



Karen Wood
Artist & Urban Explorer

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Spitalfields Studios
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Artist Statement

In the urban environment of our city streets Karen finds inspiration in road markings, construction sites, signs and architecture. Karen's preoccupation with industrial colour, geometric shapes and lines is magnified by her childlike propensity for seeing oversized structures in small details which mostly go unnoticed by others.

Karen captures this sense of superimposed urban materiality through layering tape whilst editing with a scalpel, achieving varying levels of translucency. The elasticity of the tape together with the quick scalpel movement releases tension and creates what Karen calls the "spacebetween" providing portals to other worlds and dimensions. This process often causes a feeling of imbalance to occur.

Karen explores her urban documentary place-based practice in the studio, involving further editing through drawing, painting, printmaking and site-specific installations with an emphasis on how we move through these spaces.

Group Exhibitions & Collaborations

2020

[URBAN EDIT](#) - Karen Wood **SOLO Exhibition - Sky Gallery at Spitalfields Studios.**
Part of WhiteChapel Gallery 1st Thursday's Program in April

Material World - 44AD Associates Annual Exhibition - at 44AD artspace Bath, January

2019

Inside / Outside Exhibition - The Laboratory of Dissent Residency (5 weeks) - at
Winchester Gallery - Winchester School of Art (Chapel Artist Studio Associate submission)
November - December

Urban Rural Exchange Reception and Artist Talk at Spitalfields Studios, together with a weekend Live Walk Talk Draw Make workshop in the East End. This exhibition followed a year-long collaboration with [James Aldridge](#) exploring crossovers within place-based art between urban and rural settings, documented on [instagram](#). Part of WhiteChapel Gallery 1st Thursday's Program in November

2019 cont

Drawing the Bigger Picture - Live Drawing Walk Workshop - Lead Artist, promoting drawing on the streets of Salisbury as part of the Trinity Buoy Wharf Drawing Prize exhibition (Chapel Artist Studio Associate submission), October

Refresh Exhibition for Spitalfield Studio Artists at Spitalfields Studios. This included an Artist Talk with Karen & James for Urban Rural Exchange. Part of WhiteChapel Gallery 1st Thursday's Program in September

Drawn In - Exhibition involving 9 artists, all with drawing at the core of their practices. Bridport Arts Centre. Experimental Playful Industrial Materials Drawing workshop for adults/children led by Karen Wood as part of the exhibition, May to June

In the Round - Associate Exhibition, celebrating 10 years of CAS (Chapel Arts Studios), March

Playing Hooky - drawing and Poem - Dyadic visual poetry published by [Sum Journal](#) January

2018

Creative Play Workshop - Lead Artist - providing an experimental workshop for children in a safe fun space during Rosalind Davis's talk at Winchester School of Art, December

Art on a Postcard Exhibition - Sky Gallery & Open Studios at Spitalfields Studios - for Spitalfield Studio Artists. Part of WhiteChapel Gallery 1st Thursday's Program, October

Spring Clean Exhibition for Spitalfield Studio Artists at Spitalfields Studios. Part of WhiteChapel Gallery 1st Thursday's Program, May 2018

BlockChainDissentArt Symposium Panelist - Winchester School of Art - video link:

["Of the hidden the unbidden" \(excerpt\)](#)

Extract from the final video created for the Blockchain collaboration between Karen Wood and Ashokkumar Mistry for CAS (Chapel Arts Studios)

March

BlockChainDissentArt Collaboration Residency

[Online Residency](#), video [Of the Hidden, the Unbidden](#)

January - March

Artist at [Spitalfields Studios](#) - studio 29, January

2017

CAS - Accepted as an associate Artist by [Chapel Arts Studios](#)

CAS - 2am Workshops

CAS - Postit Exchange Collaboration culminating in Workshops with Winchester School of Art Curatorial Students

Wimbledon Artist Studios - Open Studios & ArtFair November

The Other Art Fair, Truman Brewery, Bricklane, London UK - October

Wimbledon Artist Studios - Open Studios May

2016

Wimbledon Artist Studios - Open Studios November
Wimbledon Artist Studios - Open Studios May
Honorable Mention Award - NYC4PA Same but Different 2016
New York Center for Photographic Art
Exhibition on-line
<http://www.nyc4pa.com/#!same-but-different-2016/c13bh>

2015

Paradise Christmas Fair Nov 22, Gabriel Fine Art, Waterloo, London UK
The Other Art Fair, Truman Brewery, Bricklane, London UK
Artist in Residence, Welcome to Octoville, The Gala Durham UK
The Other Art Fair, Arnolfini, Bristol UK
Open Photography, Wellhung, Hoxton UK
Stillness, 44AD Gallery, Bath UK

2014

Studio Artists Exhibition, 44AD Gallery, Bath UK

2013

Deck the Walls, 44AD Gallery, Bath UK
Transition, Southgate, Bath UK
Urban Myth, Flash II Artist Discussion, 44AD Gallery, Bath UK
MA_AD, Walcot Chapel, Bath UK
H20, 44AD Gallery, Bath UK

2012

tenplusone, 44AD Gallery, Bath
Masters Fine Art Graduation, Bath School of Art & Design, Bath
Lifelines, Walcot Chapel, Bath

2011

Royal West of England Academy 159th Autumn show, Bristol
Bath Society of Artists Summer 106th, The Royal Victoria Art Gallery, Bath
Regeneration & Pushing Paint, The Octagon, Bath

2010

Royal west of England 158th Autumn show, Bristol
Bath Society of Artists summer 105th, The Royal Victoria Art Gallery, Bath

2009

Royal West of England Academy 157th Autumn show, Bristol
Bath Society of Artists summer 104th, The Royal Victoria Art Gallery, Bath

2008

Andrew Brownsword Prize winner, Bath Society of Artists summer 103rd, The Royal Victoria Art Gallery, Bath

2007

Best in Show Exhibition, Hot Bath Gallery, Bath

Solo exhibitions

2020 [URBAN EDIT](#), The Sky Gallery, Spitalfields Studios, London E1 5NF

2011 Building Cabot Circus, Cabot Circus, Bristol

2009 Urban Modern Art, Walcot Chapel, Bath

Awards & Residencies

2019 Residency Outside/Inside - Winchester School of Art

2018 Residency [BlockChainDissentArt_online](#)

2016 Honorable Mention Award - NYC4PA Same but Different

New York Center for Photographic Art - Exhibition on-line

<http://www.nyc4pa.com/#!same-but-different-2016/c13bh>

2011 Residency Cabot Circus, Bristol UK

2008 Andrew Brownsword Award, Bath Society of Artists, Bath UK

2007 Best in Show winner, Hot Bath Gallery, Bath UK

Qualifications & Associations

2017 to Current Associate with [CAS](#) (Chapel Artists Studios)

2012 Masters in Fine Art (MFA), Bath Spa University, UK

2007 Diploma in Foundation Studies, Art & Design, City of Bath College, UK

1988 BA Humanities (Communication, Realism & 20th Century Culture, Law & Politics, Knowledge & Power) Griffith University, Queensland, Australia

Links

Instagram - [kbwoodnews](#)

Twitter - [kbwoodnews](#)

Facebook - [kbwoodnews](#)

Website - [kbwood.co.uk](#)