

Oliver Lake
209 Orange Road
Montclair, NJ 07042
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Previous Exhibitions

Aljira Gallery - Newark, NJ February 2015 (*Group*)
Augusta Savage Gallery - Amherst, MA April 2014 (*Group*)
Healdsburg Center for the Arts - Healdsburg, CA June 2013 (*Group*)
Atrium Gallery - Morristown, NJ January 2013 (*Group*)
Landor Gallery - Newark, NJ October 2012 (*Solo*)
Door Creative Gallery - Baltimore, MD September 2012 (*Solo*)
Metropolitan Gallery - St. Louis, MO April 2012 (*Solo*)
Harlem Arts - New York, NY December 2011 (*Group*)
Jazz House; City of Asylum - Pittsburgh, PA 2011 (*Solo*)
WBGO - Newark, NJ December 2010 (*Solo*)
Centre Cultural - Brussels, Belgium 2009 (*Group*)
Teatro Cesare Volta (digital images) - Pavia, Italy 2009 (*Group*)
Tria Gallery - New York, NY July 2009 (*Group*)
"AmericaAura" Travels - Cameroon, West Africa, August 2008 (*Group*)
National Library of Yaounde - Yaounde, Cameroon 2008 (*Group*)
Arsenal Center for the Arts - Watertown, MA 2008 (*Group*)
"Tribal Roots," Montclair Art Museum - Montclair, NJ 2008 (*Group*)
Augusta Savage Gallery, University of Massachusetts - Amherst, MA 2008 (*Solo*)
Hamden Gallery, U. of Massachusetts - Amherst, MA 2007 (*Group*)
"AmericaAura," Hampden Gallery - Amherst, MA 2007 (*Group*)
Gallery 51, Church Street - Montclair, NJ 2006 (*Solo*)
Group show, presented by Lucienne Coppedge - Montclair, NJ 2006
One-man show, presented by Lucienne Coppedge - Montclair, NJ 2005
Montclair Art Museum - Montclair, NJ 2004 (*Group*)

Original Album Artwork

Trio 3 + Jason Moran - *Refraction - Breakin' Glass*, Intakt 2013
Trio 3 + Geri Allen - *Celebrating Mary Lou Williams*, Intakt 2011
Oliver Lake Organ Quartet - *Plan, Passin' Thru* 2010
Trio 3 + Irene Schweizer - *The Berne Concert*, Intakt 2007
Trio 3 + Geri Allen - *At This Time*, Intakt 2007
Oliver Lake Quartet - *Live, Passin' Thru* 2005
Oliver Lake Steel Quartet - *Dat Love, Passin' Thru* 2004
Oliver Lake Quartet - *Clevont Fitzhubert (A Good Friend of Mine)*, Black Saint 1981

A poet, painter and performance artist, Oliver Lake has exhibited and sold his paintings and unique painted-sticks around the world, published two books of poetry and toured the country with his one-man performance piece, *Matador of 1st and 1st*. Although his greatest reputation exists in the world of jazz, Lake's eclectic artistic approach is best expressed by his popular poem *SEPARATION: put all my food on the same plate!*

Whether composing commissioned works for Pro Musica Chamber Orchestra and the Brooklyn Philharmonic; creating chamber pieces for Arditti and Flux String Quartets, Amherst Sax Quartet and San Francisco Contemporary Players ; arranging for Bjork, Lou Reed and A Tribe Called Quest; collaborating with poets Amiri Baraka and Ntozake Shange; choreographers Ron Brown and Marlies Yearby; vocalist Mary Redhouse, kumongo player Jin Hi Kim, and bamboo flute player Shuni Tsou; performing with Anna Devere Smith and Patricia Williams; sharing the stage with Mos Def and Me'shell Ndegeocello; or leading his own Organ Quartet, Big Band and cooperative ensembles the World Saxophone Quartet and Trio 3; Oliver views it all as parts of the same whole.

Born in Marianna, Arkansas in 1942, Oliver's family moved to St. Louis two years later. He began drawing at the age of thirteen, and soon after began playing cymbals and bass drum. At 17, he began to take a serious interest in jazz. Like many other members of St. Louis' Black Artists Group, Lake moved to New York in the mid 1970s, quickly establishing himself as one of its most adventurous and multi-faceted artists on the scene. As a co-founder of the acclaimed World Saxophone Quartet (with Julius Hemphill, Hamiet Bluiett and David Murray in 1977), Oliver has continued to work

with the WSQ and his own groups while collaborating with choreographers, poets, artists and a Who's Who of the progressive jazz scene.

In 1988, Lake founded Passin' Thru, Inc., a non-profit foundation dedicated to fostering, promoting and advancing the knowledge, understanding and appreciation of jazz, new music and other disciplines in relation to music. Under his artistic direction, Passin' Thru has commissioned new works and sponsored performances by emerging artists. The organization also operates Passin' Thru Records, which has recently issued its 18th recording.

A recipient of a prestigious Guggenheim Fellowship, Lake is one of the most heavily commissioned composers to emerge from the jazz tradition. He has created works for Meet The Composer, Library of Congress, Rockefeller Foundation, ASCAP, International Association for Jazz Education, Composers Forum, McKim Foundation, Mary Flagler Cary Trust, Lila Wallace Arts Partners Program, Wheeling Symphony, New York New Music Ensemble, and Pulse Percussion Ensemble of New York. Additionally, Oliver received the 2006 Mellon Jazz Legacy Award at the Kennedy Center in October of 2006.

One of Oliver's most notable artistic accomplishments is a result of a near ten year collaboration with the City of Asylum organization in Pittsburgh, PA. After helping create their first Jazz Poetry Concert in 2005, Oliver began work on the *Jazz House* in 2011, with its completion realized in 2012. Oliver designed the intricately painted exterior and provided works of art for the interior, including a programmed saxophone doorbell, which includes samples of his music.

Oliver is currently immersed in work with his Organ Quartet, Big Band, Tarbaby, Trio 3, and a multitude of other performers and ensembles.

In 2014, Oliver received the prestigious Doris Duke Artist Award, a multi-year grant awarded to only 19 American artists in the fields of jazz, theater and dance. As such, the coming years promise to be exciting and filled with bold new artistic endeavors.