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Gilah Yelin Hirsch was born in Montreal, Canada, and is a citizen of both Canada and the United States. She earned a B.A. from the University of California, Berkeley, and an MFA from UCLA. She holds the position of tenured Senior Professor of Art at California State University, Dominguez Hills (Los Angeles).

Prizes, Awards, Honors, Grants and Fellowships: **2010** – The Alyce & Elmer Green Award, International Society for the Study of Subtle Energies and Energy Medicine's (ISSSEEM); **2009** - California State University Dominguez Hills, Carson (Los Angeles), CA, Center for Teaching & Learning (2000), Research & Creative Activity, (2003, 1999, 1998, 1997), College of Arts & Science (2004, 2003, 2000 [two], 1999, 1998, 1974); **2008** - California Community Foundation/Fieldmouse Foundation, Los Angeles, CA; **2007** - Takahashi Foundation, San Francisco, CA; Wosk Family, Santa Monica, CA; Panavision Inc, Los Angeles, CA; **2006** - United States Embassies, Ukraine, Poland, Slovakia; Mountain Recreation Conservation Authority, Los Angeles, CA; CLASS Foundation Grant, Longmont, CO; **2005** - 11th International Sympat, Patince, Slovakia; **2004** - 10th International Sympat, Patince, Slovakia; **2003** - Dorland Mountain Colony, California (1995, '91, '83, '81); **1993** - The Tyrone Guthrie Center at Annamaghkerrig, Ireland; **1992** - The Rockefeller Foundation, Bellagio, Italy; **1989** - California State University Dominguez Hills, Carson (Los Angeles), CA, Foundation Research Award (1987); **1987** - MacDowell Colony, New Hampshire, Meritorious Performance & Professional Promise Award (1988); **1986** - California State University System, CA, Distinguished Artist Award; **1985** - National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, DC, Senior Visual Artist's Grant, The Banff Center for the Arts, Leighton Colony, Canada; **1970** - Los Angeles Municipal New Talent Competition Award Exhibition, Los Angeles, CA; **1969** - University of California Los Angeles Art Council Award Grant, Los Angeles, CA (1968)

Artist-in-Residence: Artist/Scholar-in-Residence at The Rim Institute, Arizona (1989-90); Artist-in-Residence, Humboldt State University, California (1989); Syracuse University, New York (1984); Tamarind Institute of Lithography, Albuquerque, New Mexico (1973); St. Martin's School of Art, London, England (1979).

Artist: Hirsch has had paintings, prints, photographs, video exhibited in more than sixty solo exhibitions and over two hundred group exhibitions internationally since 1969 including the Whitney Museum of Art, NY; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, LA; Vincent Gallery, Moscow; and the Symbol Galeria, Budapest. Her paintings have been reproduced on the covers as well as within dozens of books and magazines, and have been reviewed in close to two hundred books, newspapers and art magazines internationally. Articles about her life and work have been included in over one hundred books, newspapers and art magazines internationally. Her art has been consistently acquired by museums, institutions, public and private collections including the Skirball Museum, Los Angeles, CA; Bank of America, USA; National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, DC; Alexander Braun Collection, Budapest.

Lectures, Symposia, Conferences, Workshops & Panels: Since 1973 Hirsch has delivered over three hundred lectures on her multi-disciplinary work in universities, museums, institutes and a variety of institutions spanning the realms of art, psychology, theology, philosophy, psychiatry, education and medicine. She also conceived, coordinated and facilitated the "Conference on Knowing" (1990), a multidisciplinary conference on epistemology, at The Rim Institute, Arizona, and, co-convoked the Menninger Foundation's Council Grove Conference, "Healing History, Culture and Consciousness" (1995), as well as the Center for Energy Medicine's Council Grove Conference in 2005, "Seeding a Coherent Future: A Constellation of Perspectives." Hirsch has participated internationally in numerous panels and symposia in a wide variety of disciplines, and

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has facilitated workshops on creativity in all disciplines at the Hollyhock Institute, British Columbia, Canada, and Esalen Institute, California, as well as at her Venice, California, Studio.

Writer: Hirsch's numerous articles and papers on diverse subjects have been published in books, journals, magazines and newspapers internationally; and she has often participated in prose and poetry readings at literary events. Her book, "*Shulamis: A Storied Life – From the Demonic to the Divine*," will be released in 2012 by Vehicule Press, Montreal, Canada.

Filmmaker: As one of the results of her extensive solo wilderness experiences, (including sixteen months in Tonto National Forest in North Eastern Arizona at 9000 feet, 1989-90), and the year she spent in fifteen Asian countries (1986/87), Hirsch proposed a theory on the origin of alphabet as based on five forms in nature that mirror neurological structures, "*Cosmography: The Writing of the Universe: An Investigation into the Relation Between Pattern in Nature and The Origin of Alphabet*." This conjecture on alphabetic morphology deals with the psychophysiological affect of form in the oscillating process of perception/cognition. First presented to the Menninger Foundation's Council Grove conference in 1985, it has since been presented at various venues including the Santa Monica and Santa Barbara Museums of Art, (co-sponsored by The Center for A Post-Modern World); The Institute for Semitic Studies at Princeton, New Jersey, The Open Center in New York, the Center for Process Studies at Claremont Graduate School of Theology, and the Institute for Philosophy and the Arts, Pasadena, CA. In 1995, "*Cosmography: The Writing of the Universe*" was released as an hour-long DVD, that has been widely reviewed in multidisciplinary publications such as *Wilderness Magazine*, *Minding the Earth*, *Brain/Mind Bulletin* and has been cited in several PhD theses. "*Cosmography: The Writing of the Universe*," has been shown in museums (e.g. Jewish Museum, NY, Santa Monica Museum, CA), as well as in universities, libraries, institutes and conferences of diverse disciplines including medicine, art, anthropology, philosophy, global culture and psychiatry.

Theorist/Researcher: As a researcher in the disciplines of cross-cultural medicine, psychiatry, anthropology of consciousness, science of consciousness, art and healing, theology/ philosophy, and psychoneuroimmunology, Hirsch has developed, presented and published several original theories including: 1). the relation between pattern in nature and the origin of alphabet as reflected in the shapes of neurons involved in the oscillating process of perception and cognition, ("*Cosmography: The Writing of the Universe*"); 2). Relation and congruence between the use of calcium in western medicine and the visualization practice of Boddhicitā (compassion) in Tibetan Buddhism; 3). Genetic/ memetic history and relationship between Jews and Tibetan Buddhists; 4). "Right Action" behavior as hard-wired in physiological systems; 5). Relation between nature and consciousness; 6). Power of form as it affects the psychophysiology of the viewer, leading to its use in art and healing; 7). Effects of globalization on annihilation of cultures and languages. Most of these presented papers have been published in international journals and books in English, Russian and Chinese, e.g. *Journal of Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology*, Russian Academy of Sciences, Center for Medical Anthropology, Moscow; *Collections of Foreign Studies on Shamanism*, Dalian Nationalities University, China; *Shaman*, Journal for the International Society of Shamanistic Research and The International Society for the Study of Subtle Energies and Energy Medicine.

World Culture/Medicine: An outcome of Hirsch's travels in Asia in 1986/87 is a multimedia performance, "*In Search of the Sacred*." This elaborate presentation traces elements of commonality inherent in that which is considered sacred in the fifteen Asian countries which she visited. "*In Search of the Sacred*" has been presented through Arts and Letters Programs at Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, University of California, Santa Barbara, as well as The Open Center in New York City. Couched in the disciplines of anthropology, psychophysiology, psychiatry, psychoneuroimmunology,

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philosophy/theology and art, her most current presentation, *"Biotheology, Imagery and Healing"* focuses on imagery as a powerful vehicle for physical and emotional healing. Her blending of science and art reveals existing relationships between form in nature, form in human physiology and behavior, as well as the forms that are present universally in all alphabets.

Drawing from her years of solitary wilderness sojourns, biomedical and neuroscientific research dealing with mind/body patterning, as well as her experience in diverse world cultures, including Tibetan Tantric visualization as well as Cabala, Hirsch addresses the hardwired wisdom of the body as the repository of intuition and intrinsic knowledge, leading toward health and behavior benefiting the greater good.

Since her travels in Asia, Hirsch has been involved with cross-cultural matters, focusing particularly on the plight of Tibet since 1959. In 1988, she was the co-author (with Edward Wortz, PhD) of a proposed World Treasures Foundation which would identify, maintain and preserve individuals, natural and manmade monuments, as well as cultural systems as World Treasures.

Curator: Hirsch has been involved with several exhibitions including *"Winston Hewitt: A Retrospective Exhibition of Painting and Prints,"* at the University Art Gallery, California State University, Dominguez Hills (2010); *Dorland Mountain Arts Colony*, benefit concert in Pasadena, CA, and AIR Gallery, New York City, NY. She initiated, produced, designed and wrote the catalog for the *"Metamagic"* exhibition (1978), the first exhibition presented in a mainstream university (California State University Dominguez Hills) gallery dealing with the spiritual in art. Since then, this topic has developed as a major theme in contemporary art.

Architecture & Environment: Hirsch has designed and rebuilt an old home into a sculptural environment that has been recognized and published in art and architectural circles. She has sat on architectural panels with internationally known architects, building designers and architectural historians such as Frank Gehry and David Ireland (USA).

Photographer and Videographer: Hirsch has had both documentary and interpretive work widely published, and has participated in numerous film, video and multi-media performances. Her video *"Cosmography: The Writing of the Universe,"* has received wide acclaim in diverse disciplines. Her new film, *"Reading the Landscape,"* will be released in 2011.

Professor of Art: Since 1973, Hirsch has implemented four new courses into the Studio Art curriculum, has served as Chair of the Art and Design Department, California State University Dominguez Hills, has served on, and chaired many University committees, produced *"The Festival of Tibet"* for the campus, and with her students, painted murals in the Watts Health Center which won President Obama's recognition as one of the top community projects of 2009. In 1974 she brought the life and work of Canadian artist Emily Carr to the attention of the American academic community at the College Art Association, Washington, DC.

Psychologist: Hirsch has evolved several innovative psychotherapeutic practices in creativity enhancement, as well as a system of behavioral therapy, *"Creative Behavior: A Value Based Incremental System of Behavioral Change,"* which she has practiced with clients and has taught to other therapists. In that vein Hirsch has facilitated five-day workshops, *"Creative Behavior from the Inside Out: Overcoming Preciousness and Fear"* at Esalen (California) and Hollyhock (British Columbia, Canada) Institutes, as well as other venues, since 2000.

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Artist/Scientist: In 1982 Hirsch was invited as the first artist/scientist to present work and ideas at the closed Council Grove Conference (Kansas) of The Menninger Foundation/Life Science Institute/Center for Environmental Energy and Medicine. Since then she has been a frequent presenter at subsequent conferences and co-convended the conferences in 1995 and 2006.

Consultant: Hirsch has evaluated university undergraduate and graduate degree programs, as well as elementary school art programs for United States government funding purposes; has been an on-site evaluator for the National Endowment for the Arts InterArts Program; and has served as reviewer and juror for many professional applications and exhibitions.

Feminist Artist: Hirsch helped found the Los Angeles Council of Women Artists (1971), the "mother" organization of all subsequent women artist organizations. She also named and facilitated the "*Joan of Art Seminars*," (originated by June Wayne), teaching artists the business aspects of their professional careers. Since then, (1972), this has become common practice and a regular component of art school curricula.

Executive Body: Hirsch served on the committee which formed the Art Bank for the City of Santa Monica and was an early juror. She has served on the Board, and continues to serve on the Advisory Board as well as visual arts reviewer for Dorland Mountain Arts Colony, California. Hirsch has been serving on the Executive Board of the Jewish Artist Initiative since 2008, and on the Board of Directors of the International Society for the Study of Subtle Energy and Energy Medicine since 2009.