

KRISTA HARRIS

BIOGRAPHY

(b. 1954, Roanoke, Virginia)
Lives in Southwest Colorado

EDUCATION

East Carolina University, BFA Painting, 1977

A career level artist whose gestural, abstract paintings are built of mark and medium, sharing a love of both drawing and painting. She thinks of her work as maps or remembered environments, exploring the imperfect, fleeting changes between the natural and the man-made worlds we navigate on a daily basis.

There is nothing frugal about her paintings; instead they are richly layered, sensually manipulated surfaces which seem to live and breathe. Concealing as much as they reveal, and weaving together gestural, energetic marks and fields of color, the opposing forces lure you in...inviting you to linger over painterly passages, to get lost between the lines, and just for a moment, to suspend thought in favor of feeling.

Her art work is widely collected and in many private collections both nationally and internationally. She exhibits in prestigious galleries across the country and is included in corporate collections such as Indigenous Corp, London, England, Mesa College, Grand Junction, CO; Duke Memorial Cancer Center, Durham NC; Northern Trust Bank, Chicago, IL; and the Ritz Carlton Hotel, Grand Cayman Island. She has also participated in international art fairs including SOFA NYC, Chicago and Santa Fe as well as Palm Beach International Art Fair.

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ARTIST STATEMENT

My work is driven by an intense curiosity about places and the ways in which they connect, divide or define us. How do we fit in, what's our place in the world? Is it where we grow up or some adopted location that we connect with on a deeper level? The individual and unique parts of a place...it's culture and traditions, the languages, ethnic and architectural components, the quality of light, the color of the wind, the food, climate and terrain are all visual pieces of the puzzle.

A lifelong case of wanderlust has left me with a visual scrapbook of sights and sounds, even smells and bits of dialogue which seem to sneak into my work. I don't intentionally set out to recreate a scene and I'm often surprised to see them. It's rarely even a single location but bits and pieces jumbled together. They become blurry postcards and reconstructed maps that help me make sense of the world.

Painting is a very physical process for me, beginning days or weeks before I ever begin. Each step is as integral to the process as the application of paint and mark, including reading and researching, stretching canvases, mixing new colors, searching for new tools and experimenting with methods of working.

Risk and uncertainty are an artist's friend, and I try to keep the painting open to all possibilities, deviations and directions—where it's outcome is not yet known and anything can happen. Taking a wrong turn or unexpected direction is often more productive than getting things right, and getting lost can have surprising outcomes. Working back and forth between organic and architectural elements, patterns and textures, colors, tangles of marks is the process that keeps me engaged and the sense of mystery alive and well.

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REPRESENTATION

Artspace8, Chicago, IL
Chicago Art Source, Chicago, IL
Craighead Green Gallery, Dallas TX
Gallery 903, Portland, OR
JGO Gallery, Park City, UT
J Willott Gallery, Palm Desert, CA
Hodges Taylor Consulting, Charlotte, NC
Pryor Fine Art, Atlanta, GA
Telluride Gallery of Fine Art, Telluride, CO
West Branch Gallery, Stowe VT

COLLECTIONS:

Ingenious Corp, London, England
Duke Cancer Institute, Durham, NC, purchase award 2014
Mesa University, Grand Junction, CO, purchase award
Work included in exhibition at DIA and Colorado Governor's mansion in 2010
Northern Trust Bank, downtown Chicago, IL, commission
Ritz Carlton Hotel, Grand Cayman Island, 2015, commission
Federal Bank of Chicago, Chicago, IL

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

March 25, 2017	West Branch Gallery, Stowe, VT
July 1-13, 2016	Tansey Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM
June-Aug, 2014	J Saslow Gallery, Chicago, IL
Sept 2007	Ellis West Gallery, Durango, CO

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

March 2-31, 2017	Works on Paper /Telluride Gallery of Fine Art
Feb 18-Mar -25, 2017	Craighead Green Gallery, Dallas, TX
March 2-April 5, 2017	Telluride Gallery of Fine Art, Telluride, CO
November 2016	Gallery 903, Portland, OR
May 15-30, 2016	Craighead Green Gallery, Dallas, TX
March -April, 2016	West Branch Gallery, Stowe, VT

Jan 2016	Telluride Gallery of Fine Art, Telluride, CO
Nov 21–Dec 31, 2015	Craighead Green Gallery exhibition, Dallas, TX
Jan – April, 2015	Group Exhibition, Chicago Art Source, Chicago, IL
November 2014	SOFA Chicago, Tansey Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM
Sept, 2014	“New Landscapes of the Southwest” Tansey Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM
August 2014	“Culture of Women”, Tansey Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM
June 2014	Group Exhibition, Craighead Green Gallery, Dallas, TX
January 2014	Art PalmBeach, Tansey Contemporary
November 2013	SOFA Chicago, Tansey Contemporary
October 2013	Artist Talk/Painting demo, Tansey Contemporary, Santa Fe
September 2013	“Circus, Circus” Group exhibit, Telluride Gallery of Fine Art
Jun 6, 2013	Abstract Expressionist show at Telluride Gallery of Fine Art
Jun 22–Sept 1 2013	Select 4 person show, “Southern Lights” The Bascom Center for Visual Arts, Highlands, NC
February–April 2013	Pine River Library exhibit
January 2013	Craighead Green, Dallas, TX, 3 person exhibit
January 2013	Art Palm Beach, West Palm Beach, FL
September 2012	Judy Saslow Gallery, Chicago, IL, 2 person show
September 2012	Solo show, “Blame it on the Weather”, Buchanan Gallery, TX
2012	SOFA International Art Fairs NYC, Palm Beach, FL & Chicago, IL
March 2012	Group exhibition, Craighead Green Gallery, Dallas, TX
March 2012	Solo show, J GO Gallery, Park City, UT
December 2011	RED Show, Cheryl Hazan Gallery, NYC
2011	SOFA Shows: NYC, Santa Fe, Palm Beach, & Chicago, IL
November 2010	SOFA Chicago, Chicago, IL
December 2011	Craighead Green Gallery, Dallas, TX
May 2010	Solo Exhibition, ENO, Durango, CO
April 2010	U8, Sopa Gallery, Kelowna, B.C.
March 2010	Huntsville Museum of Art, Annual Fundraiser, AL
October 2009–2010	Work exhibited at DIA and the Colorado State Capital
September 2009	Ellis Contemporary, Durango, CO
March 2009	Huntsville Museum of Art, 18th Annual Museum Gala, AL
August 2008	Churchill Gallery Fall Show, Newburyport, MA
September 2009	Ellis Contemporary Gallery, Durango, CO
March 2009	Huntsville Museum of Art, 18th Annual Museum Gala
August 2008	Churchill Gallery Fall Show, Newburyport, MA
May 2008	Tenth Anniversary Exhibit, Ellis West Gallery, Durango, CO
March 2008	Huntsville Museum of Art, Huntsville, AL
September 2007	Red Sky Gallery, Charlotte, NC, 2 person exhibit
October 2006	Red Sky Gallery, Charlotte, NC, 2 person exhibit
September 2006	Ellis Crane Gallery, Durango, CO
July 2006	Aquatics Show, Somerhill Gallery, Chapel Hill, NC
May 2006	Spring Gallery Walk, Durango, CO