

Kent Williams

(American, b. 1962, lives in Los Angeles)

Kent Williams has built up a formidable reputation as a powerful contemporary painter. His is a bold realism with combined attributes of abstraction and neo expressionistic sensibilities. His work is characterized by strong gestural forms combined with areas of arresting detail, rendered with rich dynamic brushwork. Williams' approach to his subjects is often subjective and intense. Whether through multi-figured compositional complexity and suggestive narrative, or with the straight-forward lone human form, there is often autobiographical narrative at play. Favorite models, friends, and the artist himself all play a role in the human story of his paintings. Williams lives in Los Angeles.

Solo Exhibitions

- 2015 *Native Bone and Far to Home*, Van Every/Smith Galleries at Davidson College, Davidson, NC
Bones with Flesh, EVOKE Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM
- 2014-15 *Etudes avant Peintures*, Société Danisco/Dupont, Paris, France
- 2014 *How Human of You*, 101/EXHIBIT, Los Angeles, CA
- 2013 *Ophthalm: New Drawings & Paintings*, EVOKE Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM
- 2012 *Afar: Paintings and Drawings from a Private Collection*, Blanc Gallery, Manila, Philippines
- 2011 *Convergence*, Merry Karnowsky Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Exposition de Kent Williams, Daniel Maghen Galerie & Editions, Paris, France
- 2010 *Eklektikos*, EVOKE Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM
- 2008 *Kent Williams at Merry Karnowsky Gallery Berlin*, Merry Karnowsky Gallery, Berlin, Germany
Swim in the Deep Water, Merry Karnowsky Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2007 *In Animate*, Merry Karnowsky Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2006 *Amalgam*, Merry Karnowsky Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2005 *Solus+*, Merry Karnowsky Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Solus, Artspace, Raleigh, NC
- 2002 *Works on Paper*, Merry Karnowsky Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
No Bodies: Landscapes, Gomez Gallery, Baltimore, MD
Drawings, Paintings, Sculptures, Upper Playground, San Francisco, CA
- 2001 *Koan Paintings and Other Selected Works*, Merry Karnowsky Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Exhibition coinciding with the Sundance Film Festival, Sundance Institute, Sundance, Utah
- 1997 *Drawings and Paintings*, Merry Karnowsky Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Kent Williams, Marita Gilliam Gallery, Raleigh, NC
- 1996 *Works Exhibition*, Four Color Images Gallery, New York, NY
Painting, Durham Art Guild, Durham, NC
- 1995 *Drawings and Paintings*, Gallery Americas, Carrboro, NC

Two/Three-Person Exhibitions

- 2009 *Kent Williams and Javier Marin*, EVOKE Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM,
- 2004 *Recent Works by Kent Williams and Justin Wood*, Merry Karnowsky Gallery, Los Angeles, CA,
- 2000 *Critic's Choice: Julia Morton* with artists Andrea Lekberg and Michael Salter, Duke University Museum of Art, Duke University, Durham, NC,
- 2000 *Koan* with artist Jon J Muth, Gomez Gallery, Baltimore, MD
- 1998 With artists Dean Karr and Dave McKean, Merry Karnowsky Gallery, Los Angeles, CA,
- 1997 With artists Connie Imboden and Dave McKean, Gomez Gallery, Baltimore, MD
- 1996 With artists Olga Antonova and Jennine Hough, Marita Gilliam Gallery, Raleigh, NC,
- 1989 With artist Greg Spalenka, Northern Arizona University Art Museum and Galleries, Flagstaff, AZ,
- 1987 *Romantic* with artists Jon J Muth and George Pratt, Jack Meier Gallery, Houston, TX

Group Exhibitions

- 2016 *Asymmetrical Diptych Party*, Corey Helford Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2015-16 *Painting*, A2Z Gallery, Paris, France, ,
- 2015 *Samurai!*, Worcester Art Museum, Worcester, MA,
- 2014 *Re-Presenting the Nude III*, EVOKE Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM
- 2013 *Flip Side: LCAD Faculty Exhibition*, Gallery 793, Laguna College of Art + Design, Laguna Beach, CA
- 2012 *The Contemporary Figure: Past Presence*, MOAH: Lancaster Museum of Art and History, Lancaster, CA
Re-Presenting the Nude II, EVOKE Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM
Veneris XIII, Skotia Gallery, Culver City, CA
Hooker: Group Exhibition curated by Natalia Fabia, Corey Helford Gallery, Culver City, CA

101 / EXHIBIT

- 2011 *Interlopers: Works on Paper*, EVOKE Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM
Made in Polaroid, Phillips de Pury, New York, NY
Zero to Sixty, Corey Helford Gallery, Culver City, CA
- 2010 *Autumn Leaves*, Galerie Van Campen & Rochtus, Antwerp, Belgium
Survey Select: Narrative Art Exhibition, Wonder Bread Factory, San Diego, CA
Art of the New World, Bristol City Museum and Art Gallery, Bristol, UK
Re-Presenting the Nude, EVOKE Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM
Draw: Mexico City, Museo de la Ciudad de México, Mexico City
101/EXHIBIT Group Show, 101/EXHIBIT, Miami, FL
Hybrid Project, Avenue 50 Studio, Highland Park, CA
- 2009 *The Human Eclectic: An Exhibition Curated by Kent Williams*, Merry Karnowsky Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Model, Galerie Van Campen & Rochtus, Antwerp, Belgium
Kokoeshi: From Folk Art to Art Toy, Japanese American National Museum, Los Angeles, CA
Grand Opening Exhibition, EVOKE Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM
Summerexposition, Galerie Van Campen & Rochtus, Antwerp, Belgium
- 2008 *All Apologies*, LA Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA
In the Land of Retinal Delights: The Juxtapoz Factor, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, CA
Hard Left: The Inaugural Exhibition of the Merry Karnowsky Gallery, Berlin, Merry Karnowsky Gallery, Berlin, Germany
- 2007 *Decade: Merry Karnowsky Gallery 10th Year Anniversary Exhibition*, Merry Karnowsky Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2006-07 *Outwin Boochever Portrait Painting and Sculpture Exhibition*, Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery, Washington, DC
- 2006 *The Collectors Show*, Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock, AR
Beyond Representation, Scion Dashboard, San Francisco, CA
- 2005 *Modern and Contemporary Works on Paper*, Forum Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 1999 *Six Forms of Love and Despair*, Merry Karnowsky Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 1997 *End-of-Year Group Show*, Merry Karnowsky Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
Forbidden Fruits and Unholy Lust, Todd Kaplan Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 1995 *New Art in the Triangle*, Duke University Museum of Art, Duke University, Durham, NC
- 1993 *The Art of Politics*, San Jose State University, San Jose, CA
Declaration of Independents, Bess Cutler Gallery, New York, NY
- 1991 *1991 Inaugural Year Exhibitions*, Northern Arizona University Art Museum and Galleries, Flagstaff, AZ
- 1990 *Fax-simile: An Invitational*, University Art Gallery / Museum, Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL

Awards/Grants

- 2014 Contemporary Realism Biennial, Juror Invitational Merit Award
- 2012 Arts SA International Presentation Grant
- 2011 Doug Moran National Portrait Prize, Highly Commended
- 2010 Doug Moran National Portrait Prize, Runner Up
RSASA Star Portraits Winner
- 2008 Rip It Up Emerging Artist Award

Professional Appointments

- 2012 Director, The Art Academy, South Australia
- 2011 Mentor, Jump Mentoring Program, Australia Council for the Arts

Art Fairs

- 2016 Art on Paper, Galerie Fledermaus, Pier 36. New York, NY
Palm Springs Fine Art Fair, EVOKE Contemporary, Palm Springs, CA
- 2015 Market Art and Design, 101/EXHIBIT, Bridgehampton, NY
Art Wynwood, EVOKE Contemporary, Miami, FL
- 2013 Miami Project, 101/EXHIBIT, Miami, FL
- 2012 CONTEXT Art Miami, Merry Karnowsky Gallery, Miami, FL
- 2011 Scope Miami, Corey Helford Gallery, Miami, FL
- 2009 ARTery Miami, Miami, FL
Lineart, Galerie Van Campen & Roctus, Ghent, Belgium
Open Art Fair, Galerie Van Campen & Roctus, Utrecht, Netherlands
A Certain Amount of Uncertainties, Takeaway Art Gallery, Brussels, Belgium,
- 2006 SCOPE New York, Merry Karnowsky Gallery, New York, NY

Bibliography

- 2016 *Kent Williams – Via Lactea: His Drawings and Paintings of the Artist Soey Milk*, hardcover, essay by Ryan Ebelt, ASFA, Pacific Grove, CA
beautiful.bizarre, magazine, Jun, issue 13, “Kent Williams” feature article by Richard Purssey, Annandale, NSW, Australia
- 2015 *Kent Williams: Native Bone and Far to Home*, catalogue, essay by Peter Frank, interview by Lia Newman, Van Every/Smith Galleries at Davidson College, Davidson, NC
American Art Collector, magazine, Oct, “Kent Williams: Bones with Flesh” by Joshua Rose, Scottsdale, AZ
- 2014 *Kent Williams: How Human of You*, catalogue, poem by Eve Wood, 101/EXHIBIT, Los Angeles, CA
- 2013 American Art Collector, magazine, Oct, “Kent Williams: Asilomar” by Joshua Rose, Scottsdale, AZ
Kent Williams: Ophthalm, hardcover, text by Alex Ross, 3A Publishing, Kowloon, Hong Kong
Goya LP View Series: Kent Williams, no. 1, softcover, 3A Publishing, Kowloon, Hong Kong
- 2012 *Kent Williams: World Famous Contemporary Painter Series*, softcover, Tianjin Yangliuqing Fine Arts Press, Tianjin, China
- 2011 B!ss, magazine, Dec, “The Art of Kent Williams”, interview by Robert Mann, Newport Beach, CA
Hi-Fructose, magazine, vol 21, “Convergence: The Art of Kent Williams”, feature article by Ken Harman, Richmond, CA
Kent Williams: Eklektikos, hardcover, text by Peter Frank and Alex Ross, ASFA, Pacific Grove, CA
ArtScene, magazine, Jun, vol 30, no. 10, “Preview of Exhibitions: Kent Williams at Merry Karnowsky Gallery”, by Elenore Wells, Thousand Oaks, CA
- 2010 Art Calendar, magazine, Dec/Jan, vol 24, no. 10, “Kent Williams: Exploring Narratives”, cover and feature article by Kim Hall, Orlando, FL
THE, magazine, Oct, vol 28, no. 4, “Critical Reflections: Kent Williams” by Christopher Benson, Santa Fe, NM
Juxtapoz, magazine, Jun, vol 17, no. 6, “Art from the New World at the Bristol City Museum”, feature article by Shana Nys Dambrot, San Francisco, CA
- 2009 THE, magazine, Aug, vol 17, no. 2, “Kent Williams at Evoke Contemporary”, preview, Santa Fe, NM
Kent Williams: At Random Too, catalogue, ASFA, Pacific Grove, CA
In the Land of Retinal Delights: The Juxtapoz Factor, Laguna Art Museum, exhibition catalogue, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, CA in association with Ginko Press, Berkeley, CA
- 2008 *Tribe #1: Kent Williams*, Apple iPhone App, no. 1, digital book, developer: Genus, Los Angeles, CA, publisher: Apple, Cupertino, CA
Swallow, magazine, vol. 1, no. 4, “Kent Williams: Drawings”, portfolio feature, IDW Publishing, San Diego, CA
- 2007 *In Animate: New Paintings by Kent Williams*, catalogue, introduction by Sara Escamilla, Merry Karnowsky Gallery, Los Angeles, CA/ASFA, Pacific Grove, CA
Kent Williams, Amalgam: Paintings and Drawings, 1992 – 2007, hardcover, text by Edward Lucie-Smith and Julia Morton, ASFA, Pacific Grove, CA
Sparrow: Kent Williams, no. 3, hardcover, IDW Publishing, San Diego, CA

- 2006 *The Fountain*, graphic novel w/Darren Aronofsky, softcover, DC/Vertigo, New York, NY
Artweek, magazine, Oct, vol 37, no. 8, "Kent Williams at Merry Karnowsky", review by Shana Nys Dambrot, Palo Alto, CA
The Los Angeles Times, Aug 25, "Merging Styles with Intensity", review by Leah Ollman, Los Angeles, CA
ASFA Presents 108 Drawings, no. 1, softcover, anthology collection, Kent Williams, 14 Drawings and cover, ASFA, Pacific Grove, CA
Swallow, magazine, vol. 1, no. 2, Kent Williams: Studio Notes, feature article, IDW Publishing, San Diego, CA
suicidegirls.com, "The Fountain Artist Kent Williams", online interview conducted by Daniel Robert Epstein, posted 1/12/06
- 2005 *The Fountain*, graphic novel w/Darren Aronofsky, hardcover, DC/Vertigo, New York, NY
Solus: Kent Williams, catalogue, introduction by Richard Van Camp, Artspace, Raleigh, NC
Swallow, magazine, vol. 1, no. 1, "Kent Williams", feature article w/interview by Ashley Wood, IDW Publishing, San Diego, CA
- 2004 Kent Williams: Forma Femina, 10 postcard set, ASFA, Pacific Grove, CA
Kent Williams: @random, monograph/sketchbook, www.kentwilliams.com, Los Angeles, CA
Blood: A Tale, graphic novel w/J.M. DeMatteis, softcover, Vertigo, New York, NY (reprint)
- 2001 *Koan: Paintings by Jon J Muth and Kent Williams*, hardcover, introduction by Jose Villarrubia, ASFA, Pacific Grove, CA
- 1998 Juxtapoz, magazine, vol. 5, no. 1, "A Samurai's Tale: The Art of Kent Williams", feature article by Michelle Richards and cover, San Francisco, CA
- 1997 North Carolina Literary Review, magazine, no. 6, In Summer Light, In Summer Fields, graphic short story w/John Ney Rieber and cover, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC
- 1996 North Carolina Literary Review, magazine, no. 5, A War Prayer, from Psalms/Paintings by Kent Williams, feature article, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC
Kent Williams: Works Exhibition, catalogue, introduction by John Ney Rieber, Four Color Images Gallery, New York, NY/ASFA, Pacific Grove, CA
- 1995 *Kent Williams: Selected Works*, catalogue, introduction by Merry Karnowsky, Madison Claire Associates, Los Angeles, CA
- 1992 *Tell Me, Dark*, graphic novel w/Karl Edward Wagner and John Ney Rieber, hardcover/softcover, DC/Vertigo, New York, NY
- 1991 *Kent Williams: Drawings and Monotypes*, hardcover/softcover, introduction by John Ney Rieber, Tundra Publishing, Northampton, MA
- 1988 *Blood: A Tale*, graphic novel w/J.M. DeMatteis, softcover, Marvel/Epic, New York, NY