

# ELISABETH PEARL

Elisabeth Pearl was born in 1945 on Coney Island, Brooklyn. She received her BA from the State University College of New York at New Paltz, and taught art in the New Paltz schools. She then moved to Boston and taught art at Girl's Latin School. Craving more time for her own painting, Elisabeth trained as a lab technician and worked many years at Newton-Wellesley Hospital before finally moving to Provincetown in 1993 as a full-time painter. She continues to live in Provincetown with her partner, the artist Alexandra Smith.

She was a member of PAAM's Exhibition Committee for twenty years.

Elisabeth has exhibited widely, including shows at Art Complex Museum, Duxbury; Concord Art Association; Boston Athenaeum; Cambridge Art Association; South Shore Art Center; Copley Society as a Copley Artist and Life Member; and at Cape Cod Museum of Art. Elisabeth is currently represented by the Larkin Gallery in Provincetown. She was a recipient of a Massachusetts Art Lottery Council Grant.

Her work resides in many private and public collections including the Fiduciary Trust of Boston, Lifeline Systems and the Provincetown Art Association and Museum.



Detail from Energy Field 1

## PROVINCETOWN ART ASSOCIATION AND MUSEUM

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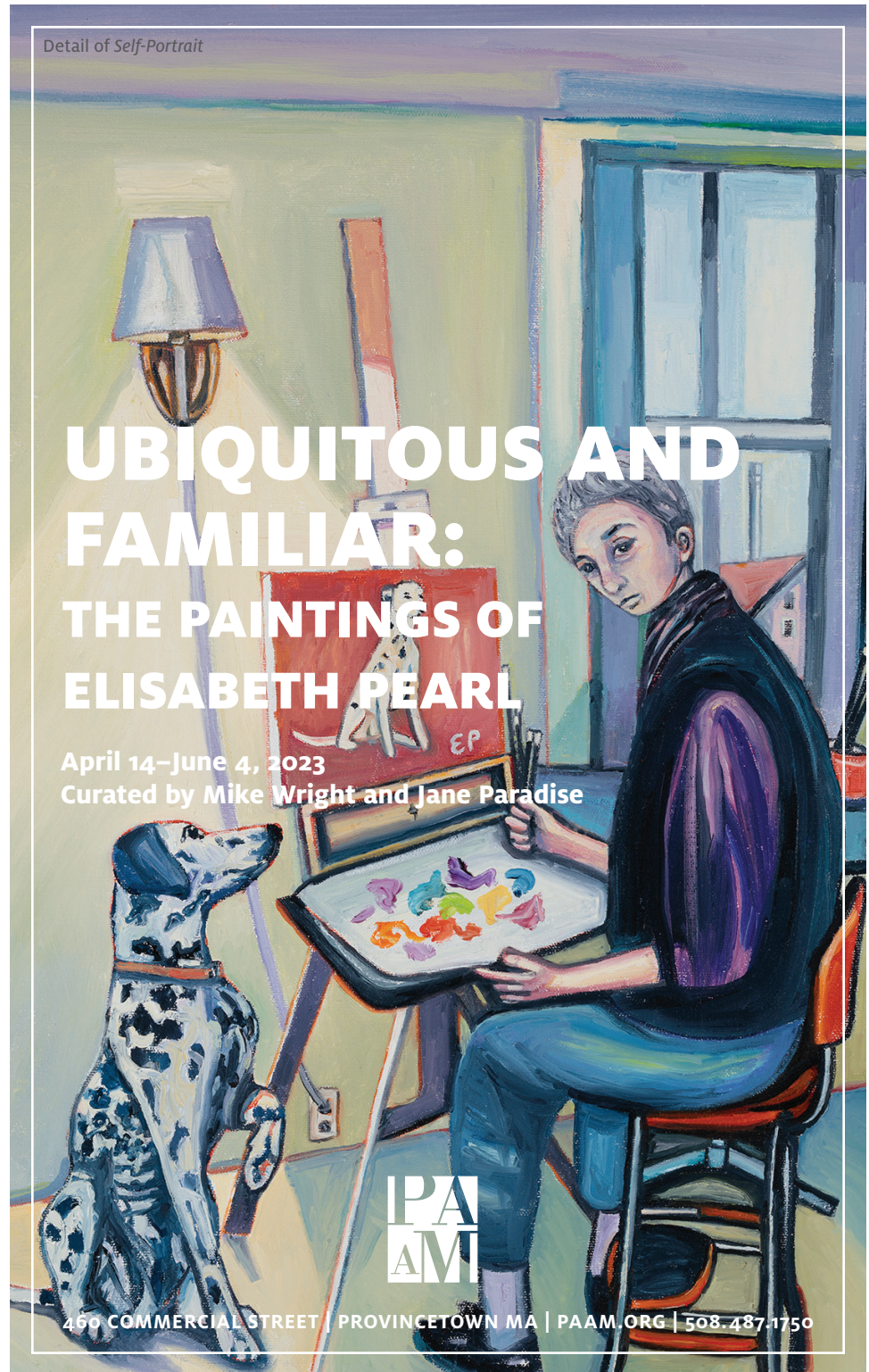
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Detail of Self-Portrait

# UBIQUITOUS AND FAMILIAR: THE PAINTINGS OF ELISABETH PEARL

April 14–June 4, 2023

Curated by Mike Wright and Jane Paradise



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# ELISABETH PEARL



Detail from *Annunciation*

With a nod to the social consciousness of the New York Realist School, Elisabeth Pearl tells stories through her oil paintings. By using bright colors, composition and details captured from Provincetown and Boston, she makes street scenes come alive. Elisabeth paints quirkiness into the architecture, the people, and the animals, particularly dogs—after all, she once had a Siberian Husky who ruled the house with an iron paw!

In her Contemporary Icons, she juxtaposes obsolete circuit boards with sacred images derived from medieval and Renaissance art. These circuits, today a constant in our lives, inform our sense of the sacred.

She turns to abstraction in her Cosmic series, which shows an interest in particle physics, eastern mysticism and philosophy. These paintings are created using a contemporary fresco process — carving into the thick surface she has laid onto a wood panel.

Elisabeth explains her process: she starts by taking photographs and making sketches, then uses imagination and memory to tell the story. She adds that if she hits a point where she needs extra inspiration she takes a walk down the street!

All artworks in this exhibition are courtesy of the artist.

## PROVINCETOWN SCENES:

*Shop Therapy*, 2012

Oil on canvas, 30" x 24"

*Carnival Parade*, 2013

Oil on canvas, 24" x 30"

*Celebrate*, 2012

Oil on canvas, 30" x 24"

*Book Sale at the Old Library*, 2010

Oil on canvas, 30" x 40"

*Gathering at Spiritus*, 2012

Oil on canvas, 30" x 40"

*Twisted Sisters*, 2005

Oil on canvas, 18" x 24"

*Hats Off to Provincetown*, 2003

Oil on canvas, 18" x 24"

*Waterford*, 2010

Oil on canvas, 18" x 24"

*Adam's Pharmacy*, 2001

Oil on canvas, 24" x 18"

*Bubalas*, 2009

Oil on canvas, 18" x 24"

## BOSTON SCENES:

*Davio's*, 1990

Oil on canvas, 30" x 40"

*Dog Day Afternoon (Downtown Crossing)*, 1992

Oil on canvas, 40" x 30"

*Quincy Market*, 1989

Oil on canvas, 40" x 50"

*Copley Square*, 1994

oil on canvas, 24" x 18"

*Toppers*, 1993

Oil on canvas, 24" x 18"

*Space for Rent*, 1989

Oil on canvas, 30" x 40"

*View from Central Square*

Oil on canvas, 24" x 12"

*Winter, Kenmore Square*

Oil on canvas, 12" x 16"

*Winter, Commonwealth Avenue*

Oil on canvas, 12" x 16"

## COSMIC SERIES:

*The God Particle*, 2016

Mixed media on wood, 20" x 20"

*Quark*, 2012

Mixed media on wood, 18" x 18"

*Turning Point I*, 2014

Mixed media on wood, 20" x 20"

*Energy Field 1*, 2017

mixed media on wood, 8" x 8"

*Energy Field 2*, 2017

Mixed media on wood, 8" x 8"

*Energy Field 3*, 2017

Mixed media on wood, 8" x 8"

## BENEATH THE SURFACE

### SERIES:

*Descent of the Holy Spirit*, 1999

Mixed media, 9.5" x 4"

*Raising Lazarus from the Dead*, 2012

Mixed media, 6.5" x 5"

*Shrine*, 2003

Mixed media, 6.5" x 2.75"

*Devotio Moderne 1*, 2003

Mixed media, 8" x 8.5"

*Annunciation 2*, 2014

Mixed media, 6.5" x 6"

*Crucifixion 4*, 2003

Mixed media, 10.5" x 11.5"

*Last Supper*, 2010

Mixed media, 9.25" x 13"

*Sacred Conversation*, 1998

Mixed media, 10" x 12.5"

## CONTEMPORARY ICONS:

*Contemporary Icons 1*, 2003

Mixed media book, 6.25" x 6.25"

*Contemporary Icons 2*, 2002

Mixed media book, 6.25" x 6.25"

*Madonna in Glory*, 1991

Oil on masonite, 22" x 19.5"

*Nativity*, 1992

Oil on masonite, 12" x 13"

*Dream*, 1992

Oil on masonite, 12" x 13"

*Annunciation*, 1991

Oil on masonite, 12" x 13"

*Adoration*, 1992

Oil on masonite, 12" x 13"

*Pieta*, 1992

Oil on masonite, 12" x 13"

*Assumption*, 1992

Oil on masonite, 12" x 13"

*Self-Portrait*, 2016

Oil on canvas, 24" x 18"