

KAREN FINLEY

EDUCATION

M.F.A. San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA 1981
 Honorary Doctorate of Arts, San Francisco Art Institute 1992

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Arts Professor Tisch School of the Arts, Art and Public Policy
 New York University 2004 - present
- Visiting Arts Professor Tisch School of the Arts, New York University 2002-2004

SELECTED AWARDS, HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, RESIDENCIES AND GRANTS

2015 Richard J. Massesy Foundation Arts and Humanities Award
 2015 Montalvo Arts Center Commission Award with Bruce Yonemoto
 2014 Performing Garage Artist Residency, New York City
 2014 Artist in Residence with Bruce Yonemoto, Montalvo Arts Center,
 Saratoga, CA
 2013 Artist in Residence, Center for the Visual Arts and Visual Studies, University of
 Buffalo
 2011-12 Kelly Writers Fellow, Kelly Writers House, University of Pennsylvania,
 Philadelphia PA
 2008 Edwin Booth Award, CUNY Graduate Center
 2007 Lee Reynolds Award, League of Professional Theatre Women, New York City
 2001 New York Foundation for the Arts, Individual artist fellowship
 2000 Keynote speaker -Women in the Arts, College Arts Association
 1999 *Coagula Arts Journal*, Artist Of The Decade
 1999 Obie Award for creation and performing in "American Chestnut"
 1998 *MS. Magazine* Woman of the Year
 1995 New York Foundation for the Arts, Individual Artist Fellowship
 1993 Guggenheim Fellowship
 1992 Art Matters Grant, for development of art exhibit Momento Mori
 1992 New York State Council on the Arts: Individual Artist Award
 1992 National Endowment of the Arts, Interarts Award with the artist Jerry Hunt
 1990 Bessie Award for the Creation of "We Keep Our Victims Ready"
 1990 National Endowment for the Arts Solo Theater Fellowship,

- 1990 New York Foundation of the Arts, Artist Fellowship
- 1990 Art Matters Grant, a private foundation, towards the development of the exhibit *Memento Mori*
- 1989 National Endowment for the Arts Inter-Arts Grant for the development of new work
- 1988 Kitchen Tour Touring Program, a year long national touring support program with the performance "The Constant State of Desire"
- 1988 Art Matters Grant, individual art award to support development of *Theory of Total Blame*
- 1988 New York State Council of the Arts, Individual Artist Fellowship,
- 1987 Art Matters Grant, Individual Artist Fellowship
- 1987 Bessie Award for the Creation of "The Constant State of Desire"
- 1986 New York Council of the Arts
- 1985 Jerome Emerging Artist Grant, private foundation grant for emerging artist who work in experimental forms
- 1983 National Endowment for the Arts Individual Arts Fellowship, Emerging Artists for New Genres

Selected Exhibitions

Visual Art

2015 SOLO

Dallas Art Fair, Dallas, Texas April 8- 12

- Coagula Curatorial Gallery
Works on Paper
- Psychic Portraits
Daily open studios where Finley created commissioned live portraits in the gallery

2015 Group

Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles June 6 – September 13

Pacific Design Center

Tongues Untied

2 works

- *The Black Sheep*

2 Bronze Plaques

Finley's iconic poem prayer to the outsider and those suffering from aids in cast in bronze

- Memento Mori
Archival material from Finley's 1992 exhibit on the aids crisis

White Box Gallery, NYC - June 17 - Aug. 23

The Last Party

4 w

I shot myself because I love you, if I loved my self I'd be shooting you
(acrylic and ink on handmade paper) 5' x 30'.

1995

Pooh Unplugged Series - 1995 (suite of 3 drawings)

- *What a place for an S + M Bar*
- *I wish I had some porno to remember Mr. Sanders by*
- *Put the gun down and get the nipple clamps out of the freezer*

ink on paper

7 x 10

Pratt Manhattan Gallery, NYC

Performing Franklin Furnace - February 19 - April 30

Group Exhibition of documentation and representation

Selections from Franklin Furnace's exhibition highlights

- *A Woman's Life Isn't Worth Much*
4 images

2014 GROUP

Museum Art Museum of Arts and Design, NYC

NYC Makers: The MAD Biennial - July 1 - Oct. 12

Artist Anonymous -artist support group as social practice bi-weekly meetings. Catalogue

2014 Solo

Hallwalls Center of Contemporary Art, Buffalo, NY

Oct. 25, 26, 2014

Artists Anonymous – Artist Support Group

Miami Art Fair at Aqua December 3- 7

- Exhibition of portraits

Psychic Portraits

25 drawings

Coagula Curatorial Downstairs at Aqua

New Video works – framed video still life's

- Rose Still Life- 1 min
- Hurricane Sandy – *The Lights are out* - 2 min
- Studies in Light – 1:30

Coagula Upstairs gallery at Aqua

- *Artist Anonymous* – Artist Support Group – Dec- 3

2013 Solo

Freight and Volume

Contemporary Art Fair

Berliner Liste 2013

Berlin, Germany

The Troubles – video 39 min. (on loop on 40 in flat screen)

Coagula Curatorial

COAGULA CURATORIAL, JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2014 LOS ANGELES

SEXT ME IF YOU CAN

PAINTINGS ON CANVAS

The New Museum,
Sext Me if You Can –New York City May 2013

an interactive live work where the public sends sexts to Finley and she creates art in the museum in a studio based on the images. The artwork is then exhibited.

2013 Group

Mykonos 2013 Biennale, Greece June 21- 23, 2013

The Nursing Tape 1:30"

Nude in Museum 1"

2 video works

La Mama Galleria, NYC

Visual Aids, *Its Not Over*, 25 Years of Visual AIDS - June 1- 30, 2013

2 w.

WRITTEN IN SAND 1992

AND THE BLACK SHEEP TEXT 1990

Freight and Volume Gallery, New York City, NY

The Decline and Fall of the Art World Part one – The One Percenters

An exhibit of 6 artists responding to the theme

3 artworks

The Complaint Booth -Installation with interactive IPAD

The Troubles - Multi channel video – 39 minutes

The Art World and its Discontents: A Community Mandala - A public art work, paper and markers – changing dimensions

The Eleventh Hour Sept 7- Oct 12

Diverse Works, Houston Texas

Performance documentation of *We Keep Our Victims Ready*
ephemera

Forum Stadtpark, Graz, Austria -Nov 8th – Dec 7, 201

A Buddy for a Text Curated by Veronika Heur

This exhibition included text and performance. I had one installation in the exhibit.

Tales of Taboo

Installation – sound, disco ball

2012 SOLO

Coagula Gallery, Los Angeles, California

July 20 through September 2012

Spirit Drawings

Solo exhibit of works on paper

A series of 26 "intuitive" portraits with companion performance

Project Miami Art Fair December 2-9, 2012

2 solo exhibits -

Coagula Curatorial -

Intuitive portraits

Visual art exhibit:- 20 drawings and painting

Sext Me if you Can - December 7 and 8, 2012

Live Interactive Performance and Installation

Sext Me If You Can

2012 GROUP

KW Institute of Contemporary Art, Berlin Germany

February 19 - April 8, 2012

You Killed Me First, 1985 : The Cinema of Transgression

Group exhibition of films from the East Village, directed by Richard Kern with David Wojnarowicz

Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund, New York City - March 2012 -September 2012

Because Dreaming is Best Done in Public: Creative Time in Public Spaces

Archival material from performance

1- 900 - Karen - *In 1998 Finley created an interactive time based performance where she created a 1900 line and created daily performances for 6 months on her musings of the culture wars, trials and tribulations of the artist, world matters and cultural critiques of society.*

2011 Group

The Geffen Contemporary, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles

Oct. 1- 2011 – Feb. 12, 2012

Under the Black Sun – California Art 1974- 1981

- 2 w. photo documentation of performances *Don't Hang the Angel and Death cakes and Autism*

Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY Feb- May 2011

Looking at Music 3.0

1 wk *Tales of Taboo* – sound installation

Ringling School of Art, Saeasota, Florida

Math and Poetics

The Many Moods of Love – Sound Installation

Aperture, New York City - September 17 -24 2011

Public gallery and group exhibit

What Matters Now?

1 work – ***How do you like my bling?*** (collage, newspaper,)

Charles Bank Gallery, New York City October 11, 2011

An exhibit benefit for Hallwalls

1 w.

Pooh drawing

Ink on paper – 7 11”

2010

Group

Alexander Gray Gallery, New York City

Public Art

The Ribbon Gate

2009

Group

10 years at New Image Art

New Image Art, Los Angeles, Ca
 3 drawings from the Pooh Series, ink on paper
 Spring 2009

In response to War

Andy Warhol Museum
 Pittsburgh, PA

1 wk

Ink on Paper, reclining nude

Mr. President, I'm Ready to be Invaded and Turn Over the Oil

2009 Public Installation - Ongoing

The Next Step To Your Future

Prenninger Gespraechen

Villa Feuerloesch

Prenning, Austria – July 11- Nov 12 2009

Open Heart

Outdoor public memorial to children of the Holocaust at Gusen

Clay and glaze –

To be on display as permanent memorial at Gusen Concentration Camp, Gusen Austria

May 2010

2008 Group Exhibition

Beall Center for Art and Technology

University of California, Irvine

LIVE -Curated by David Familian

LIVE features nine artists who sample and transform data, photographs and video from the Internet and incorporate it into their sculptures and installations.

Business as Usual- 2 computers, 2 desks and chairs

A computer generated installation that collects and displays the compiled names of Iraqi, American, allied forces and civilian war casualties of the present day Iraq war.

Orange County Museum of Art

Disorderly Conduct in Tumultuous Times

Newport Beach, CA

3 works, drawings and artworks referencing the war on terror

California Video Retrospective Exhibition

The Getty Museum of Art, Los Angeles

1 video - *Nude in Museum*, The artist runs through the Museum of Contemporary Art nude when the museum is closed posing in front of nude statues of women.

Exhibitions:

2008 Solo Exhibitions

Artissima Art Fair, Turin, Italy

Alexander Gray Gallery

Solo exhibition -November 3- 10, 2009

Drawings from the Bush Administration

Works on paper from 2001 -2009 that were informed by events and policy during the Bush administration.

Business as Usual: an interactive installation

Names of the casualties from the Americans, the Allies and the Iraqis. A list of names is compiled and the public writes the names of the dead onto a public mural as a memorial.

2007 Solo Exhibitions

Alexander Gray Gallery -NewYork City

October -December, 2007

Nation Building

Drawings, installations, sculpture

Nation Building

Emerson College

Huret Spector Gallery

Boston, MA

February 13 -April 16 2007

Installation, drawings, sculpture

2006 Solo

Karen Finley

George and Martha

300 ink drawings from the book, George and Martha of an affair between the president and domestic diva

Feb 9 –March 18

2006 Group

Potentially Harmful: The Art of American Censorship

Georgia State University, Atlanta

Jan 10 –March 10

Installation of wall mural – *The Virgin Mary is Pro-Choice*

Downtown 1974- 84

Grey Art Gallery

A survey show of Downtown New York

Photo documentation

2005 Solo

Navigate –Baltic Art Centre-

The Dreams of Laura Bush, The Passion of Terri Schaivo

Newcastle Upon Tyne, England

Navigate – Putnitz Ship,

Psychic Portraits, Newcastle Upon Tyne, England

East Village USA , The New Museum-

I'm an Ass Man

video documentation/single monitor, catalogue

Alternative, Psychic Portraits ,

1 work

Brooklyn

2004

Solo

Psychic Portraits, Powerhouse Books, NYC

Psychic Portraits, Chelsea Hotel

DNA GALLERY, Provincetown, MA.

Psychic Portraits,-Channeling Chinati –The Ballroom, Marfa Texas

Group

Soap Factory, Minneapolis MN, LOVE Matters an audio installation
Optimism, The Ballroom, Marfa Texas- 44 portraits

2003**Solo**

Psychic Portraits, Chelsea Hotel NYC
Psychic Portraits The Kitchen, NYC
Psychic Portraits, Boulder Museum Of Contemporary Art

Group

Controversial Art 1980's, Museum Of Contemporary Art, Cincinnati OH - 1 Wk
Embrace – Feigen Contemporary 1 wk
Body Politics -Helga Wimmer Gallery –2 wks

Comic Relief –5 wks

Carnegie Mellon, Pittsburgh PA,
Center for Contemporary Art. New Orleans
University of Canterbury, England
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, New York
University of Oklahoma
Bowling Green State University, Ohio
Kyoto University of Art and Design, Japan

2002**Solo**

STATUS AND EMOTION, PAINTINGS AND DRAWINGS
Liebman Magnan Gallery, New York City

Group**Pictures, Patents, Monkeys, and more..on Collecting**

Institute of Contemporary Art
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
1 wk
South Bend Regional Art museum, South Bend, Indiana
Akron Art Museum- Akron, Ohio – 1 wk
Robert Miller Gallery, New York City, NY –installation
Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh PA

2001

group

Pictures, Patents, Monkeys, and more...on Collecting

Western Gallery, Western Washington University

Bellingham, Washington

John Michael Kohler Arts Center

Sheboygan, Wisconsin

2000

Women

Jane Addams Hull House, Chicago

4 wks

1999

SOLO

POOH UNPLUGGED -Track 16 -Santa Monica, CA

Group

Politics- Video, Green Eggs and Yams -Track 16, Santa Monica

Senses - 1 w. -Patricia Carreira Gallery, Santa Monica, CA

Cal Arts Faculty Show, Valencia, CA

Political Posters, 1 w. "Luck Of the Irish" Track 16, Santa Monica CA

The Contemporary Nude- The Aldrich Museum, installation -Go Figure and drawings
Ridgefield, CT

Double Trouble -touring collection of Tom Patchett -La Jolla Museum, Spain

1998

Podeweil, Berlin Germany -Mothers Maiden Name Wall

XRATED POOH, Plan B, Santa Fe New Mexico -

1997

ASSEMBLAGE - New Image Art, Los Angeles

Sao Paulo International -Sesc, Pinheiros, Brazil - Written In Sand -installation

XRATED POOH -Painted Bride, Philadelphia

Solo- Fotouhi Cramer Gallery, NYC Group- "Uncommom Sense", MOCA, Los Angeles/
 "B.A.B.Y." Virginia Beach Center for the Arts

1996

Solo- "X-rated Pooh", DNA Gallery, Provincetown, MA. /
 "X-rated Pooh", New Image Art, Los Angeles

Group-

"B.A.B.Y." Hand Workshop, Richmond, VA. /
 "Sexual Politics", Armand Hammer Museum, Los Angeles /
 "Girls" New Image Art, Los Angeles
 /"Box", Fotouhi Cramer Gallery, NYC/
 "Illustrious History: 1871 - Present", San Francisco Art Institute/
 "Tarot", Lombard Fried, NYC /
 "The Lottery", Threadwaxing Space, NYC

1995

Solo- Flower Paintings, Lipton Owens Co., NYC

Group- "Outside the Frame(Performance and the Object)", Snug Harbor Cultural Center,
 NY;1w
 "Drawn on the Museum", The Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Ridgefeild, Conn;2w/
 "The Joy of Painting", HERE Gallery, NYC;1w /
 "Chocolate!", The Swiss Institute, NYC; 1w
 "Alternatives: 20 years of Hallwalls Art Center", Burchfield-Penny Art Center, Buffalo, NY; 1w
 /"Old Glory, New Story: Flagging of the 21st Century", Santa Monica Museum of Art; 1w./
 "Bloom", Cristine Rose Gallery, NYC; 1w

1994

Solo-

"St. Kilda", Kim Light Gallery, Los Angeles /
 "Moral History", Walter/McBean Gallery at the San Francisco Art Institute;Installation /
 "Written In Sand/The Vacant Chair", Cornerhouse, Manchester, England; Installation

Group-

"Members Only", Carles Poy Gallery, Barcelona, Spain; 1w /
 "Outside the Frame(Performance and the Object)",Cleveland Ctr for Contemporary Art;1w /
 "Puber-alles (why am I who am I?)", Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; 1w /
 "Diagnosis: Breast Cancer", Denise Bibro Gallery, NYC; 1w /
 "Flagging the 21st Century:A request for predictions",Capp St. Project, San Francisco;1w

1993

Solo- "Drawings and Paintings", Rebolosso Gallery, Minneapolis, MN
 / "Memento Mori", Intermedia Arts, Minneapolis, MN; Installation /
 "Written In Sand/The Vacant Chair", Gallery 76, Ontario Coll. of Art, Toronto; Installation /
 "Drawings from Enough Is Enough", Lipton/Owens Co., NYC Group- "The Return of the
 Exquisite Corpse", The Drawing Center, NYC; 1w / "The Seventh Wave", John Hansard
 Gallery, Southampton U.K.; 1w /
 "42nd St. Art Project", Creative Time, NYC; Installation /
 "The Seventh Wave", Milch, London U.K.; 1w /
 "The Seventh Wave", Newport Harbor Art Museum, Newport Beach, CA; 1w

1992

Solo- "Memento Mori", The Kitchen - NYC; Installation /
 "Memento Mori", Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Installation /
 "Written In Sand", Hallwalls Contemporary Art Center, Buffalo, NY; Installation /
 "Written In Sand", Amy Lipton Gallery, NYC; Installation

Group-

"A Paper Trail", Berland/Hall Gallery - NYC; 1 w
 "Womens Words", Coup de Grace Gallery - NYC; 3 w /
 "Bloody Sunday", Irish Arts Center, NYC /
 "Nepotism 2", Max Fish, NYC; 1 w /
 "Shapeshifters", Amy Lipton Gallery, NYC; 3w /
 "Faculty Exhibition", SFAI Walter/McBean Gallery, San Francisco; 1w /
 "Without", The Lab, San Francisco; 1w /
 "The Anti-Masculine", Kim Light Gallery, Los Angeles; 1w /
 "Day Without Art", Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; 1w /
 "Art In Nyack", Edward Hopper Art Center, Nyack NY; 3w

1991

Solo- "The Virgin Mary Is Pro-Choice", Painted Bride - Philadelphia; Installation /
 World Tattoo - Chicago /
 "Feminine Instinct", Rene Fotouhi Fine Art East - East Hampton, N.Y./
 "Memento Mori", Projects U.K. - Newcastle, England; Installation

Group-

"Original Sin", Hillwood Art Museum - Long Island, NY; 1 w./
 "High Risk Manuscripts", Southern Exposure - San Francisco; 1 w./
 "STILLSTAND Switches", Shedhalle - Zurich, Switz; 2 w./
 "Outspoken Women: Heated Treatments in the '90's", Intermedia Arts - Minneapolis; 4 w./
 "Erotic Drawings", Artspace - San Francisco; 1 w./
 "Burning in Hell", Franklin Furnace - NYC; 1 w.

1990

Solo- World Tattoo - Chicago /

"A Woman's Life Isn't Worth Much", Franklin Furnace-New York; Installation

Group-

"Language in Art", The Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art - Ridgefield, Conn.; 1 w./

The Berkeley Museum - Berkeley, CA; 1 w./

"An Army of Lovers", PS 122 Gallery - New York; 1 w./

"Elvis Art", World Tattoo Gallery - Chicago; 1 w./

"ACT-UP's Auction for Action", Paula Cooper Gallery - New York; 1 w./

"Soul Survivors", Beacon St. Gallery - Chicago; 3 w./

"Fax Attack", Andrea Ruggieri Gallery - Wash.DC; 1 w./

"Benefit for The Kitchen", Castelli Graphics - New York; 1 w./

"Tony Oursler", Diane Brown - New York; 1 w. (collaboration with Tony Oursler) /

"Group Show", World Tattoo - Chicago; 4 w./

"Brut '90", White Columns - New York; 3 w.

1989

Solo-

BoBo-San Francisco

Group- "Modern Myths", Real Art Ways-Hartford,Conn; 1 w./

"What's Wrong With This Picture?", San Francisco Arts Commission Gallery-S.F.,CA; 1 w./

"Nepotism", Hallwalls-Buffalo,NY; 2 w./

"The Bi-National, Art in the Late 80's", Kunsthalle Bremen-Bremen; 1 w.

1988

Solo- PS 122 Gallery-New York

Group-

"The Bi-National, Art in the Late 80's", Stadtische Kunsthalle-Dusseldorf; 1 w.

1987

Group-

"Visual AIDS Benefit", Loughelton Gallery-New York; 2 w./

"Nausea", Limbo Gallery-New York; 2 w.

1986

Group- "Invitational Benefit 1986", P.S. 122 Gallery-New York; 1 w.

1985

Solo-

Mo David Gallery-New York

/ 8 BC-New York

Group-

"The Friends Show", A Gallery-New York; 1 w.

"East Infection", Zero One Gallery-Los Angeles; 2 w

/ "Payola", Mo David Gallery-New York; 5 w.

1982

Group-

"Drawing", Mo David Gallery-San Francisco; 1 w.

Other Collaborative Projects

Memorials, a song cycle and film by Robert Steel and Todd Lauterbach. Libretto by Karen Finley

Life After - Activist Memorials and Digital Collaboration

Iowa Theatre, Iowa Memorial Union, Iowa City, Iowa October 2013

Sarasota Film Festival, Sarasota, Florida-April 18, 2012

RHYTHM OF STRUCTURE: BOWERY AND BEYOND

Documentary of John Sims curated exhibit Rhythm of Structure and Finley's I installation, *Many Moods of Love*

April 19, 2012

Media on Main, Sarasota Florida

Selby Gallery

Rhythm of Structure: Square Root of Love exhibit,

Many Moods of Love by Finley

An interactive sound installation where Finley takes the musical compilation of the compositions of Andre Kastelenatz's Many Moods of Love and layers his 58 songs of orchestrated muzak. The songs are edited and laid on top of each other so there is one song comprised of the 58 songs.

PUBLIC WORKS

2010 ongoing - Open Heart, Gusen Austria - a public outdoor ceramic installation in memory of children killed at Gusen Concentration Camp created with others in America and Austria, children and survivors -

2003 – SCREAM OUT – a public performance of women reading out rage against the Bush administration, the Patriot act and the war in Iraq and then each woman screaming out with WAC- The Poetry Project at St. Mark's Church NYC

2002 – MAKE PEACE- a peace walk, Fridays, and Tuesdays walking around the World Trade Center Site

2002-to now PSYCHIC PORTRAITS – Finley creates automatic drawings, texts to create a “psychic PORTRAIT”

1999 –LOVE LUNCH-driving in parking lot, weekly and at random with disco music and fun, Bergamot Station, Santa Monica CA

1998 –1-900-ALL-KAREN –a daily phone performance piece sponsored by Creative Time –6 months

1994 –with Art Matters –watch “arrive late”, memorial box, tee shirt and boxer shorts

1993-“Positive Attitude” -a storefront installation in Times Square, NYC

1992-“Cleopatra is Pro-Choice” -public poster project with San Francisco Artspace –

1991 -“The Black Sheep-A Public Poem”-sculpture on view at The Aldrich Museum, Ridgefield, Conn./

“The Black Sheep-A Public Poem”-sculpture on view at The Painted Bride Art Center, Philadelphia, PA/

“Don't Blame Eve” - hand-colored poster (edition of 500) for the Hillwood Art Museum's “Original Sin” exhibition

1990

“The Black Sheep-A Public Poem”-sculpture sponsored by Creative Time Citywide at 1st Ave and Houston St., NYC/

“God Is a Woman” - hand-colored poster (edition of 1000) distributed with Shift Magazine as its artist project for issue #9

Collections

The Museum of Modern Art, NYC

The Women's Museum. Washington, D.C.

The Pompidou, Paris France

Museum of Contemporary Art Cincinnati, OH

Museum Of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles

Chase Manhattan Bank

Larry Kramer

Tom Patchett

Schiffler Collection

Anne MacDonald

Jonathon Demme

Kim Light-Knight