

KATHY BLANKLEY ROMAN

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### **Bio/CV**

Known for her high energy expressive paintings, Chicago artist Kathy Blankley Roman has been painting and showing her current abstract work since 2011 when she returned to art-making full time following her retirement. She has been making art of one kind or another as far back as she can remember. Her art education was mostly self directed. While she took some formal classes at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Madison Area Technical College, she developed most of her skills through classes at workshops and local art centers. In her mid years, she became skilled in calligraphy which she exhibited in group shows and art fairs in Wisconsin. After a return to school for an AA degree in Commercial Art, she returned to Chicago where she worked as a graphic designer, production manager and freelance illustrator, but her personal art making was always relegated to spare time. That changed when she retired and stumbled upon a class in expressive painting. That was a pivotal experience for her, starting a new direction in her art making

References to her background in calligraphy often appear in her earthy paintings that explore textural and color contrasts. Skilled in multiple mediums, Roman moves easily between acrylics, encaustic and oil & cold wax. An award winning artist, her work has appeared in solo, juried and curated shows nationally, online and in private collections. She also teaches her oil & cold wax technique at Oak Park Art League.

Selected juried and curated exhibits:

**In the House.** Stola Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL. Curator: Kelly Mathews. 2020

**Expressing Our Inner Voices.** Women of Expressive Abstracts. Curated Group Exhibit, Lyndon House Art Center, Athens, GA. Curator: Beth Sale. June 2020 exhibit cancelled due to Covid-19, rescheduled for Summer of 2021.

**Inside Out: Celebrating Women in Art.** Women of Expressive Abstracts. Turner Center for the Arts, Valdosta, GA. Curator: Bill Shenton. 2019

**Inside Out: Celebrating Women in Art.** Women of Expressive Abstracts.. Anderson Arts Center, Anderson, SC. Curator: Patricia Kilburg. 2019

**Small Works.** Gallery Grand Opening, Stola Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL. Curator: Kelly Mathews. 2019

**Who's Afraid of Red?** Studio Gallery OH!, Chicago, IL. Juror: Erwin Overes. 2019

**Global Warming is REAL.** National Encaustic/Wax Juried Exhibition. The Encaustic Art Museum, Santa Fe, NM. Jurors: Nanette Newbry and Richard Dowdy. 2019

**No Creative Boundaries: Anything Goes.** National Encaustic/Wax Exhibition. The Museum of Encaustic Art, Santa Fe, NM. Juror: Ellen Koment. 2019

**Contemporary Ancients.** South Haven Center for the Arts, South Haven, MI. 2019

**Fireworks at the Dole.** Sage Gallery at the The Dole, Crystal Lake, IL 2019

**Variations in Wax.** State Street Gallery, Robert Morris University, Chicago, IL. Curated by Gallery Committee. 2019

**Written in Fire.** Second Floor Gallery, Zhou B Art Center, Chicago, IL. Curator: Sergio Gomez. 2019

**Spring Members Show 2019.** 3rd Floor Gallery, Chicago Alliance of Visual Artists at Bridgeport Art Center, Chicago, IL. Juror: Susan Blackman. Honorable Mention Award.

**Inside Out: Expressing Our Inner Voices.** Women of Expressive Abstracts. North Charleston City Gallery. North Charleston, SC. 2018

**Inside Out: Expressing Our Inner Voices.** Women of Expressive Abstracts. University of South Carolina Center for the Arts, Beaufort, SC. 2018

**Not Just Drawing: a Line with Intent.** ARC Gallery and Educational Foundation, Chicago, IL. Juror: F. David Reif. 2018

**66th Annual Bridgeport Art Center Competition**, 4th Floor Gallery, Chicago, IL. Jurors: Virginio Ferrari, Carole Harmel. 2018

**1st Midwest Open**, Woman Made Gallery, Chicago, IL. Juror: Deb Flagel. 2018

**A Crack is Where the Light Gets In**. National Juried Exhibition, Oak Park Art League, Oak Park, IL. Juror: Douglas Stapleton. 2018

**Contemporary Encaustic 2017**. Royal Encaustic, Florence, CO. Jurors: Lisa Steele, Lauren Lipinski Eisen.

**Annual Spring Members' Show 2017**. Chicago Alliance of Visual Artists.

Leslie Wolfe Gallery, Old Town Triangle Assn, Chicago. Jurors: Peter LaGrand, Joe Taylor. Honorable Mention.

**14th Annual Regional Juried Exhibition**. Freeport Art Museum, Freeport, IL. Juror: Dan Addington. 2017-18

**Elevating Nature** - Juried Regional Midwest Exhibition in celebration of the 150th birthday of Frank Lloyd Wright. Oak Park Art League. Carriage House Gallery, Oak Park, IL. Jurors: Brent Fogt and Brian Ritchard. 2017

**97th Anniversary Artist Member Juried Exhibition**. Oak Park Art League. Carriage House Gallery, Oak Park, IL. Juror: Teresa J. Parker. 2017

**Small But Mighty National Juried Exhibit**. Christopher Art Gallery, Prairie State College, Chicago Heights, IL. Juror: Aron Packer. 2017

**13th Annual Regional Juried Exhibition**. Freeport Art Museum, Freeport, IL. Juror: Sergio Gomez. 2016

**Wall to Wall**. Inaugural Exhibit of ArtSpace 1550, featured exhibit of Chicago Artists Month. Juror: Carol Brooks. 2015

**The Notion of Motion**, Jackson Junge Gallery, Chicago, IL. Jurors: Gallery Committee. 2015

**Art for America: A National Review of 2D Contemporary Art**. The Art House, Chicago, IL. Jurors: James Yood, critic, essayist, Professor of Art History and Critique - School of The Art Institute of Chicago; Ginny Voedisch, Art Historian and Lecturer - Art Institute of Chicago. 2015

**IL Artisans Program of the IL State Museum**. James Thompson Center, Chicago. 2015

**National Art Encounter**. Von Liebig Art Center, Naples, FL. Juror: Dr. Carol Damian, Professor of Art & Art History, Florida International University. 2015

**Expansive Visions**. Christopher Art Gallery, Prairie State College, Chicago Heights, IL. Curator: Beth Shadur, Gallery Director. 2015

**The Art in Wax**, National Small Works Show. Gallery 901, Santa Fe, NM. Juror: Sherry Ikeda. Juror: Merry Scully, Head of Curatorial Affairs, New Mexico Museum of Art. 2014

**Encaustic, Nature in Art National Juried Exhibition**, The Art Center, Highland Park, IL. Juror: Jenny Learner.

**3rd Annual Juried National Encaustic/Wax Exhibition**, Encaustic Art Institute, Santa Fe, NM. Juror: Michael Kessler. 2013

**Inspired by...**, Woman Made Gallery, Chicago. Juror: Mary Stoppert. 2012

**Tactile Encounters - The Influence and Appearance of Textures**. Kemper Gallery, IL Institute of Technology, Chicago. Jurors: IIT Gallery Committee. 2012

Selected honors include:

- Named one of the "Top 10 Abstract Artists to Watch in 2018" by Light, Space & Time Online Gallery.
- Bronze Artist Award in the Abstract issue of ArtAscent Art & Literature Journal, August 2017.
- Honorable Mention for Fine Art in the First Annual Fine Art & Literature Competition of The Woven Tale Press 2017, published in Vol. VI, #3, April 2018.
- Finalist status in the Annual Competition of The Artist's Magazine 2014 and 2016 in the Experimental/Abstract Category.
- Installation into the permanent collection of the Encaustic Art Institute, Santa Fe, NM 2014.