



K a r e n M a t h e i s

Lawrence, KS

Artist Statement

Transitory Fields

Inspired by the terrain and rivers of Kansas, my work explores the role of identity, memory, and movement.

The landscape and rivers of Kansas are experienced while moving by car and on early morning runs. The absorption of surroundings is ethereal. Close-up images are contrasted with a reconstructed view of the land with the use of a grid to depict a reinterpreted flat topography.

These paintings continue my exploration with surface and materials to create and define shapes, layers, and edges.

River Meander Series

The Kansas River, known as The Kaw by locals, is the world's longest prairie river. River Meander Series is inspired by a recent comprehensive inventory of the Kansas River by several local groups. The inventory is a point by point map guide starting at Riley County and ending at Wyandotte County. One characteristic of the Kansas River seen from an aerial view is that it naturally meanders.

“The Kaw naturally meanders. You can see the history of its wanderings in meander scars, oxbows, and terraces, by the deposition of sandbars on the inside of a bend, and the erosion of banks on the outside of the bends. The Kaw snakes through side channels, forms islands, and braids its channel as it lazily flows across the sandy substrate that forms the river bottom.”

from KansasRiverKeepers.org

Blue Gallery

118 Southwest Blvd, Kansas City, MO 64108

816.527.0823 BlueGalleryOnline.com

Karen Matheis

Lawrence, KS

Education:

BFA Painting, University of Kansas 1991

MA Art Education University of Kansas 1995

Experience:

Curator: *Body of Work: Interpretations of the Live Model*: Lawrence Arts Center, Lawrence, Kansas May-June 2012

Professional Arts Educator, Shawnee Mission Schools, 1992-Present

Coordinator, of John Talleur Print Studio, Lawrence Arts Center 2004-2006

Exhibition History:

Color Block Solo Exhibition, Blue Gallery, Spring 2016

Chronic City, Lawrence Arts Center, November 2014

I Feel Love Solo Show, Phoenix Gallery, Lawrence, Kansas June 27-July 26, 2014

Only The Best Group Show, Strecker-Nelson Gallery, Manhattan, Kansas November 2013-February 2014

Works on Paper: Summer Solo Show, Wheatfields: June 1-August 11, 2013

Roadscapes: A View from Here to There: Solo Show, Pachamama, April- May, 2013

Make Love Group Show: The Percolator Gallery, Lawrence, Kansas January 25-February 19, 2013

Curator: *Body of Work: Interpretations of the Live Model*: Group Show: The Lawrence Arts Center, Lawrence, Kansas, May 18-June 30, 2012

The Story of Chickens: Group Show: Percolator Gallery: Lawrence, Kansas March 30- April 21, 2012

Dannon Art Project: A Living Studio: Group Show: The Lawrence Arts Center, Lawrence, Kansas January 23-March 29, 2012

New Works by Karen Matheis: Solo Show Landmark, Lawrence, Kansas, January 20-April 7, 2012

Landscapes: Wheatfield's, Solo Show Lawrence, Kansas, 2011, June 5-August 7, 2011

Dr. Sketchy, Kulturetage, Hannover, Germany, February 26-April 12, 2011

Fresh Start, Lawrence Arts Center, Lawrence, Kansas, January 28-March 11, 2011

K-10 Lawrence Public Library, Lawrence, Kansas, December 1- December 31, 2010

Mustache Madness: Group Show: Teller's, Lawrence, Kansas March, 2011

University of Kansas Inspired Works of Art: Kansas Union Gallery, Lawrence, Kansas, May, 2009

Trees I have known: Juried Exhibition, Percolator Gallery, Lawrence, Kansas March 14-May 3 2009

Art Stamps; Percolator Gallery; Group Exhibition; Lawrence, Kansas, May, 11-June 8, 2008

Recent Works: John Talleur Print Studio; Art Affair Gallery; Baldwin, Kansas, February, 2007

Conversations with a Pink Chair; Solo Exhibition; Wheatfield's; Lawrence, Kansas, May, 2007

Curator: *John Talleur Print Studio: Recent Works*; Lawrence Public Library; Lawrence: March, 2007

LOYO (Lawrence Own Your Own): Juried Group Show, Lawrence Arts Center Gallery; Lawrence: December, 2006

The Artistic Process; Group Exhibition; Art Affair Gallery, Baldwin, Kansas: September, 2006

We Love You, Permanent Collection: Independence Inc, Lawrence, Kansas

John Talleur Print Studio: Recent Works; KPR: May, 2005

Notable Collections

University of Kansas Hospital, Cambridge Tower, Kansas City, KS

Iowa Children's Hospital, Iowa City, IA

Barnes-Jewish Hospital, St. Louis, MO

PNC Mortgage, Louisville, KY

Landmark Bank, Lawrence, KS

Citizen's Bank, Belleville, KS

Missouri Bank, Kansas City, MO

Waddell & Reed Financial, Inc., Overland Park, KS

Federal Home Loan of Topeka, Topeka, KS

Contemporary Printmaking Collection: Bowling Green State University

Emprise Bank, Wichita, KS

Karen Matheis

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Press:

KC Currents/Central Standard KCUR: Feature: Panel Discussion: Nudity in Art: September 19, 2013
Roads That Lead to our Midwest Imagination: Tallgrass, July 20, 2013
Visions of Douglas County, Douglas County Newcomer's Guide, Sunflower Publishing, 2013-214 Edition
Interview *Body of Art*, Feature KCUR Up to Date June 6, 2013
Lawrence Business Magazine, Summer 2014

Lectures:

Finding Your Creative Mind: Kansas Art Education Association Overland Park, Kansas, October, 2013
Drawing the Human Head Nerd Nite #19, *Summer Shorts* Pachamama's July 10, 2013
Finding Creative Flow: Kansas Art Education Association, Wichita, October 26, 2012
Success is A Mind Game: Finding Creative Flow: Nerd Nite #8, *Smarts and Crafts* Pachamama's, August 8, 2012

Writing:

Larryville Artists: Blog: September 2012 – present.
Drawing Burlesque 8 1/2 x 11 Plug Projects Fall/Winter 2013

Interdisciplinary:

Curator: *Body of Work Poetry*, Lawrence Arts Center June 5, 2012
Curator: *Studio Burlesque*, Lawrence Arts Center, June 14, 2012
Insight Art Talk: Lead Panelist, Lawrence Arts Center, May 22, 2012

Donations:

Lawrence Arts Center Art Auction years 2010-2014
Douglas County Democrats Oct 2, 2013
Kansas City Artists Coalition Auction, Kansas City, Mo; 2010
KTWU Auction, Topeka, Kansas; Print Zero Fundraiser, Seattle, Washington, The Percolator Gallery, Lawrence, Kansas

Awards:

Jurors' Choice Award, Vision of Lawrence, *Lawrence Magazine* 10th Anniversary, August 2014



