

Karen Owsley Nease
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March 2023

Education

Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, Missouri - BFA Painting and Printmaking
University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS - B.S. Architectural Engineering
University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS - Bachelor Environmental Design

Employment and Experience

1994-present Studio artist
2017-present Co-owner of Joseph Nease Gallery a contemporary art gallery, Duluth, MN
2015-2019 Duluth Art Institute - Painting Instructor, Duluth, MN
2016-2022 Grand Marais Art Colony – Painting Instructor, Grand Marais, MN
1998-2003 Assistant director, Joseph Nease Gallery, a contemporary art gallery, Kansas City, MO
Employment at multiple engineering and architectural design firms.

Awards

2016 Arrowhead Regional Arts Council Career Development Grant
2014 Arrowhead Regional Arts Council Career Development Grant
1995 *New American Paintings*, one of 50 emerging artists chosen for the 1st Midwest Edition

Selected Solo Exhibition

2025 *Exhibition – Mr. and Mrs. Paisley*, Joseph Nease Gallery, Duluth, MN (scheduled)
2024 *Exhibition - Elements*, Johnson Heritage Post, Grand Marais, MN (scheduled)
2021 *Far and Near II*, at Johnson Heritage Post, Grand Marais, MN
2019 *Far and Near*, Lizzards Art Gallery, Duluth, MN
2018 *Curl, Uncurl and...*, Guest Artist with the Minnesota Ballet - four paintings featured in a choreographic interpretation by guest choreographer Laura Goodman for the Minnesota Ballet, Duluth, MN, fall repertoire performance.
2018 *Elemental Forces*, exhibition in conjunction with guest artist position at the Minnesota Ballet, Joseph Nease Gallery, Duluth, MN
2017 *As Above, So Below*, Kruk Gallery, University of Wisconsin-Superior, Superior, WI
2015 *Found Horizons*, Duluth Art Institute, Duluth, MN
2002 *Sex and Chocolate*, Joseph Nease Gallery, Kansas City, MO
2000 *New Paintings*, Joseph Nease Gallery, Kansas City, MO
1997 *Dracaena Series*, solo exhibition, Johnson County Community College Library Gallery, Overland Park, KS
1996 *Scenes from the Interior*, solo exhibition at Kansas City Kansas Public Library Gallery

Curated Group Exhibitions

- 2018 *Sweep*, Joseph Nease Gallery, Duluth, MN N
- 2017 *Mother Earth*, Lizzards Gallery, Duluth, MN
- 2017 *WTF? – A Feminist Art Exhibit*, Studio 3 West, Duluth, MN
- 2015 *Paint du Nord*, Duluth Art Institute, Duluth, MN
- 2014 *60th Arrowhead Regional Biennial*, Duluth Art Institute, Duluth, MN curated by Diane Mullin, the Senior Curator at the Weisman Art Museum at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN
- 2005, 2004, 2002 *Kansas City Flatfiles 2002, 2004, 2005* Group invitationals, H&R Block Artspace, Kansas City, MO
- 2005, 2002, 2000, 1999, 1996 *Beyond Bounds 2,3,4,5 & 6* Group invitationals, Johnson County Community College, Overland Park, KS
- 2004 *Ungood*, Shaw Hofstra, Kansas City, MO
- 2004 *June Salon*, Dolphin, Kansas City, MO
- 2003 *Is/Was*, Joseph Nease Gallery, Kansas City, MO
- 2002 *Daum Museum Acquisitions Collection*, Daum Museum, Sedalia, MO
- 2001 *Phenomena: where art and science converge*, Union Station, Kansas City, MO
- 2001 *Road Show*, St. Louis Art Guild, St. Louis, MO curated by Marcus Cain, Program Coordinator and Curator, Kansas City Art Institute Corporate Partnership Exhibition Program
- 2001 *Space Oddity*; Joseph Nease Gallery, Kansas City, MO
- 1999 *Karma – Abstraction in KC*, Joseph Nease Gallery, Kansas City, MO
- 1999 *Summer in the City*, Jan Weiner Gallery, Kansas City, MO
- 1997 Autumn exhibition, Michael Cross Gallery, Kansas City, MO
- 1997 *This is Not McDonald's* (two person exhibition with Darlene Stringer), West Wyandotte Public Library, Kansas City, KS
- 1997, 1996, 1995 *RE:Members Exhibitions* Mallin Gallery, Kansas City Artists Coalition, Kansas City, MO(1997 curated by Heidi Iverson Bilardo, Executive Director, Municipal Arts Commission; 1996 curated by Saralyn Reece Hardy, Director Spencer Museum of Art, Lawrence, KS; 1995 curated by Bruce Hartman, Director Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, KS)
- 1997 *Devoted x 2*, Invitational at the New Works Gallery, KCAC, Kansas City,MO
- 1996 *Juror's Choice*, Mallin Gallery, Kansas City Artist's Coalition, Kansas City, MO with Lynn Manos Huber and Yvonne Rosser (curated by Bruce Hartman, Director Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, KS)1996 *Scenes From the Interior*, solo exhibition at Kansas City Kansas Public Library Gallery
- 1996 *Mindful Reflections of Three*, New Works Gallery, Kansas City Artists Coalition, Kansas City, MO
- 1996, 1995, 1991 *Art in the Woods* Gallery at Corporate Woods, Overland Park Arts Commission, Overland Park, KS (1996 juried by William T. Wiley, artist; 1995 juried by Christopher Brown, artist; 1991 juried by Philip Pearlstein, artist)
- 1995 *League of Innovation*, Johnson County Community College, Overland Park, KS Kansas City Regional Colleges of Higher Education

1994 *Kansas Postcard Series XVII*, traveling juried exhibition, Association Of Community Art Agencies of Kansas, Salina, KS

1993 *Annual Show*, group exhibition, Kansas City Regional Colleges of Higher Education

Selected Collections

Daum Museum, Sedalia, Missouri

American Century Investments, KC, Missouri

Metmor Financial, Overland Park, Kansas

Johnson County Community College, Overland Park, KS – Scholar Space

Numerous private collections Kansas, Missouri, Minnesota and Wisconsin

Selected Reviews and Articles

Curl, Uncurl and... A Dance Collaboration, The Slice, WDSE-WRPT – PBS 8 & 31, October 19, 2018

Selective Focus – Laura Goodman and Karen Owsley Nease, Perfect Duluth Day, Brian Barber, October 12, 2018

Making it up North/WDSE-WRPT – PBS 8 & 31, "Putting Down Roots, February 11, 2018

Ennyman's Territory, Karen Owsley Nease, News: Two Openings In Two States," Sept. 28, 2017

Selective Focus – Karen Owsley Nease, Perfect Duluth Day, Brian Barber September 22, 2017

From the Heartland to the Northland, Cook County News Herald December 8, 2016

WTIP North Shore Morning, Artist's Interview about Grand Marais Art Colony, Feb. 16, 2016

KUMD Radio Gallery, "Found Horizons - Karen Owsley Nease," May 11, 2015

Ennyman's Territory, "Another Visit with Artist/Painter Karen Owsley Nease," April 13, 2015

MNArtists.org, "The State of the Art Up North," Tim White, January 21, 2015

The Duluth Reader #780, March 2014 "From KC to Big Lake Country" Ed Newman.

Review, 6/2004 "Salon Extreme", "2004 Kansas City Flatfiles." Lauren DeLand.

Kansas City Star, July 25, 2003, "Is/Was," Elisabeth Kirsch.

Kansas City Star, December 14, 2001, "Kansas City Flatfiles," Alice Thorson.

Review, 6/2001 "A is for Abstract, R is for Real, S is for Space - *Space Oddity*," Marcus Cain.

Kansas City Star, June 22, 2001, "Ground Control to Major Art," Kate Hackman.

Review, 3/2000, "A Luminous Accommodation of Abstraction," Heather Lustfeldt.

Kansas City Star, January 21, 2000 edition. A review of "New Paintings," Elisabeth Kirsch.

Kansas City Star, July 30, 1999 edition. A review of "Karma," Elisabeth Kirsch.

Kansas City Star, July 18, 1997 edition. A review of "Summer in the City," Elisabeth Kirsch.

The Forum Magazine, June-July 1996, "Mindful Reflections of Three" by Amy Scott.

The Forum Magazine, January-February 1996. A review of "Juror's Choice" by Mel Jarvis.

New American Paintings, inclusion in the 1st Midwest edition, 1995, Open Studios Press.

Presentations/Artist Talks

"Catching Up/Resurfacing," multi artist panel discussion about new directions in our work at Joseph Nease Gallery, Duluth, MN 2023

"Water as Metaphor" Grand Marais Art Colony, Grand Marais, MN 2019

"Curl, Uncurl and...," Discussion of collaborative process with choreographer, Laura Goodman. at Joseph Nease Gallery, Duluth, Minnesota In conjunction with performance by the Minnesota Ballet. 2018.

"Found Horizons" Artist's talk at the Duluth Art Institute, Duluth, MN 2015