

April Behnke

Born in Boston, MA

Lives and works in Chicago, IL

Represented by Kim Storage Gallery, Milwaukee, WI

Education

2011 Master of Fine Arts, Painting & Drawing, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL

2006 Bachelor of Fine Arts, Painting & Drawing, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

Solo and Two-Person Exhibitions

2026 *Off/Grid*, Galleries One and Two, McHenry County College, Crystal Lake, IL (Upcoming)

2025 *Mind Games*, Kim Storage Gallery, Milwaukee, WI

2009 *Summer Camp*, Transformer Gallery, Washington, DC

2008 *Naturing*, Meat Market Gallery, Washington, DC (Two Person Exhibition)
On Being Animal, Janet Oh Gallery, Seoul, Korea

Selected Exhibitions

2025 *Arts of Life 2025 Benefit Auction*, Epiphany Center for the Arts, Chicago, IL (Upcoming)
Studio Break Invitational, Studio Break Gallery, West Chicago, IL
Color Shifts, Inter-Society Color Council Conference: Color Impact 2025: Color as Communication, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY (Virtual Exhibition)

2024 *62nd Mid State Arts Exhibition*, Evansville Museum, Evansville, IN
Recent Works, Robert T. Wright Community Gallery of Art, College of Lake County, Grayslake, IL
The Beginning is Always Today, Kim Storage Gallery, Milwaukee, WI
Doomscapes and the Digital Beyond, ARC Gallery, Chicago, IL
20th Annual Regional Juried Exhibition, Freeport Art Museum, Freeport, IL
Perennial Hug, Circle Contemporary North Shore, Glenview, IL

2023 *Fundraising Art Showcase*, Spudnik Press, Chicago, IL
BIG little Art Show, Gruenzel Gallery, Peninsula School of Art, Fish Creek, WI
Benefit Art Auction, Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, Omaha, NE
Small Works, James May Gallery, Milwaukee, WI
Passage of Time, A.D. Gallery, University of North Carolina Pembroke, Pembroke, NC
Miniature Monumental, Bristol Art Museum, Bristol, RI
Midwest Regional Exhibition, Artlink, Fort Wayne, IN

2022 *Rockford Midwestern Biennial*, Rockford Art Museum, Rockford, IL
Benefit Art Auction, Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, Omaha, NE
Art for Peace, University Club of Rockford (presented by the Rockford Art Museum, among others), Rockford, IL
Negative, Intersect Arts Center, St. Louis, MO

2021 *With Care*, Textile Arts Center, Brooklyn, NY
Ann Metzger Memorial National Biennial Exhibition, St. Louis Artists' Guild, St. Louis, MO

2017 *Benefit Art Auction*, Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, Omaha, NE

2016 *The Mind's I Archive*, Elder Gallery, Nebraska Wesleyan University, Lincoln, NE
Benefit Art Auction, Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, Omaha, NE
New Grounds, International Institute for Contemporary Art and Theory, Mangalia, Romania

2014 *Flat File Summer Socials*, Transformer Gallery, Washington, DC
11th Annual Silent Auction and Benefit Party, Transformer Gallery, Washington, DC

2013 *10th Annual Silent Auction and Benefit Party*, Transformer Gallery, Washington, DC

2012 *The Mind's I*, Julius Caesar Gallery, Chicago, IL
ALPTRAUM!, Goethe Institute, Johannesburg, South Africa
The Question of Their Content, Zolla Lieberman Gallery, Chicago, IL

2011 *Projecktraum Deutscher Kunstlerbund*, Berlin and CELL Project Space, London, England
Benefit Art Auction, Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, Omaha, NE
MFA Exhibition, Sullivan Galleries, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL

2010 *ALPTRAUM!*, Transformer Gallery, Washington, DC
7th Annual Transformer Silent Auction, Mexican Cultural Institute, Washington, DC
Ron Artist: MVP, Noble and Superior Projects, Chicago, IL
Emerging Artist Auction, Daniel Cooney Fine Art, New York, NY
Body/Image, Corcoran College of Art and Design, Washington, DC
You Are Not Making Art, Zrobili Gallery, Chicago, IL
Crucifix, Zrobili Gallery, Chicago, IL
Midnight Snacks, 1366 Space, Chicago, IL

2009 *6th Annual Transformer Silent Auction*, Mexican Cultural Institute, Washington, DC
Late Summer Emerging Artists Auction, Daniel Cooney Fine Art, New York, NY
No Soul for Sale, Transformer Gallery Booth at X-Initiative, New York, NY
Washington Project for the Arts Auction, American University, Washington, DC
Paintpresent, Lexington Art League, Lexington, KY

2008 *Paper Trail*, Transformer Gallery, Washington, DC
5th Annual Transformer Silent Auction, Halcyon House, Washington, DC
Scope Hamptons Art Fair, Meat Market Gallery Booth, Wainscott, NY
FY2009 Visual Arts Applicants' Showcase, Katzen Art Center, American University, Washington, DC
Scope Basel Art Fair, Janet Oh Gallery Booth, Basel, Switzerland
Flat Mates, Transformer Gallery and Arlington Arts Center, Arlington, VA

2007 *Wall/Paper*, Transformer Gallery, Washington, DC
Aqua Art Fair, Meat Market Gallery Booth, Miami, FL
4th Annual Transformer Gallery Silent Auction, Halcyon House, Washington, DC
Merde! Low Tech Art, Pendu Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
Performance Week Auction, Meat Market Gallery, Washington, DC
That Was Then and This Is Now, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
NEW ART 2007, MPG Contemporary, Boston, MA

2006 *PRESENT TENSE*, artspace@16, Malden, MA
Thesis Show, Tjaden Gallery, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
Overdue, Fine Art Library, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

2005 *AMO*, Hartell Gallery, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

2004 *The Rome Show*, Palazzo Lazzaroni, Cornell University, Rome, Italy
The Bean Prize Exhibition, Tjaden Gallery, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

Bibliography

- 2025 Amanda Becker, *Summer Gallery Night MKE Returns This Weekend with 50+ Art Venues*, CBS 58 News Station, Milwaukee, WI
Ginny Van Alyea, *CGN Art Preview: July 2025*, Chicago Gallery News, Chicago, IL
2025 Arts Guide, Chicago Gallery News, Chicago, IL
- 2024 Bianca Bova, *Head North: On in Milwaukee*, Chicago Gallery News, Chicago, IL
- 2022 Frank Juárez, *Artdose Magazine: Celebrating 10 Years (2013-2023)*, artdosemagazine.com, Sheboygan, WI
Frank Juárez, *Rockford Midwestern Gallery Walkthrough with Juror Frank Juárez*, artdosemagazine.com, Sheboygan, WI
Artdose Magazine Weekly, *Artist Profile: April Behnke*, Sheboygan, WI
Rockford Midwestern Biennial 2022 Exhibition Catalog, Rockford Art Museum, Rockford, IL
- 2021 Ann Metzger Memorial National Biennial Exhibition Catalog, St. Louis Artists' Guild, St. Louis, MO
- 2011 Robyn Murray, *Bemis Hosts Three New Artists in Residence*, KVNO News, Omaha, NE
- 2010 Emily Torem, *The Scene*, Time Out Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 2009 Chris Klimek, *Following the 'Paper Trail' at Transformer*, The Examiner, Washington, DC
- 2008 Jessica Dawson, *The Right Ingredients for a Sweet Experience*, Washington Post, Washington, DC
- 2007 be/dc, October Issue, Washington, DC
ArtWorld Digest, January Issue, Brooklyn, NY

Awards

- 2024 Award of Merit, *Recent Works*, Robert T. Wright Community Gallery of Art, College of Lake County, Grayslake, IL
- 2023 Honorable Mention, *Midwest Regional Exhibition*, Artlink, Fort Wayne, IN
- 2011 Smith Oppenheim Scholarship, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 2010 Elizabeth Graham Scholarship, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 2009 Artist Fellowship, DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, Washington, DC
- 2008 Small Projects Program Grant, DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, Washington, DC
Young Emerging Artist Grant, DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, Washington, DC

Collections

Davis Street Drawing Room, Evanston, IL
Booth Family Center for Special Collections, Georgetown University Art Collection, Washington, DC

Residencies

- 2011 Artist Residency, Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, Omaha, NE
- 2009 Slak Guest Studio, Slak & PlaatsMaken, Arnhem, The Netherlands

Lectures and Talks

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| 2025 | <i>Mind Games</i> Artist Talk, Kim Storage Gallery, Milwaukee, WI |
| 2011 | Art Talk Lecture, Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, Omaha, NE
Graduate Lecture, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL |
| 2009 | Visiting Artist Lecture, Undergraduate Program, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL |