

Outside The Ark

An Artist's Journey in Occupied Palestine

Through social activism and artistry, Ellen O'Grady took her experience of living for six years in Palestine and Israel and turned it into a public reflection.

O'Grady's work has been shown in galleries and museums throughout Oregon and nation. Much of her work draws from her time in Palestine and Israel and reflects on the present conflict revealing the human faces behind the ongoing tragedy.

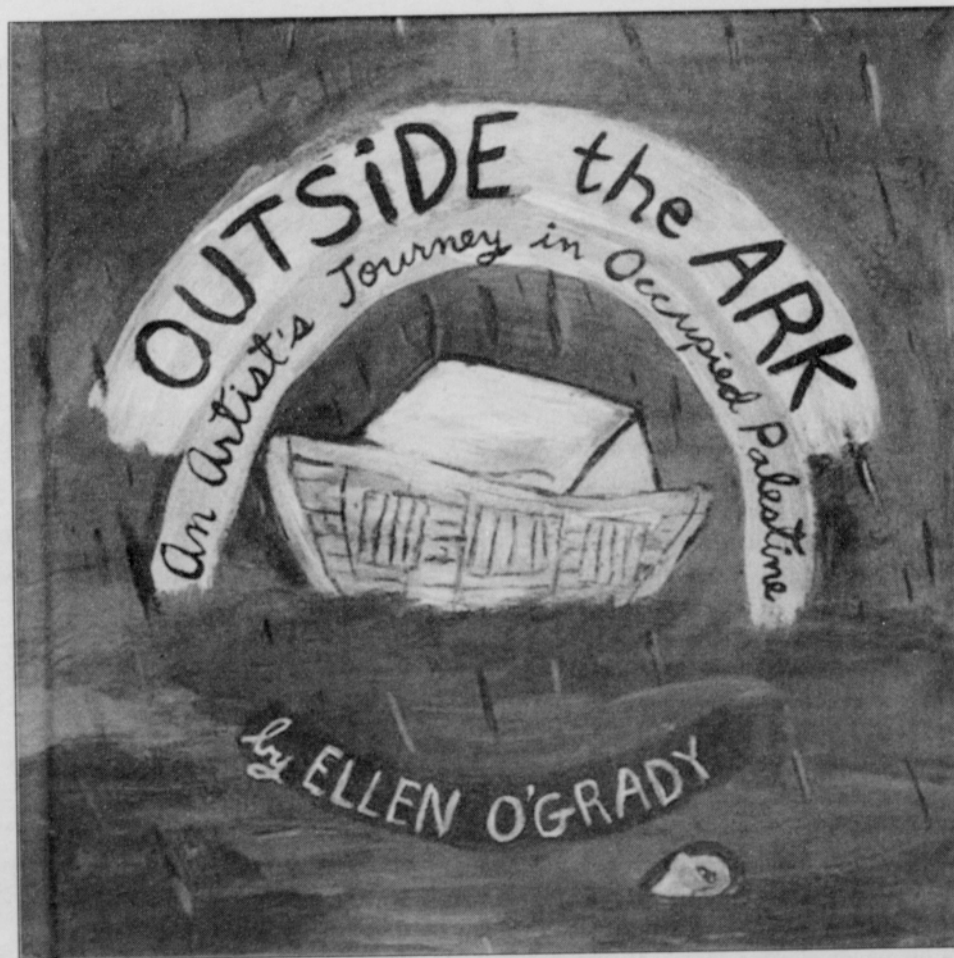
Ellen is currently on a nation-wide tour to promote her new book, "Outside the Ark." It is the culmination of her painting series of the same name whose inspiration came from her time living and working in the West Bank.

"Outside the Ark" tells the stories of individual Palestinians living in the West Bank. It links these stories and her story through a remembering of the Biblical flood. The work is exhibited in the form of a slide-show/storytelling performance, in paintings exhibitions, and in a book. It has been reaching

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people at a variety of venues, including art galleries, public libraries, colleges, high schools and places of worship.

O'Grady will be touring through Portland on April 15 at 7 p.m. at Laughing Horse Books on at 3652 SE Division St. For more information, call 503-236-2893.



C-Murder Loses Murder Conviction Appeal

(AP) - C-Murder, who lost in his latest bid to get his second-degree murder conviction thrown out, is hopeful Louisiana's Supreme Court will be more favorable to his appeal than the lower courts have been.

"I'm just trying to bring darkness to light the best way I know how," the rapper said in a phone interview with The Associated Press on Tuesday night. "I'm hoping everything turns out all right."

The rapper, whose real name is Corey Miller, was convicted Sept. 30, 2003, in the death of Steve Thomas, 16, at a nightclub in the New Orleans suburb of Harvey. He faces a mandatory life sentence without parole.

In April 2004, State District Judge Martha Sassone ordered a new trial on grounds that prosecutors withheld information on the criminal history of their key



C-Murder

witnesses.

Prosecutors appealed the ruling, and earlier this month, two of the three judges on a panel of the 5th Circuit Court of Appeal ruled that even without the witnesses' testimony, "there was an abundance of other evidence which fully established Miller's guilt."

C-Murder asked for a rehearing before the entire court, but the request was denied Tuesday. He is being held in the Jefferson Parish Correctional Center in Gretna. Ron Rakosky, C-Murder's lawyer, said he would appeal to the state Supreme Court.

C-Murder told the AP that he believes other courts may have been swayed by media reports and negative comments made about him. He recently angered the local sheriff by recording parts of his latest music video and album behind bars.

"I think all of that plays a part, 100 percent. You've got the sheriff on TV saying he wants revenge," he said. "How can I win when it comes to decision that determines my life?"

C-Murder's new album, "The Truest (Expletive) I Ever Heard," was released last week.



Recording artist Whitney Houston performs at the 2004 World Music Awards on Sept. 15, 2004, at the Thomas and Mack Arena in Las Vegas.

Houston Enters Rehab Again

NEW YORK (AP) — A year after her first reported stay in rehab, Whitney Houston has again checked into a rehabilitation facility. "Whitney Houston has re-entered a rehabilitation facility today," her publicist, Nancy Seltzer, told The Associated Press Wednesday. She declined to provide details.

The news was first reported by syndicated entertainment TV show "Access Hollywood."

In March 2004, Houston checked

herself into an undisclosed rehabilitation center.

After years of denying drug use, the pop diva said she had used cocaine, marijuana and pills in an interview with Diane Sawyer on ABC's "Primetime" in 2002.

She has said she was using the power of prayer to help her get over drugs.

Brown has a history of drug and alcohol arrests.

The couple live near Alpharetta, a suburb north of Atlanta.