

ENCORE!

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E. D. AMONT



ABOUT THE COVER

COVER PHOTO BY JENSEN HANDE

The dramatic violin on the cover is the creation of Ellen Diamond. Diamond is one of 10 local artists who generously donated original artworks to be raffled off in the Guild's innovative "Music for Your Eyes" project to benefit music education in Northeast Florida. Including a \$10,000 matching grant from AT&T Broadband (formerly MediaOne). "Music for Your Eyes" raised over \$23,000! The funds were used to award 29 Harmony Grants—mini-grants awarded to public school teachers for music education needs such as textbooks, sheet music, instruments, field trips, etc. in Duval, Nassau, Clay and St. Johns Counties.

Diamond's striking work of art is now in the collection of America and David Lehnartz... And "Music for Your Eyes" was recently awarded national recognition by the American Symphony Orchestra League as the best fundraising idea of the year! A native of Brooklyn, New York, Ellen Diamond began her artistic endeavors at her father's side. Diamond cites her father's use of a palette knife in his commissioned society portraits as her first major technical influence. As a teenager, Diamond studied drawing at the Brooklyn Museum of Art School and Pratt Institute, and then earned a degree in art from New York University at the pinnacle of the beatnik era in Greenwich Village. She experimented with realism, pop, cubism, semi-abstract and collage, but began as an abstract painter with a strong sense of design. She draws on that knowledge to develop compositions in her painting today. Diamond's latest series of works include the bridges of Northeast Florida, several of which are being made into limited edition Iris prints.

Diamond has had a number of exhibitions in New York, including the Hecksher Museum and St. Johns University, the Jacob Javits Federal Building in New York City, and the University of New York. Locally, her work has been shown at the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens, at the Florida Physician's Insurance Company, and the Pavilion Center for Women at Baptist St. Vincent's Hospital.

