



> texture



> expression



Ken Steinkamp

Ken Steinkamp has been painting, producing images and exhibiting for nearly thirty years. Upon graduating from the University of Northern Iowa, he was enlisted in U.S. Army and after his photographic training was assigned to the White House Communications Agency's Photography Lab in Washington, DC. Upon his discharge, he completed a Masters Degree in Studio Art/ Printmaking from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. After a brief teaching career, he worked on a CETA grant at the Santa Barbara Museum of Art. For twenty-eight years, he developed his distinct style while traveling extensively in Europe and the U.S. as a crewmember for American Airlines.

He has lived in Los Angeles, Santa Monica and Santa Barbara, CA; Northampton, MA; and Mystic, CT; where he had several one man as well as group exhibitions. In 2012 he moved his studio from Stonington, CT to an industrial space in Pawtucket, RI. His work is found in public and private collections throughout the United States and Europe. In 2013 he was elected to the Art League of Rhode Island and now serves on their Board of Directors.

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HOURS

Wednesday – Friday 11am-5pm, Saturday 12-4pm
Check website for weekly extended hours



A Curator's Point of View

Steinkamp's considerable body of work reveals his fascination with the basic elements of painting: line, color, surface, and texture. The dense, layered mark making in his Timed Exposure Ken series, which the artist relates to the expressiveness of calligraphy, draws upon Western and Eastern art traditions and recalls the earlier works of Pat Steir and Brice Marden. Though the building blocks of Steinkamp's art are very simple, his reason for returning to painting on a full-time basis – after a career that included teaching and working as an airline attendant – reflects a more complex aspiration; as the artist describes it, it is the search for a 'life force'. In this way, Steinkamp's work stands in stark contrast to what art critic Peter Schjeldahl has described as a 'crisis' that developed in art during the 20th century, where as he describes it, many artists abandoned art's Dionysian, or spiritual, side and became 'apostles of abstract concepts.' To the contrary, Ken Steinkamp's work is evidence of how contemporary artists can engage in a dialogue with abstraction and the formal aspects of painting, while remaining fully engaged with expressing inner truths, like the search for meaning and beauty.

David Schmitz
Curator
Marks of Process
University of Northern Iowa Art Gallery
February 9 – March 9, 2011
Cedar Falls, Iowa

Education

MA in Studio Art/Printmaking, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI – 1974

BA in Art Education, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA – 1970

Solo Exhibitions

Cate Charles Gallery, Providence, RI – 2015

Cate Charles Gallery, Stonington, CT – 2009

Hygienic Art Galleries, New London, CT – 2008

Greenfield Community College, Greenfield, MA – 1995

Northampton Center For the Arts, Northampton, MA – 1994

Hearst Art Center, Cedar Falls, IA – 1993

Christopher John Gallery, Santa Monica, CA – 1992

Christopher John Gallery, Santa Monica, CA – 1991

Art Source LA Gallery, Los Angeles, CA – 1989

Francine Elman Gallery, Los Angeles, CA – 1986

James Clark Gallery, Los Angeles, CA – 1985

Juried and Selected Group Exhibitions

Pawtucket Artist Collaborative, Mill Gallery,
Annual Juried Exhibition, Pawtucket, RI – 2016

Mystic Museum of Art, Black and White Juried Show,
Mystic, CT – 2016

Vet's Gallery, Support and Defend Exhibition,
Providence, RI – 2016

Newport Art Museum, Annual Juried Member's Show,
Newport, RI – 2016

Mystic Museum of Art, Annual Elected Artist/Members Exhibition, *Honorable Mention*, Mystic, CT – 2016

Vet's Gallery, ALRI Opposites Juried Exhibition, Providence, RI – 2016

Newport Art Museum, ALRI 15th Annual Elected Artist Show, Newport, RI – 2015

URI Feinstein Gallery, ALRI Group Show, Providence, RI – 2015

Attleboro Arts Museum, ALRI Elected Artist Exhibit, Attleboro, MA – 2014

Cate Charles Gallery, Providence, RI – 2014

Herra Gallery, National Juried Painting Exhibit, Wakefield, RI – 2013

Providence Art Club, ALRI Elected Artist Exhibit, Providence, RI – 2014

Heritage Gallery, Art League Rhode Island, Juror's Award, East Greenwich, RI – 2013

Mystic Arts Center, 54th Regional Exhibition, Mystic, CT – 2013

Mill Gallery, Pawtucket Artist Collaborative Annual Show, Pawtucket, RI – 2013

Hygienic Arts Center, Crossing the Bridge, Juried Regional Show, *Second Place*, New London, CT – 2012

Hygienic Arts Center, F Stop Photo Exhibit, New London, CT – 2012

Mystic Arts Center, Self Image, Mystic, CT – 2012

Hygienic Art Center, *Honorable Mention*, New London, CT – 2011

Mystic Arts Center, The Art of Fabric, Mystic, CT – 2011

Mystic Arts Center, Annual Photographic Show, *Honorable Mention*, Mystic, CT – 2011

Mystic Arts Center, Annual Regional Exhibit, Mystic, CT – 2011

University of Northern Iowa Alumni Exhibition, Making the Mark, Cedar Falls, IA – 2011

University of Connecticut Avery Point, Groton, CT – 2011

Espressiones Gallery and Cultural Center, New London, CT – 2011

Cate Charles Gallery, Stonington, CT – 2010

Espressiones Gallery and Cultural Center, New London, CT – 2010

Hygienic Art Gallery, By Invitation, Gesture: Making the Mark, New London, CT – 2010

Mystic Arts Center, Annual Members Show, *Award of Excellence*, Mystic, CT – 2010

Mystic Arts Center, Regional Show, Mystic, CT – 2009

Espressiones Gallery and Cultural Center, Juried Exhibition, New London, CT – 2009

Hygienic Arts Gallery, Annual Regional Juried Show, New London, CT – 2009

Mystic Arts Center, Interiors Revealed Show, *Honorable Mention*, Mystic, CT – 2009

Mystic Arts Center Regional Show, *Second Prize*, Mystic, CT – 2008

Central Gallery, Old Saybrook, CT – 2007

Mystic Arts Center, Juried Show, *Honorable Mention*, Mystic, CT – 2007

Hygienic Gallery, Annual Show, *Honorable Mention*,
New London, CT – 2007

Mystic Arts Center, Regional Show, Mystic, CT – 2006

Connecticut Academy of Art, Annual Juried Exhibition,
Mystic, CT – 2006

Mystic Arts Center Regional Show, Mystic, CT – 2005

Los Angeles County Art Museum, Rental Gallery
Exhibition, Los Angeles, CA – 1992

University of Delaware Biennial, Newark, DE – 1988

All Iowa Art Show, Des Moines Art Center,
Des Moines, IA – 1970

Selected Public Collections

Harvard University, Dean of International
Law School's Office – 2012

University of Texas, School of Communication,
Austin, TX – 2007

University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA – 1970

Chemical Bank, Chicago, IL – 1992

Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, OH – 1982

Honors

Board of Directors, Art League Rhode Island,
Providence, RI – 2016

Art League Rhode Island, Exhibitions Committee
Co-Chair – 2015

Elected Artist, Art League Rhode Island – 2013

Artist in Residence, University of Northern Iowa,
Cedar Falls, IA – 2010

Elected Artist, Mystic Arts Center, Mystic, CT – 2007

Board of Directors, Chester Stage, Chester, MA
– 2003-2005

Board of Directors, Northampton Center For the Arts,
Northampton, MA – 1987

Full Scholarship, University of Wisconsin,
Madison, WI – 1973

University Northern Iowa Department of Art Award,
Honors Graduate – 1970

Full Scholarship, University of Northern Iowa – 1966

