

BARBARA KOENEN

EDUCATION

- 1989 MFA, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC)
- 1988 AICA New York Studio Program
- 1986 Post-Baccalaureate Studio Certificate, SAIC
- 1984-5 Master's Studies in Architecture, University of Washington
- 1983 BS, University of Wisconsin, Madison

EXHIBITIONS

- 2010 Oasis, Thomas Robertello Gallery, Chicago
- 2008 Muse (Pomegranates and Hand Grenades), Finestra Art Space, Chicago
- 2007 The Artist Project, Art Chicago
- 2006 Outlaw A, Nova New Art Fair, Chicago, with Jackie Kazarian
- 2003 Inspiring Guns Tank Afghan War Rug, 741, Art Chicago
- 1999 Gumdrop Trees in Skokie, North Shore Sculpture Park, Skokie, IL
- 1998 GriGri 4 Spring, in conjunction with Hyde Park Art Center
- 1997 Buddha at the Hot Dog Stand, Ten in One Gallery, Chicago
- 1996 Sampler, Westwerk e.V., Hamburg, Germany
- 1995 Ten in One Gallery
- 1992 Ten in One Gallery
- 1989 The Correct Time, Gallery 2, SAIC
- 1987 Barbara Koenen: Strange Attractors, The Charleston, Chicago
- 1986 Barbara Koenen, The Last Exit, Seattle, WA

GROUP

- 2016 What is the Message? Heaven Gallery (Jessica Cochran)
"Who Cares for the Sky?" Sabina Ott (part of her world)
- 2015 Document, Womanmade Gallery (Jessica Cochran)
- 2014 Conceal Carry, Experimental Station (Connie Spreen)
Avian Spirits, Brushwood Center (Franck Mercurio)
Surrealism in War / Exquisite Corpse, National Veterans Art Museum (Jeanne Dunning + Aaron Hughes)
Going Dutch, Core Project Space
- 2012 Its Juice is Medicine for the Eyes, What It is, Chicago (Tom Burtonwood / Holly Holmes)
Evanston & Vicinity Biennale, Evanston Art Center (Shannon Stratton)
- 2011 Grand Rapids Art Museum, Art Prize
- 2010 Don't Piss on Me and Tell me Its Raining" Bad at Sports at ApexArt Gallery, NYC
Women in Grains, Platteville, WI
- 2009 Artist Run Chicago, Hyde Park Art Center
- 2008 Gestures of Resistance, Gray Matters Gallery, Dallas TX (Shannon Stratton)
Spirit of the Age (MMIII – MMVII), GARDENfresh, Chicago (Tom Burtonwood & Holly Holmes)
- 2007 Mapping the Self, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago (Tricia Van Eck)
The Emergency Show, POLVO, Chicago (
To Fear or Not to Fear, Highland Park Art Center (Vesna Rebernak)
- 2006 POLVO at the Pool Art Fair, Miami Beach
Silk Road Exhibition, 72 E. Randolph Gallery, Chicago
Stitched in Time, Mess Hall, Chicago
- 2005 Juried Show 2005, Center for Contemporary Art, North Adams, MA (M. Dion, J.Morgan Puett)
Faker, LIPA, Chicago
Bridge Magazine Shoebox Series, 2005
- 2004 Summer Summit, Ptujskem gradu Galerija with LIPA, Ptuj, Slovenia
- 2002 Memento Mori, LIPA, Chicago
Chicago Sculpture Now, Part 2, Columbia College Glass Curtain Gallery
She-bang, Three Arts Club, Chicago
- 2001 3 Acres on the Lake, Gallery 312, Chicago
- 1998 Not in My Lobby, You Don't, Hyde Park Art Center
- 1996 Plane Speak, Chicago Cultural Center
ART Chicago 1996, Uncomfortable Spaces
- 1995 Art Chicago 1995, Uncomfortable Spaces, Chicago
PUBLIC/PRIVATE (Women Artists Negotiate the Terrain), NIU Gallery
St. Valentine's Day Exhibition, NAME Gallery
- 1994 The Uncomfortable Show, Ten in One Gallery

- Pages, 450 Broadway Gallery, New York
 SHAPE, The Peace Museum, Chicago
 1993 Official Pictures, Ten in One Gallery
 Categories of Robert Smithson, NAME Gallery
 Emerging Chicago Abstraction, Rockford Art Museum, Rockford
 1992 Grit and Polish/Art and Space, State of Illinois Gallery, Chicago
 1991 itch, N.A.M.E. Gallery, Chicago, (I. Tsatos, J. Pakosta)
 1990 Pornographic Poem, performance for Petty Crimes for the Common Good, Club Lower Links, Chicago
 Art Against Homelessness, Randolph Street Gallery, Chicago
 1989 Bookchin, Hogin, Jacob, Koenen, Gallery 2, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago
 AIDS: Responsible and Responding, Axe St. Arena Gallery, Chicago

GRANTS, AWARDS

- 2013 Ragdale Residency
 1999-2012 Residency, Acadia Summer Art Program, Acadia, Maine
 1996 Residency, Westwerk e.V., Hamburg, Germany.
 Chicago Artists International Program Travel Assistance Grant.
 1993 Community Arts Assistance Program Grant, City of Chicago
 1986-89 Merit Scholarship, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago
 1987 Traveling Fellowship Honorable Mention, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago

ARTICLES, REVIEWS ABOUT THE ARTIST

- Newcity. Chicago's Art 50, 2013
 Pelz, Tori. "Fragrant re-imagining of Afghan war rugs" The Rapidian, 09-14-11.
 Waxman, Lori. "Blobs and Spice Part of Rich Tapestry" Chicago Tribune, January 21, 2011
 Hazel, Tempestt, 60 inches from Center blog.
 Lautman, Victoria. Forget Jeff Koons...Try a Pomegranate, Huffington Post
 Apple, Lauri, One Seedy, Explosive Muse, Gapers Block
 Paul Germanos Muse Photos, flickr.com
 Pecha Kucha -- Artist in War and Peace
 WBEZ interview 3-17-09 CityRoom
 Bad at Sports interview about Chicago Artists Resource 1-22-06
 Deanna Isaacs, Reverse Samson, lots of snarky comments Chicago Reader 1-21-09
 Artner, Alan. Chicago Tribune, 8-15-08
 Apple, Laurie. Gapers Block, 82-08
 Mojica, Jason. Mapping the Self, TimeOut Chicago, 2/14/08
 Klein, Paul. Art Letter, 11/02/07
 Klein, Paul. Art Letter, 4/6/07
 Pusaliek, Leah. TimeOut Chicago, November 16, 2006
 www.iconoduel.org NOVA review
 Artner, Alan. Chicago Tribune. April 25, 2005
 _____. "Spicy Artwork" Chicago Sun-Times May 2003 (photograph).
 Artner, Alan. "Preserving passing cultures," Chicago Tribune, July 12, 2002
 Noll, Damien. "Why we live downtown," Chicago Journal, May 2, 2002 (illus.)
 Camper, Fred "Spring Fever" The Chicago Reader, February, 12 1999
 _____. "Using art to enhance economic development" The Baltimore Sun, June 24, 1999 p.16A
 Williams, Kevin. "What's Wrong with this Picture?" Chicago Sun-Times, October 24, 1999
 Secunda, Allegra. "Bull" Gravy Magazine, October, 1999
 Grabner, Michelle. "Lake Breeze: Referential Abstraction in Chicago", New Art Examiner, September, 1998. (illus.)
 Williams, Kevin. "Tripping on Art: Artist Koenen not just marking time" Chicago Sun-Times 6/12/98 (illus.)
 Camper, Fred. "True Grid", Chicago Reader, 12/12/97 p. 42 (illus.)
 Hixson, Kathryn. "Plane Speak at Chicago Cultural Center", New Art Examiner, March 1996
 Snodgrass, Susan. "Chicago: Barbara Koenen at Ten in One," Art in America, March 1996
 Michely, Viola. "Zwischen Unruhe, Konfusion und Aufbruch/Die Art 1995 Chicago" Kunst Forum International, Bd. 131 Aug-Oct 1995, p.447.
 Artner, Alan. "Heroic Painting," The Chicago Tribune, November 16, 1995, sec. 5, p. 7.
 Williams, Enos. "Artbreak", New City, November 2, 1995, p. 26 (illus.)
 Leming, Warren. "Paper," NNWAC Newsletter, January, 1994
 McCracken, David. The Chicago Tribune, November 6, 1992.

Herrmann, Andrew. "Timely piece of art has 720 tales to tell," Chicago Sun-Times, 10/16/89, p. 2. (illus.)
 _____. "Can you spare a minute?," The Globe, June 20, 1989 (illus)
 Grisko, Carolyn. WBEZ Radio interview, March 30, 1989
 WGN Radio interview, February 14, 1989
 McNamee, Tom. "720 broken clocks would not alarm her," Chicago Sun-Times, 2/12/89, p. 38 (illus.)

SELECTED WRITING

2011 Muse (Pomegranates and Hand Grenades) Gastronomica Journal, Fall 2011
 Keep Breathing, Winnipeg Art Council Symposium, Art Council of Canada
 Cultural Infrastructures, AREA No. 10
 1997-2009 Chicago Tribute Markers of Distinction
 1996 The Public Art of Bronzeville, City of Chicago Public Art Program.
 1994 Target Choice '94 auction catalogue
SHAPE, catalogue essays, The Peace Museum, Chicago, IL
Stained Glass from the E.B. Smith Collection, catalogue essay, Chicago, IL.
 N.A.M.E. Gallery auction catalogue.
 1991 PRIMER, "Sour Grapes", issue #5, collaborative publication, Chicago
 1990 PRIMER, "Fame and Ecology", issue #4.
 1989 American Architects, Associate Editor, American References, Inc., Chicago
PRIMER, issue #3.
PRIMER, issue #2.

EXHIBITIONS CURATED

Consuming War, Hyde Park Art Center, 2008
 WomanMade Gallery Annual Invitational, 2008
Capturing Sunlight: The Art of Tree Studios, Chicago Cultural Center, w/ Barton Faist, TimSamuelson
The Public Art of Bronzeville, permanent installation, Martin Luther King Drive, Chicago, IL
 Target Choice '94 benefit auction for Personal PAC, October, 1994.
 Chicago Stained Glass, Selections from the Mr. & Mrs. E.B. Smith Collection, O'Hare International Airport, International Terminal 5, 1994.
ALTERniture, Lorenzo Rodriguez Gallery, Chicago 1994

GRANTS, AWARDS

2013 Residency, Ragdale Foundation
 1999-2010 Residency, Acadia Summer Art Program, Acadia, Maine
 1996 Residency, Westwerk e.V., Hamburg, Germany.
 Chicago Artists International Program Travel Assistance Grant.
 1993 Community Arts Assistance Program Grant, City of Chicago.
 1986-89 Merit Scholarship, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago.
 1987 Traveling Fellowship Honorable Mention, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago.
 1979- Dean's List, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events 1995-present

Director of Artist Resources 1999-2012

Created, directed and implemented programs and policies to support individual artists, small groups and arts organizations. Duties ranged from research and development, fundraising, grant-writing and reporting, financial projections, budgeting, marketing and outreach, community-building, technical assistance, public speaking, national liaison, hiring and staff oversight, strategic direction and implementation. Throughout my tenure at DCA, I have hired and mentored many amazing artists and arts administrators.

Key projects:

Lake FX 2016. Curator

- **Chicago Artists Month** (2012-15) Produced the city's annual marketing initiative that supports 300+ art events throughout Chicago during October. Website upgrade, print guide, coordinated weekends in 8 featured neighborhoods.
- **Creative Chicago Expo** (2002-2013) – Created and developed an annual resource fair at the Chicago Cultural Center that is now attended by 10,000 artists participating over 2 days in free workshops, local and national vendors, consultants and an online and print directory, covering space, technical assistance, professional development, networking.
- **At Work Forums** – Created this long-running series of workshops and panels related to professional development for performing and visual artists held at the Chicago Cultural Center.
- **Chicago Artists Resource** (2005 – 2012), Founder and Director. Conceived and executed an artists professional development program based on an open source website, enews and social media platform. Modeled after national and international best practices in IT, programs and conceptualization, CAR is an open source website and newsletter featuring curated and community contributed content, connecting 23,000 artists in Performing, Literary and Visual Arts with thousands of links, articles and posts. Since inception, CAR raised over \$1 million from local and national funders including MacArthur Foundation and Leveraging Investments in Creativity and the Ford Foundation. www.chicagoartistsresource.org
- **CAR Enews** (2005-12) Created and oversaw monthly newsletter about opportunities for Chicago artists.
- **Research: Creative Chicago Survey**, 2011, Spearheaded an innovative online research project intended to determine demographics and needs of self-defined creative practitioners, funded through LISC/Chicago Workforce Development Funds. creativechicagosurvey.org research project to determine space and technical assistance needs of Chicago artists. Fundraised, hired consultants, administered. **Chicago Artists Space and Technical Assistance Survey** (2000), **Pilsen Art District Study** (1999), **Strategies for Visual Artists** (2003). Led to the creation of Chicago Artists Resource, informed Chicago artists housing policy.
- **Studio Chicago** Facilitated a year-long collaboration betw MCA, DCA, SAIC, Columbia, etc. to promote programs and dialogue related to studio and work space in Chicago via a collaborative blog, and other events.
- **Artist Live/Work Policy and Projects** Facilitated the development of zoning and building code policy and specific projects including the Switching Station Artists Lofts, ACME Condominium Community, Hairpin Artist Lofts, Bronzeville Artist Lofts, proposed Strand Artists Lofts, and others
- **Square Feet Chicago**(2005) Funded and oversaw the adaptation of Toronto Artscape Square Feet into a 27 chapter guide to buying and leasing space for artists in Chicago squarefeetchicago.org SFC may be found on CAR.
- **Ars Scientia** (2009) lecture series about collaboration between artists and scientists part of the year long Science Chicago project. ars-scientia.org
- **Cermak Road Creative Industry District** Instigator and team member, participating in most aspects of this long-term redevelopment, including re-zoning, landmark designation, re-evaluation of existing industrial policies. Secured a Urban Land Institute Technical Assistance Panel (2007), and current NEA / Mayor's Institute of City Design planning grant (2010-11)
- **Chicago Tribute Markers of Distinction** (1997–2009), an historic signage project and web resource. www.chicagotribute.org
- **Jens Jensen Legacy Project** (2001-02) (www.jensjensen.org) public awareness via exhibitions, publications and a website about the important Prairie-School landscaper.

Public Art Project Coordinator 1995-1998

Martin Luther King Drive Gateway Project Chicago's largest public art streetscape to date, 1.5 mile streetscape public art component of 200 artworks by 20 artists. Managed artists, liaised with other departments and agencies, advised on Lead an extensive and successful community-engagement process.

Midway Airport Crash Rescue Station

Division Street Public Library Branch

EB Smith Collection of Stained Glass Windows at O'Hare International Airport

Assistant Director, CompassRose Gallery 1988-1991
Lorenzo Rodriguez Gallery 1992-1993

LECTURES + SYMPOSIUMS

My City's Still Breathing, Symposium for Canadian Cultural Capital, Winnipeg, Manitoba, 2010

Artists Talk, University of Manitoba 2010

Artists Talk, School of the Art Institute of Chicago 2010

Artists Talk, Columbia College Chicago 2010

Artists Talk, University of Chicago, 2009

Space for Change, Ford Foundation, LINC, Los Angeles 2010

Axelson Center for Nonprofit Management, 2008

Louisiana Cultural Economy Summit, New Orleans(2009)

The Creative Construct, Building for Culture and Creativity Symposium, Ottawa Canada (2008)