

KAREN YURKOVICH

Karen Yurkovich's artistic practice centers on nature and its relationship to culture. Through community-engaged projects, painting, and multi-media installation, she elaborates themes such as GMOs, classical still life painting of the 16th century, the use of plants in medicine and culinary practices, and issues of biodiversity, to deepen our connection to nature and reconsider our ecological impact. Her work has been widely exhibited and includes projects with institutions such as the Beaty Museum for Biodiversity in Vancouver, Canada, and Archeologia Arborea, a biodiversity foundation in Italy. Yurkovich was inaugural director of and professor in the MFA Studio Arts program at SACI, Florence, 2013-16, and continues to teach at Emily Carr University and La Salle College in Vancouver.

Her work can be found in both private and public collections including the Bill Gates Foundation, Unicredit Bank, Italy, Alberta Foundation for the Arts, and the Cy and Lissa Wagner Collection, Texas.

Education

Master of Fine Arts, 1990, Bachelor of Fine Arts, 1987, University of Alberta, Canada

Teaching

2019 to Present

Instructor, Continuing Studies, Emily Carr University, Langara College, Vancouver, and LaSalle College, Vancouver

2013-2016

Director of and Professor in the MFA in Studio Arts program, also Head of Graduate Studies, Studio Art Centers International, Florence, Italy

Instructor, Emily Carr University of Art and Design

Residencies

2019 Su Bixinau, IVYnode residency, Nurri, Sardegna, June

2017 Archeologia Arborea, Lerchi, Italy, June

2012 – 2014 Beaty Museum for Biodiversity, Vancouver, BC

Solo Exhibitions and Projects

2019 Alchemical Kitchen, Su Bixinau, Monastery of Santa Rosa, Nurri, Sardegna, IVYnode residency, June

Doctrine of Signatures, exhibition and lecture on practice at the Canadian Association for Food Studies conference, June, University of BC, Vancouver

2018 Functionally Extinct, SouthMain Gallery, Vancouver, September

Natives and Immigrants, Linda Hodges Gallery, Seattle, January

2017 Installation in the tepidarium, Horticulture Gardens, Florence, Italy

Project with Archeologia Arborea, biodiversity foundation in Italy, June

2014 Herbarium Project, Beaty Biodiversity Museum, UBC, Vancouver, May to September

<http://www.beatymuseum.ubc.ca/blog/blueberries>

Turning Landscapes, Linda Hodges Gallery, Seattle, May

2013 Project with UBC Botanical Garden and Apple Festival, October

Cultural Biodiversity Projects, SACI Gallery, Florence, Italy, November

2012 New Paintings, Linda Hodges Gallery, Seattle, USA, October

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Working In Nature, project with UBC Farm and Beaty Biodiversity Museum, UBC,
see blog post 10/01/2012: <http://www.beatymuseum.ubc.ca/blog>
Morphology, Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto, March
2011 A Concept of Cloud, Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver, May
2009 Karen Yurkovich, Linda Hodges Gallery, Seattle, October
2008 Project for Vantage Art projects, photographic edition, Worm Hole, Vancouver
Clear Skies, Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver, October
Last Garden, Galleria Della Pina, Pietrasanta, Italy, August
Magic Nature, SACI Gallery, Florence, March
2007 Daylight, Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver, November
Cool Fields, Agnes Bugera Gallery, Edmonton, May
The Forgotten Pears, episode of Recreating Eden, on Vision TV, shown in February 2007
Cover for The Pear Orchard, by Joanne Weber, Hagios Press, Canada, 2007
2006 Fiori di Montagna, the dark side of Nature, Studio d'Arte Raffaelli, Trento, Italy, December
Nature Walk, Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto, November
Bio-D, Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver, July
Apple, Linda Hodges Gallery, Seattle, July

Selected Group Shows and Projects

2019 Manuale di Ultrabotanica, Atelier Dimensione Verde, curated by Sergio Tossi, Florence, Italy
2018 Arboreal Archeology, Palazzo della Penna, Perugia, November, with Isabella dalla Ragione
Extracted Landscapes, Bugera Matheson Gallery, group exhibition, August
2015 Brain Storms: UAlberta Creates, University of Alberta Museums, Edmonton
The Teacher and the Student, project/installation with Walker Keith Jernigan on the relationship
student/teacher, Florence, Italy
2011 Terra, Berchidda, Italy, curated by Gianella Demuro e Antonello Fresu, catalogue
2009 Artificio e Natura, Galleria ArmoryArte, Perugia, Italy, curated by Loredana Parmesani and Carla
Berlioli, catalogue
2008 Il vaso di Pandora, Galleria ArmoryArte, Perugia, Italy, curated by Valerio Dehò, catalogue
2007 ArtCover, Rocca dei Bentivoglio, Bazzano, Italy, curated by Valerio Dehò
SACI Faculty Exhibition, L'Albero Celeste Art Gallery, San Gimignano, Italy, December
2006 Diverse Nature, with Isabella dalla Ragione, fp architetti, Milano, Italy
SACI Faculty Exhibition, August 2006 to May 2007, selected US Universities, catalogue
2005 Vanitas, Studio d'Arte Raffaelli, Trento, Italy, catalogue
Artisti Stranieri in Umbria, Corciano, Chiesa di San Francesco, curated by Massimo Duranti, catalogue

Curatorial Projects

2016 U-Turn, with curator Daria Filardo, SACI MFA final exhibition, Biagiotti Arte Contemporanea,
Florence
2015 Long Distance, with curator Daria Filardo, SACI MFA final exhibition, Florence
2014 Within Alterity: a collection, a population a territory, co-curated with Daria Filardo, MAEC
museum, Cortona, Italy, April to July

Books and Catalogues

Functionally Extinct, catalogue, SouthMain Gallery, Vancouver, critical text by Daria Filardo, 2019
The Herbarium Project, catalogue with the Beaty Biodiversity Museum, Vancouver, 2014
Terra, curated by Gianella Demuro e A. Fresu, Edizioni Time in Jazz, Berchidda, Italy, 2011

Artificio e Natura, curated by Loredana Permesani, catalogue, GalleriaArmoryArte, Perugia, 2009
Il vaso di Pandora, curated by Valerio Deho', catalogue, GalleriaArmoryArte, Perugia, 2008
L'arte nel bicchiere, la collezione d'arte moderna Di Franco, Cortina, 2009 and 2007
Fiori di Montagna, the dark side of Nature, catalogue, Studio d'Arte Raffaelli, Trento, Italy, 2006

Selected Collections

Bill Gates Foundation, Seattle
Unicredit Bank, Italy
Collection Lissa and Cy Wagner, Midland, Texas
Halle Barry, Hollywood
Erregerre Industries, Bergamo, Italy
Elica, Fabriano, Italy
Emaar Properties, Dubai, UAE
Intercept Pharmaceuticals, New York
Schweighofer Holzindustrie, Vienna, Austria
Collection Francesco Casoli, Serra San Quirico, Italy
Collection Di Franco, Alto-Adige, Italy
Washington First Bank, Seattle
Nordstroms, Seattle
Dorothy Ames Design, Toronto
Deloitte Touche, Seattle
Port of Tacoma, Tacoma, Washington
MillerThompson, Edmonton
Bio-Tech, Munich, Germany
Renaissance Wines, Vancouver and Calgary
Delta Hotels, Vancouver
Swedish Hospital, Seattle
Seymour Collection, Vancouver
Artemis Marketing Group, Vancouver
Alberta Foundation for the Arts
University of Alberta
Shaw Cable, Calgary and Victoria
David Zacharko Architect, Vancouver
Zacharko Design Partnership, Vancouver
The Lazy Gourmet Restaurant, Vancouver
Kyle Loranger Design, Edmonton
Zymogenetics Corporation, Seattle.