

Karen Xarchos
(b. 1964, Ottawa, ON)

Self-taught fine artist
1984-86 Commercial Illustration - Algonquin College of Applied Arts

Group Exhibitions:

2007 Fernwood School Fine Art Show - Rockcliffe Park, Ottawa, ON
2015 Richmond Village Fine Art Group - Richmond, ON
2022 Cedarhill Fine Art Show - Cedarhill Golf and Country Club, Ottawa, ON

Publications:

Acrylicworks 3: Celebrating Texture, The Best of Acrylic Painting, F+W Media, p. 103
Art Journey Animals, A Collection of Inspiring Contemporary Masterworks, Northlight Books, p. 23

Private Collections:

Ottawa, ON; Chapel Hill, NC; New York City, NY; Hamburg, Germany; Kodokan Institute, Tokyo, Japan

Teaching:

2002 - 2009 **Guest Artist** - Art Instruction Richmond Public School, Goulbourn Middle School
2010 - **Guest Artist Mentorship** - Student Wildlife Mural Project
2019 - Present. Private Workshops Adults

Awards & Grants/Public Art

2010 Richmond Heritage Mural Gallery
2018 Richmond Bicentennial Mural
2024 Heritage Designs Richmond Pavilion Legacy Project

Work History

1999-Present:

Karen Xarchos Artwork

Murals, Fine Art, Commissions, Interior Design Renderings, Specialty Paint Effects, On Location Movie Set Scenic Artist ("Jill", released Sept, 2022, Winner of 6 Best Film Awards)

Gallery Representation:

2022-Present:

Studio87 Contemporary Art Gallery, Perth, ON
SavvyArtMarket, Oakville, ON

KAREN XARCHOS IS AN ARTIST FROM OTTAWA, ONTARIO.

KAREN GREW UP IN A RURAL SETTING ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF OTTAWA, ONTARIO. SHE SPENT HER FORMATIVE YEARS IMMERSED IN THE BEAUTY OF NATURE – A SENSORY EXPERIENCE SHE BRINGS TO HER WORK.

Fascinated by art for as long as she can remember, Karen began drawing by the age of three and painted with watercolours and oils throughout her childhood. Painting opens a door to another world for her – where the ordinary becomes interesting and strangers become friends.

Karen is self-taught, and believes an artist is never finished learning. To her, growing as an artist is a life long journey that never gets old.

Some of her favourite schools of art include: Baroque, Pre-Raphaelite, Impressionism and Contemporary Realism. Together, these have inspired Karen's own "painterly representational" style. In her work, Karen often combines her images with simplified, abstracted backgrounds – at times blending tonalist and colourist approaches.

Favourite themes are animals, figurative work and motorcycles (since becoming an avid sport motorcyclist). Past projects include personal portraits, commissions for interior designers and numerous murals in both public and private spaces. Her work has been published in two hardcover books: *Acrylicworks 3*, *The Best of Acrylic Painting* and *Art Journey Animals, A Collection of Inspiring, Contemporary Masterworks*.

Happiest with a brush or pencil in her hand, Karen can usually be found in her studio in the Town of Perth, ON.