Market, 9 x 12, ink and pastel, 1989.

Uh Oh, Dad Made a Joke, 5 x 6, paper collage, 1989.

Happy Sphinx, 11 x 14, ink, 1990.

Elsie, 16 x 16, paper collage, 1992.

Please Don't Tell Anyone About My Sister, 26 x 34, paper collage with ink, 1993.

Flaming Orange Delight, 23 x 19, gouache, 1994. (pg. 3)

Nun of the Above, 11 x 11, paper collage, 1994.

Big Spots, 36 x 36, acrylic on canvas, 1996.

Proto Flesh, 24 x 36, acrylic on canvas, 1998. (cover)

The Living Room, 11 x 14, ink, 2002.

Fauve Portrait, 10 x 11, gouache, 2004.

Stickyz, 24 x 36, collage with acrylic, 2009.

Julie's Painting, 16 x 20, acrylic on canvas, 2012.

Portrait of Diana Ross, 8 x 10, paper collage, 2014.

Eric's Place, 24 x 24, Painted paper collage, 2015.

Hothouse Fantasy, 11 x 17, ink, 2016.

Man and Woman, 10 x 12, paper collage, 2017.

Artist, 16 x 20, paper collage with acrylic, 2018.

Two Women, 11 x 15, paper collage with acrylic, 2018.

Gothic Figure Study, 12 x 12, ink, 2019.

Cognitive Science, 11 x 14, collage with acrylic, 2019. (below)

Tulip Lady, 14 x 17, (acrylic painting on frame), 2020.

Rock Band, 11 x 14, collage with acrylic, 2020. (pg. 1)

Petting Zoo, 11 x 11, paper collage with acrylic, 2021.

Hip Librarian, 12 x 12, acrylic on plexiglas, 2021.

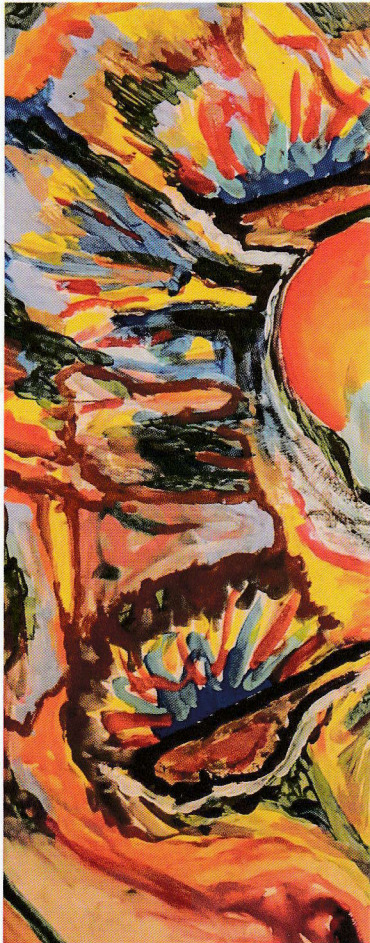
Role Model, 11 x 11, collage with acrylic, 2021.

Blue Boy, 17 x 22, acrylic on existing painting, 2019

Albert Lambreaux, 16 x 20, acrylic on existing painting, 2019.

Ghost of the Lighthouse, 13 x 18, acrylic on existing painting, 2019.





Jerry Colburn is a prolific artist, not only due to the sheer volume of artworks he has created over a 32 year career, but also the diversity of the mediums and topics he explores. Those who have the opportunity to visit this exhibition will be dazzled by the bold palette and composition of Colburn's 2D artworks. Colburn's music is also featured within this exhibition, creating an immersive experience of sight and sound.

Chaney Jewell
Curator

Jerry Colburn's journey as an artist is vivid and complex. In his artwork and music, Jerry does not shy away from experimentation. Instead, Colburn fully embraces it. This exhibition is generously sponsored by June and Edmond Freeman, long time friends and supporters of the Arts & Science Center. Sadly, Edmond passed away on May 3, 2021. He will be dearly missed.

Dr. Rachel M. Miller
Executive Director

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