

Mary Porterfield

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Education: 2002 MFA, Arizona State University; Tempe, AZ.

1993 MS, Occupational Therapy, Washington University, St. Louis, MO.

1992 BS, Biology, Doane College, Crete, NE.

Solo Exhibitions

- 2024 That Which Remains, Flex Space, Riverside Arts Center, Riverside, IL.
- 2024 From this Day Forward, Waubesa Community College, Sugar Grove, IL.
- 2023 With/In, Epiphany Center for the Arts, Chicago, IL.
- 2023 Pushing Back the Sea, Concordia University, River Forest, IL.
- 2022 Solo Virtual Exhibition, Phoenix Institute of Contemporary Art, Phoenix, AZ.
- 2019 In:Dependence, Hofheimer Gallery, Chicago, IL.
- 2019 Recent Work, Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, IL.
- 2018 New Work, Indiana University-Northwest, Gary, IN.
- 2015 10 Year Retrospective, Great River Road Museum of Contemporary Art, Potosi, WI.
- 2015 Dual Natures, Packer-Schopf Gallery, Chicago, IL.
- 2011 Myths and Messengers, Packer-Schopf Gallery, Chicago, IL.
- 2011 Recent Work, University of Illinois, Illini Union Art Gallery, Urbana, IL.
- 2008 Restless Landscapes, St. Xavier University, Chicago, IL.
- 2007 Recent Work, Gallery 180, Illinois Institute of Art, Chicago, IL.
- 2006 In the Throes of Being, Moraine Valley Community College, Palos Hills, IL.
- 2005 Recent Work, Illinois Central College, Peoria, IL.
- 2004 Veiled Perceptions, West Valley Art Museum, Surprise, AZ.
- 2002 Flux of Consciousness, Harry Wood Gallery, Tempe, AZ.

Two Person Exhibitions

- 2024 Vestiges of the Tide, Two Person Show with Ellen Holtzblatt, Miller Art Museum, Sturgeon Bay, WI.
- 2023 Raw, Two Person Show with Ellen Holtzblatt, Prairie State College, Chicago Heights, IL.
- 2017 Morality Tales, Two Person Show with Kathy Weaver, Firecat Projects, Chicago, IL.
- 2014 Two Person Show with Orlando Boffill, Becky Art Space, Jeon Ju, South Korea.
- 2012 Nuances of Landscape, Two Person Show with Nina Weiss, Koehnline Museum, Des Plaines, IL.
- 2010 Two Person Show with Oscar Martinez, University of Wisconsin-Parkside, Kenosha, WI.
- 2009 Life Sentences, Two Person Show with Frank Bell, Noyes Cultural Center, Evanston, IL.
- 2004 Two Person Show with Joe Ray, Grand Canyon State University, Phoenix, AZ.
- 1999 Two Person Show with Carol Sue Horstman, Midtown Contemporary Arts Center, St. Louis, MO.

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2026 Series: One Thing After Another, an online exhibition. Site: Brooklyn, Brooklyn, NY. (Juror: Matt Stromberg, Freelance arts writer and editor, LA).
- 2026 Faculty Biennial for the University of Nebraska-Omaha, Gallery 1516, Omaha, NE.
- 2026 Mark Makers: An Exhibition of Contemporary Drawing, South Shore Arts, Munster, IN. (Curator: Brandon Johnson)
- 2025 Biennial 33, South Bend Art Museum, South Bend, IN. (Juror: Scott Vincent Campbell)

Group Exhibitions Continued:

- 2025 Those Who Tend, Warnes Contemporary, Brooklyn, NY. (Juror: Kaylan Buteyn)
- 2025 Windows to the Subconscious, NIU Art Museum, DeKalb, IL
- 2024 Moments, Memory and Time, Tempe Center for the Arts, Tempe, AZ.
- 2024 Women Take the Walls, Garrett Museum of Art, Garrett, IN (Curator: Angela Green)
- 2024 Making Space, Alma Gallery, Chicago, IL.
- 2024 Neighbors, South Shore Arts, Munster, IN. (Curators Linda Dorman and Tom Torluemke)
- 2023 19th Annual Regional Juried Exhibition, Freeport Art Museum, Freeport, IL (Juror: Joshua Johnson, Assistant Curator, Figge Art Museum)
- 2023 Paper Works: An Online Exhibition, Site:Brooklyn, Brooklyn, NY. (Juror: Julia Halperin)
- 2023 Deposition:Drawn, Carlson Tower Gallery, North Park University, Chicago, IL. (Juror: Tim Lowly)
- 2022 In Good Company, Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, Scottsdale, AZ. (exhibition traveling to Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art)
- 2022 Rock Island Art Guild Exhibition, Figge Art Museum, Davenport, Iowa.
- 2022 10th Annual Art Competition, Bridgeport Art Center, Chicago, IL (Jurors: Elsa Munoz, Bana Kattan, William Amaya Torres)
- 2021 5th Annual National Juried Exhibition, Wausau Museum of Contemporary Art, Wausau, WI. (Juror: Peter Trippi)
- 2021 Cimarron National Works on Paper, Department of Art, Graphic Design and Art History, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK. (Juror: Larissa Goldston)
- 2021 Figures/Faces, Evanston Art Center, Evanston, IL. (Five Person Show with Jenie Gao, Charity Henderson, Nancy Rosen and Kateryna Tkachenko)
- 2021 12th Annual Drawing Discourse Exhibition, University of North Carolina, Asheville NC (Juror: Pamela Phatsimo Sunstrum)
- 2021 Decahedron (held virtually), Artistsonthelam.com. (Curated by Jenny Lam)
- 2020 Third Midwest Open, Womanmade Gallery, Chicago, IL (Juror: Mia Lopez, Assistant Curator at the DePaul Art Museum).
- 2020 8th Annual Art Competition, Bridgeport Art Center, Chicago, IL (Jurors: Ilze Arajs and Alan Leder).
- 2019 Art on Paper, Weatherspoon Art Museum, Greensboro, NC (Curator: Elaine Gustafson)
- 2019 Dubuque Biennial, Dubuque Museum of Art, Dubuque, IA (Juror: Sarah Humphreville, Senior Curatorial Assistant at the Whitney Museum of American Art)
- 2019 Sub(urban), Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL. (Curator: Audrey Moyer)
- 2018 Evanston Biennial, Evanston, IL. (Jurors: Sergio Gomez, Aron Packer, Therese Quinn)
- 2018 Rockford Midwestern Biennial, Rockford Art Museum, Rockford, IL. (Juror: Aron Packer)
- 2018 Loved Ones, Bridgeport Art Center, Chicago, IL. (Curator: Lelde Kalmite)
- 2018 6th Annual Juried Exhibition, Bridgeport Art Center, Chicago, IL.
- 2017 Front and Center, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL (Curator: Caroline Picard)
- 2017 Et Tu, Art Brute? Andrew Edlin Underground Space, New York, NY.
- 2017 Unpresidented: Chicago Edition, Hubbard Street Lofts, Chicago, IL.
- 2016 Waysides, Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan, WI.
- 2016 Detroit Biennale, Detroit Museum of New Art, Armada, MI.
- 2016 At River's Bend: Our Place on the Ohio, Evansville Art Museum, Evansville, IN.
- 2016 Landscape/Vision/Interpretation, Robert Morris University, Chicago, IL.
- 2016 South Shore Salon Show, South Shore Arts, Munster, IN (Juror: Carrie Johnson, Curator, Rockford Art Museum)

Group Exhibitions Continued:

- 2016 Third Coast National, K Space Contemporary, Corpus Christi, TX. (Juror: Sharon Kopriva).
- 2015 As They Like It, Dan Addington Gallery, Chicago, Il. (traveling exhibition to Elmhurst Art Museum, Carthage College, Bowling Green State University and the Beverly Arts Center)
- 2014 Gongju International Art Exhibition, Lim Lip Museum, Gongju-si, Chungnam, Korea.
- 2013 Artists Respond to Genocide, Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, Chicago, Il. (Curator: Stano Grezdo)
- 2013 In a Perfect World, Beverly Arts Center, Chicago, Il.
- 2012 Rockford Midwestern, Rockford Art Museum, Rockford, Il.
- 2012 Artist and Nature, Uptown Arts Center, Chicago, Il.
- 2012 Wipe Out, Peanut Gallery, Chicago, Il.
- 2010 Third Coast National, Kspace Contemporary, Corpus Christi, TX. (Juror: Trenton Doyle Hancock)
- 2010 Converging Trajectories, Modified Contemporary Arts Center, Phoenix, AZ. (Curator: Ted Decker)
- 2010/08 Packer-Schopf Gallery, Chicago, Il.
- 2009 33rd Annual Beverly Art Competition, Beverly Arts Center, Chicago, Il.
- 2008 National Art Premiere, Elmhurst Art Museum, Elmhurst, Il.
- 2008 The Art of Real Estate," The Illinois Institute of Art, Chicago, Il.
- 2007 Contemporary Symbolism, Prairie State College, Chicago Heights, Il. (Juror: Lanny Silverman, Curator, Chicago Cultural Center)
- 2004 Exhibition of Contemporary Forum Grant Winners, Phoenix Art Museum, Phoenix, AZ.
- 2004 Pigment: Contemporary Painting Invitational National Group Exhibition, Bradley University, Peoria, Il.
- 2004/02/01 Combined Talents: Annual Florida National Competition, Florida State University Museum of Fine Arts, Tallahassee, FL.
- 2003 Eye Lounge: A Contemporary Art Space, Phoenix, AZ.
- 2003 7th Annual Artlink Juried Exhibition, Sixth Street Studios, Phoenix, AZ (Juror: Brady Roberts, Curator, Phoenix Art Museum).
- 2002 New Works in Paint: A National Juried Exhibition, Mesa Arts Center, Mesa, AZ.
- 2002 Visions International Competition, Art Center Waco, Waco, TX. (Juror: Peter Frank, Art critic and curator)
- 2002 Juror's Choice, Shemer Art Center, Phoenix, AZ.
- 2002 Draw the Line VII, Visual Arts Gallery, Phoenix, Arizona.
- 2001 45th Annual International Exhibition, San Diego Art Institute, San Diego, CA.
- 2000 Mayo Clinic, Scottsdale, Arizona. (Juror: Beverly Adams, Curator of the Phoenix Art Museum)
- 2000 Harry Wood Gallery at Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona. (Juror: Meg Linton, Director of the Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum).
- 1999 34th Open International Exhibition, Fine Arts Institute of the San Bernardino County Museum, Redlands, CA.
- 1997 Women's Caucus for Art National 25th Anniversary Exhibition, Artemisia Gallery, Chicago, IL. (Juror: Faith Ringgold).
- 1996 The Arts in Celebration Fifth Biennial Regional Juried Exhibition", SIU Museum, Carbondale, Il. (Juror: Elizabeth Millard, Director, St.Louis Forum for Contemporary Art).

Awards

- 2026 Joan Mitchell Foundation Fellowship Nominee.
- 2025 Juror's Award, Biennial 33, South Bend Museum of Art.
- 2023 First Place, 19th Annual Regional Juried Exhibition, Freeport Art Museum, Freeport, IL.
- 2021 Honorable Mention, 5th Annual Juried Exhibition, Wausau Museum of Contemporary Art, Wausau, WI.
- 2020 Honorable Mention, Third Midwest Open, Womanmade Gallery, Chicago, IL.
- 2019 Museum Purchase Award, Art on Paper Exhibition, Weatherspoon Art Museum, Greensboro, NC.
- 2019 City of Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events Grant (DCASE).
- 2018 Juror's Choice Award, Evanston Biennial, Evanston Art Center, Evanston, IL.
- 2018 Project Development Grant, Illinois Arts Council.
- 2018 Dean Alan Olson Purchase Award, Rockford Art Museum, Rockford, IL.
- 2017 Center Program for Professional Development, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL.
- 2017 Vermont Studio Center, Artist Residency, Johnson, VT.
- 2017 Vermont Studio Center Artist's Grant, Johnson, VT.
- 2016 Honorable Mention, Third Coast National, Kspace Contemporary, Corpus Christi, TX.
- 2016 Alexandra Gardner Riddle Memorial Award, Salon Show, South Shore Arts, Munster, IN.
- 2014 Residency, Coohaus Gallery, Chelsea, NY, NY
- 2014 Professional Development Grant, Illinois Artist Council
- 2011 Puffin Foundation Grant
- 2011 Project Development Grant, Illinois Arts Council.
- 2011/09 Ragdale Foundation Residency
- 2010 Best of Show, Third Coast National, Kspace Contemporary, Corpus Christi, TX.
- 2010/09/07 Community Arts Assistance Program Grant, Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs.
- 2010 Anderson Center Artist Residency, Red Wing, MN.
- 2009 Best of Show, Beverly Arts Center, Chicago, IL.
- 2008 Purchase Award, Illinois Institute of Art.
- 2003 Artists Materials Grant, Phoenix Art Museum, Phoenix, AZ.
- 2002 Honorable Mention, Combined Talents: 17th Annual Florida National Competition, Florida State University Museum of Fine Arts, Tallahassee, FL.
- 2002 Juror's Award, Draw the Line VII, Visual Arts Gallery, Phoenix, AZ.
- 2001 Grand Award, "45th Annual International Exhibition," San Diego Art Institute, San Diego, CA.
- 2001 Arizona State University Nominee for Dedalus Foundation Fellowship
- 1999 Graduate Tuition Scholarship, School of Art, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ.

Professional Experience

- 2025-present University of Nebraska-Omaha, Instructor
- 2005-2025 Northeastern Illinois University, Instructor
- 2004-2007 Harrington College of Design, Instructor
- 2000-2002 Arizona State University, Instructor

Selected Appearances/Interviews

- 2024, Art on the Air, NPR/Lakeshore Public Media, March 17 on 89.1FM.
[Art on the Air, March 17, 2024 \(lakeshorepublicmedia.org\)](https://www.lakeshorepublicmedia.org/art-on-the-air-march-17-2024)
- 2024, The Studio Door, Miller Art Museum, Sturgeon Bay, WI, March 1.

Selected Appearances/Interviews:

2024, The Art of Senescence, Door County Pulse Podcast, Feb. 28th.
[PODCAST: The Art of Senescence - Door County Pulse](#)

2024, Artist Talk, From this Day Forward, Waubensee Community College, March 19, 2024.

2024, Panel Discussion, Neighbors Exhibition, South Shore Arts, Feb. 17, 2024.

2023, Contemporary Drawing Masters Series: Mary Porterfield, The Drawing Database- Northern Kentucky University, March 26, 2023. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vQChGV7rNoI>

2023, Artist Talk, Concordia University, River Forest, IL.

2021, Virtual Artist Talk, Fraying Resilience with artist Ellen Holtzblatt, moderated by Juelle Daley.

2021, Virtual Artist Talk, Figures/Faces, Evanston Art Center, Evanston, IL.

2019, Artist Talk, Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, IL.

2017, Presentation on Work, Vermont Studio Center, Johnson, VT.

2008, Artist Talk, St.Xavier University, Chicago, IL.

2006, Artist's Talk, Moraine Valley Community College, Palos Hills, IL.

2004, Artist's Talk, West Valley Art Museum, Surprise, AZ.

2003, Guest Lecturer, Slide Slam Series, Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art

Selected Publications

Create! Magazine, Lightness of Being: A Virtual Exhibition Catalog: Curated by Sergio Gomez, September 2, 2025.
www.createmagazine.co/blog/lightness-of-being-international-art-exhibition

Frank Juarez, "Mary Porterfield: That Which Remains," Artdose Magazine, March 31, 2024.

Cynthia Germain , "Vestiges of the Tide," Do Good Door County, January 28, 2024.
[Vestiges of the Tide \(dogooddoorcounty.org\)](http://Vestiges of the Tide (dogooddoorcounty.org))

Miller Art Museum Debuts "Vestiges of the Tide," Door County Pulse, Jan. 11, 2024.
<https://doorcountypulse.com/miller-art-museum-debuts-vestiges-of-the-tide/>

Ballogg, Mark (2023). "Making Space." Chicago: Ballogg Photography Inc.

CanvasRebel: Meet Mary Porterfield, April 3, 2023.
<https://canvasrebel.com/meet-mary-porterfield/>

Rafael Gonzalez, Jr. "New Gallery Exhibition Portrays the Emotional Burden of Caregiving", The Spectator, Concordia University, Feb. 13, 2023.
<https://spectator.cuchicago.edu/5999/showcase/new-gallery-exhibition-portrays-the-emotional-burden-of-caregiving/>

Frank Juarez, Artist Profile: Mary Porterfield, Artdose Magazine Weekly, August 28, 2022.

Marc Vitali, New Art Exhibition Showcases Work of First Responders, WTTW, March 14, 2022.

Lover's Eye Press, Issue 2, November 30th, 2021.
<https://www.loverseyepress.com/post/art-by-mary-porterfield>

Lori Waxman. "60wrd/min COVID Edition: Jeane Cohen, Cindy Bernhard, Mary Porterfield," NewCity Art, April 23, 2021.
<https://art.newcity.com/2021/04/23/60wrd-min-covid-edition-jeane-cohen-cindy-bernhard-mary-porterfield/>

Damien James. "A Breath of Compassion: A Review of Mary Porterfield at Hofheimer Gallery," NewCity Art, September 18, 2019.
<https://art.newcity.com/2019/09/18/a-breath-of-compassion-review-of-mary-porterfield-at-hofheimer-gallery/>

Selected Publications Continued:

Philip Hartigan. "The Undiscovered Country," Philiphartiganpraeterita.blogspot.com, September 17, 2019.

https://philiphartiganpraeterita.blogspot.com/2019/09/the-undiscovered-country.html?fbclid=IwAR0q_GgWaoFgMpgxz4a33vreC5Et5U494yeOXz_VjLojbi5b7MfGx0bwk4A

Chuck Gniech, "Mary Porterfield: Hofheimer Gallery," September, 20th, 2019.

<http://chicagofineart.blogspot.com/2019/09/mary-porterfield-hofheimer-gallery.html>

Elliot Reichert. "Art Top 5: March 2019," NewCity Art, February 27, 2019 (the group exhibition (Sub)urban recommended at the Hyde Park Art Center)

<https://art.newcity.com/2019/02/27/art-top-5-march-2019/>

Naomi Hoke. "Meet Mary Porterfield, Artist in Edgewater-Voyage Chicago", May 22, 2018

<http://voyagechicago.com/interview/meet-mary-porterfield-self-employed-mary-porterfield-artist-edgewater/>

Tonia Hill. "Hyde Park Arts Center Debuts Fall Exhibitions," Hyde Park Herald, October 6, 2017.

<http://hpherald.com/2017/09/13/hyde-park-arts-center-debuts-fall-exhibitions/>

Bruce Thorn. "Morality Tales: Mary Porterfield and Kathy Weaver at Firecat Projects,"

NeotericArt, March 16, 2017. <http://neotericart.com/2017/03/08/morality-tales-mary-porterfield-kathy-weaver-firecat-projects-bruce-thorn/>

Elaine Coorens. "Porterfield and Weaver: Morality Tales at Firecat Projects," OurUrbanTimes,

March 8, 2017. <http://oururbantimes.com/arts/proterfield-and-weaver-morality-tales-firecat-projects>

Mahjabeen Syed. "Artist of the Week: Mary Porterfield," Chicago-Woman Magazine, January 23,

2017. <http://chicago-woman.com/profiles/artist-week-mary-porterfield/>

Stacia Yeapanis. "OtherPeoplesPixels Interviews Mary Porterfield, Otherpeoplespixels Blog, October, 20, 2016.

<http://blog.otherpeoplespixels.com/otherpeoplespixels-interviews-mary-porterfield>

Chris Miller. "Recommended: Mary Porterfield/Packer Schopf," Newcity, June 4, 2015, p. 22.

<http://art.newcity.com/2015/06/03/review-mary-porterfieldpacker-schopf/>

Nastia Voynovskaya. "Preview: Mary Porterfield's "Dual Natures," HiFructose.com, April 24, 2015.

<http://hifructose.com/2015/04/24/preview-mary-porterfields-dual-natures/>

Carrie McGath. "Looking and Layering: Darkly Whimsical Works at Packer Schopf,"

Chicagoist.com, June 18, 2015.

http://chicagoist.com/2015/06/18/looking_and_layering_the_darkly_whi.php

Sergio Gomez. "In-Sync with.....Mary Porterfield (interview)," Sergiogomezart.wordpress.com, July 21, 2015.

<https://sergiogomezart.wordpress.com/2015/07/21/in-sync-with-mary-porterfield-interview/>

Mahjabeen Syed. "Q & A with Artist Mary Porterfield," Chicagonow.com, July 5, 2015.

<http://www.chicagonow.com/magic-writing/2015/07/qa-with-artist-mary-porterfield/>

http://www.daejonilbo.com/news/newsitem.asp?pk_no=1137922

Jason Foumberg. "16 Shows to See," Chicago Magazine, May, 2013.

"5 Shows to See," NewCity, May 16, 2013.

Qetesha Haynes. "In a Perfect World at the Beverly Arts Center," Chicagoartexaminer.com, May 20, 2013.

<http://www.examiner.com/slideshow/in-a-perfect-world-a-the-beverly-art-center>

Selected Publications Continued:

Victor Cassidy. "Fearless Visions," Artslant.com, <http://www.artslant.com/chi/articles/show/33093>, Jan. 8, 2012

Joanna Broder. "Landscapes that Stir Emotions," Niles Sun Times, Dec. 20, 2012.

Chuck Gneich. "Mary Porterfield: Nuances of Landscape," <http://chicagofineart.blogspot.com/>, December 7, 2012.

Anastasia Karpova. "Recommended: Wipe Out!/Peanut Gallery," NewCity, Jan. 19, 2012, p. 17.

Merlie, Melissa. "Chicago Artist's Works on Display," Champaign-Urbana News-Gazette, Wednesday, Nov. 9, 2011, p. B-10.

the22magazine.wordpress.com/2011/06/20/mary-porterfield/, June 20, 2011.

David C. Lewis, <http://artoutthere.blogspot.com/2010/06/mary-porterfield.html>, June 8, 2010

Studio Visit, Open Studios Press, 2010/08

Sarah Kaiser, "Mary Porterfield at the Noyes Cultural Center," www.chicagoartexaminer.com, July 22, 2009

www.absolutearts.com/artsnews/archive/2009/07/, July 8, 2009

Nola Akiwowo, "Mary Porterfield: Here's an Artistic Perspective on Degenerative Disease," www.centerstagechicago.com/art/articles/mary-porterfield.html, July 12, 2007.

Theo Kenyon, "An Illusion of Normality," Peoria Journal Star, Oct. 9, 2005, p.C3.

Roberta Burnett. "New Works' Exhibit Offers Broad Spectrum of Art," Arizona Republic, Dec. 20, 2002.

Christine Bertelson, "Artist's Sense of Outrage is Captured in a 'Modern Pieta'," St.Louis Post-Dispatch, Feb. 27, 1994, p. 1 of St.Louis Region.

Public Collections

South Bend Art Museum, South Bend, IN.

Weatherspoon Art Museum, Greensboro, NC.

Rockford Art Museum, Rockford, IL.

Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, Chicago, IL.

Koehnline Museum of Art, Des Plaines, IL.

Illinois Institute of Art, Chicago, IL.

Miller Art Museum, Sturgeon Bay, WI.

St. Louis University Hospital

Aid for Victims of Crime, Inc., St. Louis, MO.

Alzheimer's Association of Phoenix

Arizona State University School of Art

Casa Guadalupe Women's Shelter