

MIT List Visual Arts Center

Elizabeth Murray

MEDIUM Painting

NATIONALITY American

LIFE DATES Chicago, Illinois 1940 - 2007 Washington County, New York

Born in Chicago in 1940, Elizabeth Murray earned a BFA at the Art Institute of Chicago and an MFA from Mills College, Oakland, California, in 1964. After teaching at Rosary Hill College, Buffalo for two years, she moved to New York. Her paintings progressed through abstraction and narrative works to a reconsideration of still-life subjects, of the shape and construction of paintings as two-dimensional surfaces, of canvas and supports.

Murray taught at the Art Institute of Chicago, California Institute of the Arts, Princeton University, Yale University, and the School of Visual Arts, New York. Among her awards were the Skowhegan Medal in Painting, the Larry Aldrich Prize in Contemporary Art, and a John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Award. Her work is featured in many collections, including the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Buffalo; the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.; the Art Institute of Chicago; and the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles. She was given a career retrospective exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art, New York in 2005. Elizabeth Murray died August 12, 2007, in Washington County, NY.

