Carmen Lizardo carmenlizardo@yahoo.com carmenlizardo.com Biography:

I was born in the DR and I immigrated to the Brooklyn at the age of nineteen. I was able to attend Pratt through their Higher Education Opportunity Program. By my junior year, I was the recipient of the Time-Life Photography Award, I had local exhibitions, one of them being a juried exhibition curated by Robert C. Morgan and Marjorie Wallis. In Graduate school, I exhibited my work in other universities: Western Gallery, Suffolk College, Long Island and the Muroff Kohler Gallery, at Ulster County College. Between 1998-2000 I started to exhibit internationally. During this period, I was the recipient of the International New Media Award, from The Digital Art Gallery in Ostparkstraße, Frankfurt, Germany. In 2003, I was the recipient of the International Digital Photography award given by the VCA Galley, Melbourne, Australia. I was the recipient of a NYFA Fellowship in 2004, at that time was nominated in two categories on the same year in Painting and Photography. I was invited to exhibit in Geumgang Art Gallery, Korea, and was the recipient of a NYFA Artist in Residency to develop "The handprint Project" a month-long Artist Residency project, based Groton, New York, and worked with under-represented populations, High school students and residents of the surrounding area to create a multi-media installation exploring themes relating to identity, culture, and community. I was the recipient of the 2005 Dr. Nuala McGann Drescher, which allow me to take a leave from work, by covering half of my yearly income. This allowed me to travel though the US. creating the work for "Americana", a series photographs, video and screenprints. I have also received a Women Studio Workshop book production grant, Most recently, I was one of five American Artist of Latino descent awarded with a national /international travel, and production grant from the Institute of Training and Development, in Amherst, financed by the US department of Cultural Affairs. Through this support, I was able to create the work submitted for your consideration: "El Negro detras de la Oreja" a series of photographs, screen prints, performances and video installation. This work is traveling internationally and exhibited at Centro de Arte, Antiguo Correos, Guatemala, Fundacion del Arte, Quito, Ecuador, Museo Etnografico, La Paz, Bolivia, and Biblioteca Virgilio Barco, Bogotá, Colombia. Most recently, I've been asked by the department of cultural affairs in Guatemala City to collaborate with artists of indigenous descent. I am working with two Guatemalan artists, to create project: "El Santuario" (The Shrine). A project exploring cultural adaptation as a form of survival, replacing the sacred to the mundane and it's relationship to Mayan cultures, Spanish colonialism and American imperialism, in relation to indigenous community from the Tz'utujil people. I hold a BFA in Photography and an MFA in Digital Media, both from Pratt institute; I am a full time faculty for SUNY New Paltz, where I had develop several collaborative projects (about 180 people) to create socio political and multi media works, including installation, murals, and large format photographs.