

Color — Light — Spirit



Studio Sam Feinstein



Synopsis

The film *Color – Light – Spirit: Studio Sam Feinstein* brings to life the vibrant painting, dynamic philosophy, and provocative teaching of a master. In the mid-20th century, Sam Feinstein established himself as an abstract painter, art educator, and critic. By 1960, he rejected the commercial art world and the idea of marketing art. For nearly fifty years after that, he painted steadily, exhibiting publicly just once. Sam shared his passion in small private classes and workshops, inviting painters to see in transformative ways. “We don’t paint flowers,” Sam would say, “we paint *flowering*.” Sam came to see the creation of art as a necessary, spiritual, human extension of nature’s own creative drive. His study of modern science informed his view of all life as a continually dancing process. This short documentary reveals the essence of Sam’s life-affirming approach to art and creativity, through his paintings and archival audio, video, and film footage. In engaging Zoom interviews, former students reflect on his teaching methods and his impact on their lives. Patricia Stark Feinstein, Sam’s widow and curator of the Samuel L. Feinstein Trust, offers rich biographical insight into Sam’s personal and professional path through life. Friend and film producer Paul Fitzgerald adds a crucial look into Sam’s devotion to art in his 1986 interview with Sam at his final public exhibition. Ultimately *Color – Light – Spirit: Studio Sam Feinstein* invites us to understand and be inspired by Sam Feinstein’s artistic philosophy through his own voice and the inherited wisdom of his students.

Featuring

Barry Buchy

Christine Casarsa

Paul Fitzgerald

Michael Flack

Karen Kuzmochka

Binney Meigs

Michael Pearson

Patricia Stark Feinstein

Cara Wilkinson

Sam Feinstein



Photograph courtesy Sascha Feinstein

Production

Executive Producer

Patricia Stark Feinstein

Producer & Director

Nancy Sue Brink

Present Tense Productions

Associate Producers

Victoria Schuh

Julie Thi Underhill

Editor & Writer

Nancy Sue Brink

Music

Bruce Barth



Video courtesy Patricia Stark Feinstein

Stills



Photograph courtesy Sascha Feinstein

1922

The Feinsteins flee Russian pogroms.





Photograph courtesy Barbara Crawford






Pieta III, New Britain Museum of American Art
Gift of the Samuel L. Feinstein Trust, 2011.37



Photograph courtesy Patricia Stark Feinstein



Creativity is spirituality
looking for a form.
It is a quest of the human
spirit to find a way of
flowing with the universal
pulse that runs through
all things.

Sam Feinstein, 1915-2003

Tech Specs & Distribution

Shooting Format	Digital 8, VHS, 16mm
Aspect Ratio	16 : 9
Length	39 min 40 sec
Language	English
Completion Date	Feb 2024

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&
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Distributed by

The Samuel L. Feinstein Trust

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