

# Jena Thomas

*Selected Work*

2012 - 2016 Catalogue



The Tower  
2012  
48 x 35 inches  
Oil on panel



Train Wreck  
2012  
38 x 32 inches  
Oil on panel



Vacation  
2012  
32 x 39 inches  
Oil on panel



After  
2012  
32 x 38 inches  
Oil on panel



Crash  
26 x 36 inches  
Oil on panel  
2012



Night Swimming  
2013  
36 x 48 inches  
Oil on canvas



Not In Our Woods  
2013  
40 x 48 inches  
Oil on canvas





Lost I  
2013  
40.5 x 48 inches  
Oil on panel,



Before Us  
2013  
36 x 48 inches  
Oil on canvas



Survey  
2013  
36 x 48 inches  
Oil on canvas



Tomorrow  
2013  
48 x 40 inches  
Oil on canvas



Curious Night  
2013  
48 x 40 inches  
Oil on canvas



Pool  
2013  
8 x 11 inches (framed)  
Oil on paper



Pool II  
2013  
8 x 11 inches (framed)  
Oil on paper

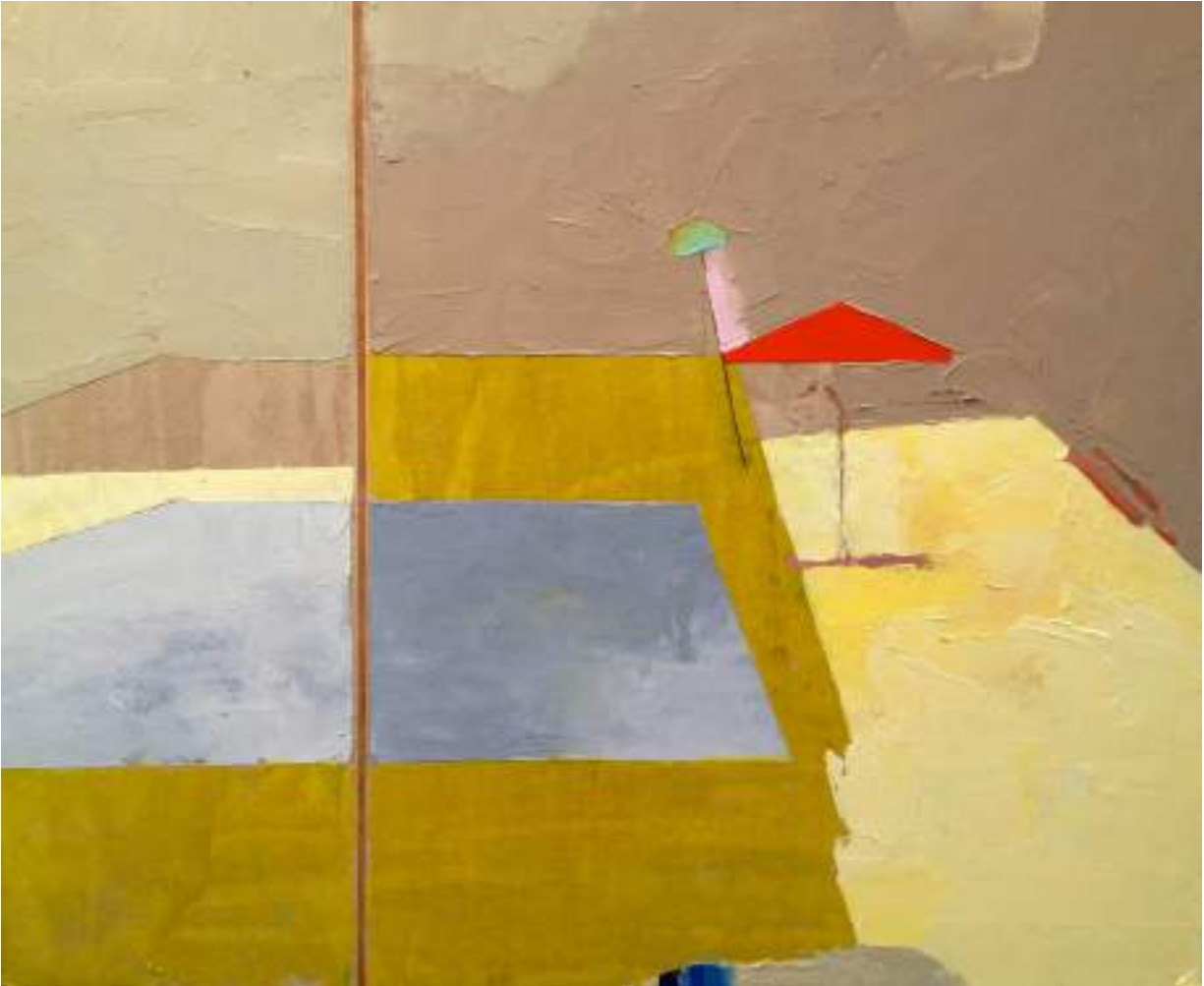


Oasis  
2013  
32 x 38 inches  
Oil on panel





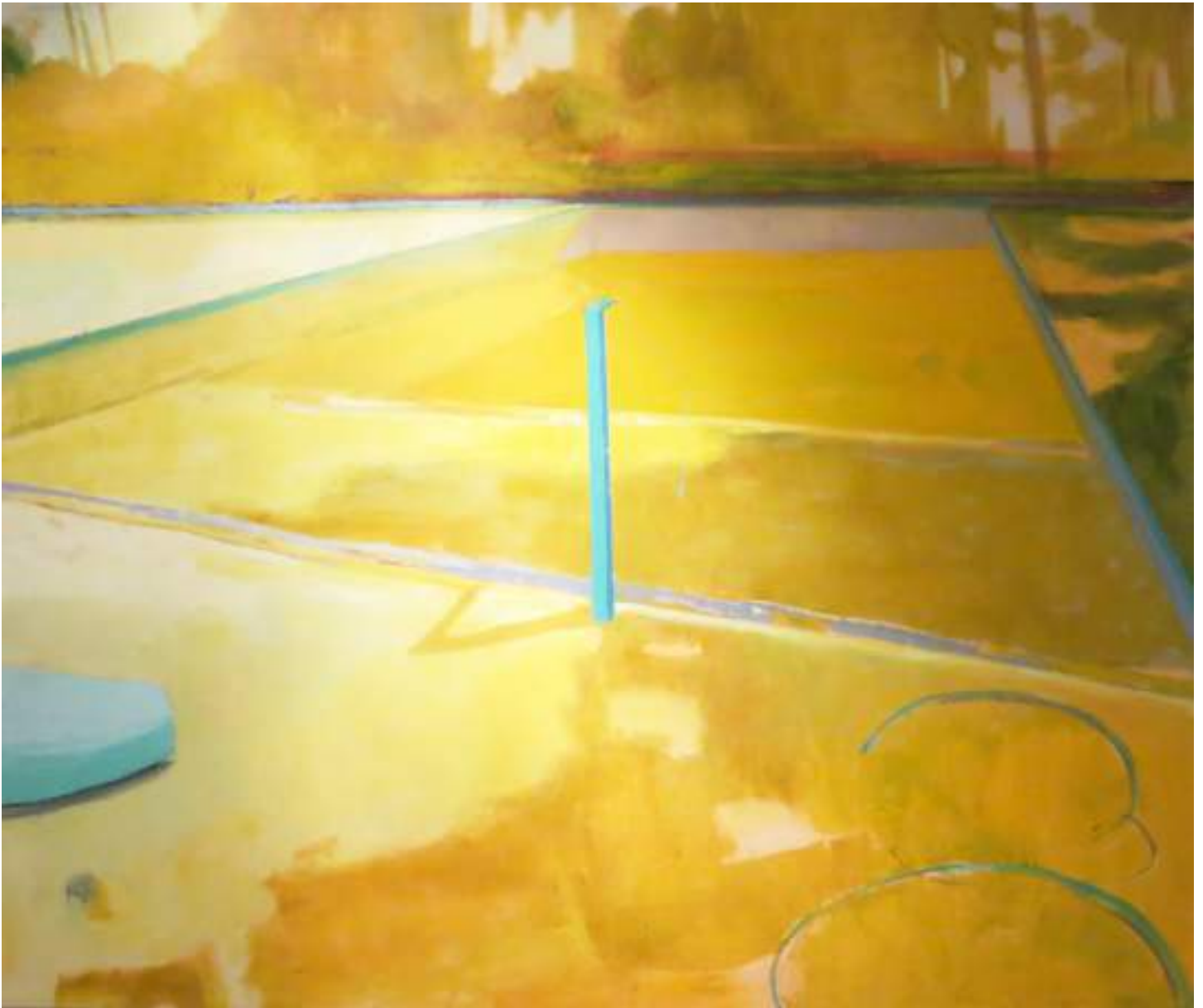
Artificial Oasis  
2013  
32 x 36 inches  
Oil on canvas



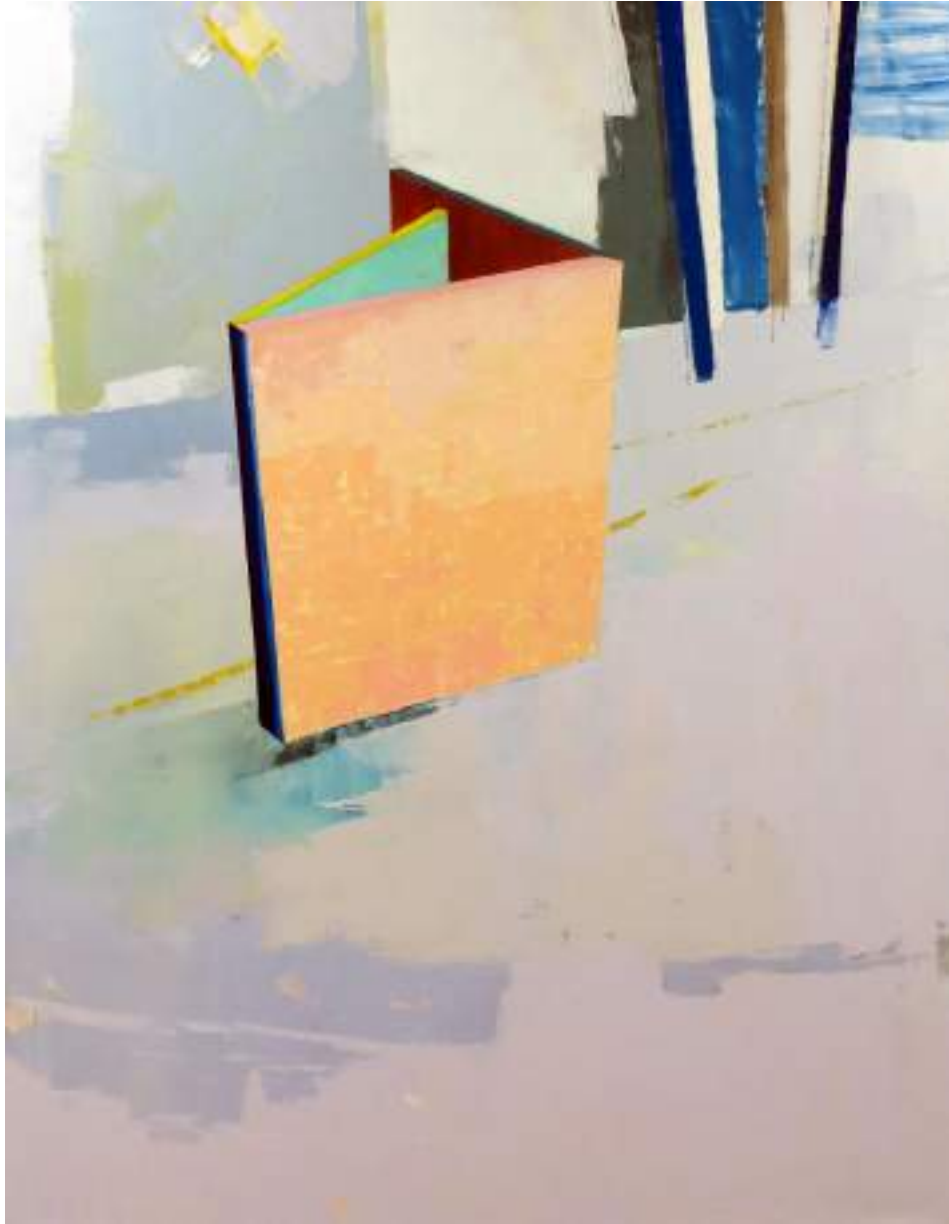
Red Umbrella  
2013  
20 x 24 inches  
Oil on canvas



Forgotten Pool  
2013  
48 x 60 inches  
Oil on canvas



Remembered Pool  
2014  
60 x 72 inches  
Oil on canvas



Discarded  
2014  
60 x 48 inches  
Oil on panel



Lost II  
2014  
48 x 60 inches  
Oil on canvas



Cluster  
2014  
77 x 60 inches  
Oil on canvas



New York, New York  
2014  
70 x 51 inches  
Oil on canvas





Split  
2014  
48 x 40 inches  
Oil on canvas



Good Morning  
2015  
60 x 96 inches  
Oil on panel



Canal  
2015  
60 x 71 inches  
Oil on canvas



Tempt Study  
2015  
12 x 12 inches  
Oil on canvas



Tempt  
2015  
48 x 60 inches  
Oil on panel



In Our Woods  
2015  
48 x 60 inches  
Oil on canvas

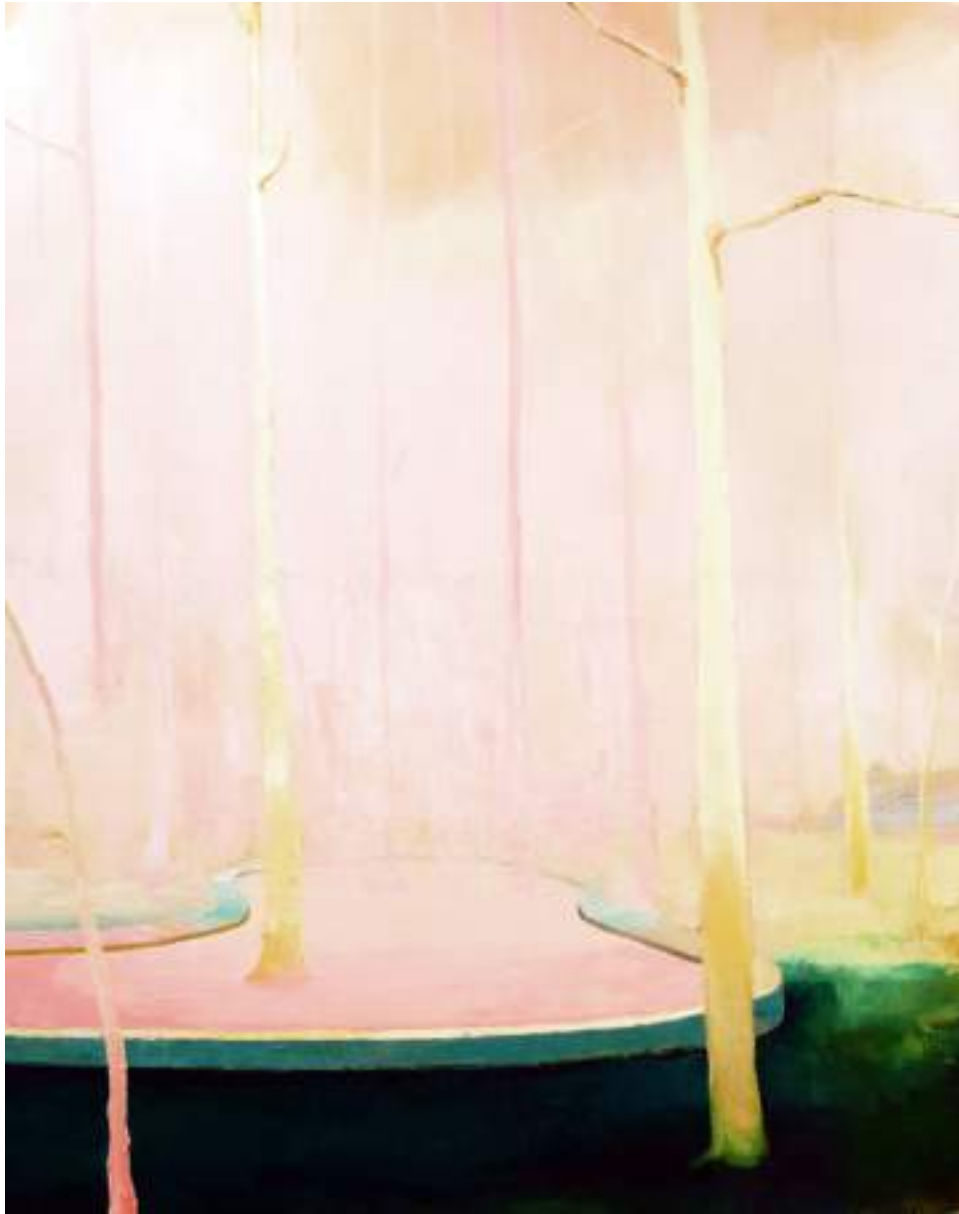


Mini-Space  
2016  
Oil on canvas  
60 x 48 inches



Vacation II  
2016  
60 x 48 inches  
Oil on canvas





Mini-Vacation  
2016  
60 x 48 inches  
Oil on canvas



Urban Islands  
2016  
66 x 52 inches  
Oil on canvas



Median  
2016  
66 x 52 inches  
Oil on canvas



Metro South  
2016  
66 x 51 inches  
Oil on canvas



Almost Forgotten  
2016  
60 x 44 inches  
Oil on canvas

## About the Artist

Jena Thomas is an emerging contemporary artist who, after completing her MFA at the University of Miami, already boasts an impressive exhibition record. Recent accolades include being selected as one of the 40 top MFA students in the country by New American Paintings Magazine. Thomas was chosen out of over 750 applicants for the title. She was also a finalist for the William and Dorothy Yeck Award and received the Ruth Katzman Scholarship from the Art Students' League of New York.

Thomas's work portrays ethereal and somewhat strange landscapes that explore the ways in which man alters the natural world. Constructs such as pools, patios, and train tracks serve as visceral boundary lines between the fabricated and the organic, and feature prominently in her work. Soft colors invoke a dusk light sensation, depicting the world in that liminal stage between light and darkness. It is that nearly supernatural glow that fabricates a "luscious otherworld that is teeming with weird individuality."

However, even the stillness of her scenes lack menace. Rather, they demonstrate a standstill in time; a moment that is captured in the softness of twilight before life begins to emerge. Intentionally, Thomas produces a strange-yet-familiar image that plays with perception. Though stylistically beautiful and seemingly serene, each canvas opens up the sensation that what man has created and designated as his habitat is somehow rooted in the absurd.

Thomas is a graduate of the MFA program at the University of Miami and received her Bachelor's degree at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design in Boston. She has exhibited extensively in Florida and New England, with recent exhibitions at the Boca Raton Museum of Art, Lowe Art Museum, FatVillage Projects, and at Art Palm Beach.

## 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 Honors and Distinction
- 2005 – Maryland Institute College of Art and Design  
Summer Painting Intensive

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS / TWO MAN SHOWS

- 2017 – Liminal Landscapes, Fernando Luis Alvarez Gallery, Stamford, CT
- 2016 – New Narratives, Converse College, Spartanburg, SC (upcoming)
- 2016 – Jena Thomas: Solo Exhibition, Fernando Luis Alvarez Gallery, Stamford, CT
- 2015 – Thesis Exhibition, Wynwood Gallery, Miami, FL
- 2015 – 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

- 2016 – 701 CCA Prize Finalist Exhibition, Center for Contemporary Art, Columbia, SC
- 2015 – Building Culture Equity, Sacred Heart University, Fairfield, CT
- 2014 – 5, Fernando Luis Alvarez Gallery, Stamford, CT
- 2014 – PULL, Wynwood Art Space, Miami, FL
- 2014 – 63rd Annual All Florida Juried Exhibition, Boca Raton Museum of Art, Boca Raton, FL
- 2014 – 52nd Annual Juried Exhibition, South Florida Cultural Center
- 2014 – Water is Life, Coral Gables Museum, Coral Gables, FL
- 2014 – Lowe Art Museum, University of Miami Masters Candidates Exhibition
- 2014 – Finalist Exhibition, Young Painters Competition, Miami University, Oxford, OH
- 2014 – You Are Here, Armory Art Center, West Palm Beach, FL
- 2013 – Home, Grin Event Space and Gallery, Providence, RI
- 2013 – New Works, University of Miami CAS Gallery, Coral Gables, FL

- 2013 – 62nd Annual All Florida Juried Exhibition, Boca Raton Museum of Art, Boca Raton, FL
- 2013 – 6th All Media Juried Biennial, Hollywood Arts and Culture Center, Hollywood, FL
- 2013 – Annual Juried Exhibition, Lowe Art Museum, Coral Gables, FL
- 2013 – Salon d'Refuses, CAS Gallery, Miami, FL
- 2012 – Incoming MFA Show, CAS Gallery, Miami, FL
- 2009 – Beg Borrow Steal, La Montagne Gallery, South Boston, MA
- 2009 – Senior Show, Godine Gallery, Massachusetts College of Art and Design Boston, MA
- 2009 – All School Show, Juried by Joseph Ketner, professor of Contemporary Art at Emerson
- 2009 – Midnight Blooming Fund, GASP Gallery, Boston, MA
- 2008 – Six Degrees of SOA, Curated by Carolyn Sickles, Lake Worth, FL
- 2008 – 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
- 2007 – All School Show, Juried by Emily Eisenberg, La Montagne Gallery, Boston, MA

## ART FAIRS

- 2016 – Art Hamptons, Long Island, NY
- 2016 – Art Context, New York, NY
- 2016 – Art Miami, Miami, FL
- 2016 – Art Palm Beach, Palm Beach, FL
- 2014 – Seafair, Miami International Art Fair, Miami, FL
- 2014 – Miami International Art Fair (MIA), Miami, FL
- 2014 – Art Palm Beach, West Palm Beach, FL
- 2013 – Art Palm Beach, International Art Fair, West Palm Beach, FL
- 2013 – Miami International Art Fair (MIA) Sea Fair: The Mega Yacht Venue, Miami, FL
- 2012 – 5th Annual Canes Fair, Wynwood Project Space, Miami, FL

## GRANTS, RESIDENCIES, FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

- 2016 – 701 CCA Prize Finalist, Center for Contemporary Art, Columbia, SC Finalists
- 2015 – Teaching Assistant Award, Finalist, University of Miami, Miami, FL

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

#### PRESS AND PUBLICATIONS

Studio Visit Magazine, Summer 2017 Issue (upcoming)  
New York Times, “Things to do in Connecticut”, June 9, 2016  
Jena Thomas: The Studio Project, LINEA The Artist’s Voice, March 25, 2016  
Sleek Magazine, “We’re Going to Miami: Interview with Jena Thomas” October, 2016  
New American Painting, Juried Exhibition in Print, MFA Edition, Issue. 123, 2016  
All Florida Artists at the Boca Museum, Art South Florida, August 13th, 2014  
Two Coats of Paint, Sharon Butler, August 14, 2014  
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 Assistant Professor of Painting and Drawing Converse College, Spartanburg, SC  
Responsible for teaching 2D Design, Drawing I-IV, Painting I-IV, Senior Seminar and Senior Exhibition.  
2015-2016 Adjunct Professor of Drawing, New York Film Academy, Miami Beach, FL  
2015-2016 Lecturer of Painting and Drawing, University of Miami, Miami, FL  
2015-2016 Art Instructor, Teens College, Miami Dade College, Painting and Drawing, Miami, FL  
2012- 2015 Graduate Teaching Assistant (Instructor of Record) Drawing I, University of Miami, Miami, FL  
2012 - 2015 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  
2008-2009 Pre-College Instructor, Summer drawing intensive, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Boston, MA

#### LECTURES / ARTIST TALKS

2017 – 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



## **CONTACT**

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[falvarez@alvarezgallery.com](mailto:falvarez@alvarezgallery.com)

Monday: by appointment

Tuesday - Saturday: 11AM - 6PM