

Statement

My perspective on the world has been forever altered by my years working as a commercial diver and my lifelong interest in nature. I am an explorer and I am drawn to the intersections where nature and geometry collide, translating observed environments into enhanced visual experiences. When a place or object resonates with me, I distill it into bold shapes, textures, and color relationships, as seen in the abstracted, enhanced and layered surfaces of my work. Guided by experience and memory, my painting process emphasizes pattern, structure, and the weight of color with techniques that overlaps with printmaking at times.

Whatever my subject and end result of a work of art is, I am interested in making work that challenges general perception versus presenting idyllic scenes and work that opens up dialogue instead of setting up a closed conversation.

Along with making art, I love listening and playing music, hiking with my dogs, swimming and boating. I am also very much into cooking and making bread as another element of living creating an artful life.

Biography

Richard Keen is a visual artist based in Surry, Maine. Originally from Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, he earned a BFA from Millikin University and an MA from S.U.N.Y. Albany.

Specializing in abstraction, Keen's work explores the relationship between place and perception through bold color, geometric forms, and the tensions between natural and geometric structures. His artistic vision is deeply influenced by years of exploring coastal landscapes and his experiences as a commercial diver.

Keen's work is held in public, corporate and private collections internationally and has been featured in the U.S. State Department's Art in Embassies program. He has received multiple grants from institutions such as the Maine Arts Commission, the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, and Rhode Island Sea Grant. His recent solo exhibitions include the Midwest Museum of American Art, Elkhart, IN, the Garage Art Center in Queens, NY, Moss Galleries in Portland, ME and the Zillman Art Museum in Bangor, ME. He also exhibits regularly with Anita Rogers Gallery and The Painting Center in New York City as well as Courthouse Gallery in Ellsworth, ME.

In addition to his studio practice, Keen has completed several public art commissions, including interior murals for educational institutions and community spaces.

His work has been reviewed in Art New England, Portland Press Herald, Maine Home + Design, Dispatch Magazine, Fresh Paint Magazine, and Studio Visit Magazine.

REPRESENTED BY :

Courthouse Gallery Fine Art, Ellsworth, ME
Moss Galleries, Portland / Falmouth, ME
Anita Rogers Gallery, New York, NY