

PLEASE FIND A BIO *AND* CV BELOW:

#### ARTIST PROFILE

Julie McNiel creates paintings, drawings, prints, animated films, installation, and performance art. Julie has received many awards, including a California Graduate Fellowship, Ingrid Nicholson Trust Grant, Victor Thomas Jacoby Grant, The Faben Artist Fund, Earthwatch Institute Artist Fellowship, Art Fellowship City of Oakland, and Cadogan Fellowship for Painting from the San Francisco Foundation.

#### EXHIBITIONS / PROJECTS

Julie McNiel has served as Lead Artist for numerous collaborative art and community projects over the past thirty years. Her art has been exhibited widely, at venues including Morris Graves Museum of Art, CA., Museum of Northwest Art, WA., San Francisco MoMA Artist's Gallery, Blackfish Gallery, Portland, OR., Chiron Corporation, Emeryville, University of San Francisco, Western Washington University, Community School for Music and Art, Mountainview, Stellar Somerset Gallery, Palo Alto, the Berkeley Art Center, Boston Public Library, MA., Spike Island Arts Centre, England, and the Vallila Library in Helsinki, Finland.

#### EMPLOYMENT/COMMUNITY WORK

Julie McNiel was Site Coordinator/Teaching Artist for the William James Association, through the Arts-in-Corrections Program at Pelican Bay State Prison, 2014-22. She has provided instruction at College of the Redwoods, Humboldt State and San Jose State Universities, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, San Francisco Art Institute, Oregon College of Arts and Crafts, Urban High School of San Francisco, UC Berkeley Extension, and many other schools and community programs. In 2018, she voluntarily taught a painting class for people experiencing incarceration, Humboldt County Correctional Facility, and is seeking funding to continue providing professional arts instruction there.

SCROLL DOWN FOR JULIE'S CURRICULUM VITAE,  
AND FOR EXCERPTS OF CRITICAL AND PERSONAL WRITING ABOUT HER  
WORK AND LIFE

# Julie McNeil CV

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## EDUCATION

MFA, San Francisco Art Institute, Painting, 1999

BFA, University of San Francisco/Academy of Art, Illustration, 1988.

University of Massachusetts, University of South Florida, Fine Arts 1981-84.

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2018 *Fogline* paintings & hand-drawn animation, as part of *Artists Who Animate* interactive exhibit, Morris Graves Museum of Art, Eureka, CA.
- 2012 *Midnight Sun* large-scale wall drawings, First Street Gallery, Humboldt State University, Eureka.
- 2008 *Selections: Julie McNeil* SF MoMA Artists Gallery, San Francisco.
- 2007 *Drawings* CSMA Mohr Gallery, Mountainview.
- 2006 *Surface Reflection* Accident Gallery, Eureka.
- 2006 *Mystery Spot Configuration* Western Washington University, WA.
- 2005 *Moving Target* Stellar Somerset Gallery, Palo Alto, CA.
- 2003 *Chromatica: New Drawings* Vallila City Library, Helsinki, Finland.
- 2003 *Glamour Wood* First Street Gallery, HSU, Eureka.
- 2001 *Winterworld* Octavia's Haze Gallery, San Francisco.
- 1999 *Paintings* Terrain, San Francisco.
- 1996 *Speakeasy: Paintings and Puppets* Black Pine Circle Theater, Berkeley.
- 1995 *Bridges: Art Meets Science* Chiron Corporation, Emeryville.
- 1994 *Terminals, Tracks, Crossings* Fr. Connolly Gallery, University of San Francisco.
- 1993 *Between the Lines* International Inn Gallery, Oakland.
- 1992 *Well of Souls* Berkeley Square, Berkeley.
- 1989 *Eikons* Soft Touch Gallery, San Francisco.

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## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 *Which Way the Wind* Synapsis & Redwood Arts Association, Eureka.
- 2022 *Ingrid Nichelsen Trust for Women Artists*, Morris Graves Museum of Art.
- 2021 *Zero to Fierce: Creative Women in Community*, Arcata Playhouse, CA.
- 2021 *Inside & Out* Justice Arts Coalition Inaugural Online Show, Silver Springs, MD.
- 2021 *ReEmergent* Grant and Exhibition, Morris Graves Museum of Art, CA.
- 2020 *Humboldt Mash-Ups Art/Poetry* Ink People Center for the Arts, Eureka.
- 2018 *Incarceration/Liberation* Muckenthaler Cultural Center, Fullerton, CA.
- 2016 *Pacific North American Print Exhibition* University of Hawaii, Hilo, HI.
- 2016 *Topographic Conversations* Museum of Northwest Art, WA.
- 2015 and at the Morris Graves Museum of Art, CA.
- 2013 *Northwest Passages* Studio Quercus, Oakland.
- 2012 *Departures* with Palmarin Merges, Blackfish Gallery, Portland, OR.
- 2011 *North Coast Artists* First Street Gallery, HSU, Eureka.
- 2010 *Patterns of Migration* with Palmarin Merges, Blackfish Gallery, Portland.
- 2010 *Inked!* Creative Arts Gallery, College of the Redwoods, Eureka.
- 2010 *5th Anniversary Show* Accident Gallery, Eureka.
- 2009 *Artists in Residence* Hoffman Gallery, Oregon College of Art and Craft, Portland.
- 2009 *Six Unruly Artists Paint the Town* First Street Gallery, Humboldt State University.
- 2008 *China Past and Present* Gualala Art Center, Gualala, CA.
- 2008 *Aqua Lunita 2* Studio 104, San Francisco.
- 2007 *Metamorphosis* Green Rice Gallery, San Jose, CA.
- 2006 *Aqua Lunita* Studio 104, San Francisco.
- 2005 *Visual Arts Project: Bay Area Playwrights Festival* Magic Theater, San Francisco.
- 2005 *Small Paintings* Stellar Somerset Gallery, Palo Alto.
- 2004 *Close Calls* Headlands Center for the Arts, Sausalito, CA.
- 2004 *Sparrow Lines* with F. Macnee, Creative Arts Gallery, College of the Redwoods.
- 2004 *Crossing Bridges* AAWAA CBS MarketWatch, San Francisco.
- 2004 *Night of Art* D.P. Fong Gallery, San Jose.

2004 *AAWAA Anniversary Exhibit* The Women's Building, San Francisco.

2004 *Humboldt State University Faculty Show* First Street Gallery, Eureka.

2003 *where are you and your drawing at?* The Lab, San Francisco.

2003 *An Artist's Artist: Honoring Inez Storer* San Jose Institute for Contemporary Art.

2003 *Making Their Mark* SomArts Gallery, San Francisco.

2003 *Humboldt State University Faculty Show* Reese Bullen Gallery, Arcata.

2002 *Across Generations: Exhibit on Virginia Woolf* Sonoma State University.

2002 *Paintings* Mussi Artworks Foundry Gallery, Berkeley.

2002 *AAWAA Artists* San Pablo City Art Gallery, San Pablo.

2001 *Works on Paper* MeSH Gallery, Sebastapol.

2001 *Post-Postcard 5* Southern Exposure Gallery, San Francisco.

2000 *Visual Nectar* Rizzoli Gallery, San Francisco.

2000 *Murals and Miniatures* Terrain, San Francisco.

2000 *Literary Terrain*, San Francisco.

2000 *Tails of the City* Destination Foundation, Metreon Center, San Francisco.

1999 *Terrain in Newport 5* Hydrangea House, Newport, RI.

1999 *Mix* Gallery Route One, Point Reyes Station, CA.

1999 *Telling Tales* Benicia Public Library, Benicia.

1998 *Waterfront Windows* Jack London Square, Oakland.

1997 *Oakland's Creative Fellowship Artists* Pro Arts, Oakland. Catalog.

1997 *The Celtic Lands* 60th Street Gallery, Oakland.

1997 *Bookworks* Pacific Center for the Book Arts, San Francisco Main Library.

1996 *Regional Canvas: A Painting Survey* Pro Arts, Oakland.

1996 *Science Imagined* Berkeley Art Center. Catalog.

1996 *Creating Our Vision* Prieto Gallery, Mills College, Oakland. Catalog.

1996 *Our Mother's Daughters* Crucible Steel Gallery, Cellspace, San Francisco.

1996 *Bookends* North Redwoods Book Arts Conference, Arcata.

1995 *Women's Caucus for Art National Exhibit* Boston Public Library, MA.

1995 *Transcending Boundaries* SomArts Cultural Center, San Francisco.

1995 *Oakland Artists* Oakland Federal Building, Civic Center, Oakland.

## GRANTS, AWARDS

- 2022 Faben Artist Fund, Humboldt Arts Council, travel grant for art residency, Tyrone Guthrie Art Centre, Ireland.
- 2011 Victor T. Jacoby Award for animation art, Humboldt Area Foundation, CA.
- 2009 Senior Artist in Residence, drawing. Oregon College of Art and Craft, Portland.
- 2008 Ingrid Nickelsen Trust Grant for Women Artists, Eureka, CA.
- 2004 Earthwatch Institute, Ford Motor Foundation Artist Fellowship, WA.
- 2003 Morris Graves Foundation Artist Residency, Loleta, CA.
- 2003 Visiting Artist in Residence, Spike Island Art Centre, Bristol, England.
- 2003 College of the Redwoods Foundation Grant, photographic documentation.
- 2001 Full Fellowship and Residency, Julia & David White Artists Colony, Costa Rica.
- 1998 Cadogan Fellowship, painting, San Francisco Foundation.
- 1998 Rick Cramer Memorial Fellowship, painting, San Francisco Art Institute.
- 1998 Legion Paper Award, drawing, San Francisco Art Institute.
- 1997 Two-Year California Graduate Fellowship, SFAI.
- 1995 Artist Fellowship, theatre arts, Cultural Arts Division, City of Oakland.

## TEACHING

- 2014-22 Teaching Artist/Site Coordinator, William James Association,  
California Arts in Corrections Program, Pelican Bay State Prison, CA.
- 2013 Humboldt State University OLLI Instructor, ink painting & drawing courses.
- 2011 Oregon College of Arts and Crafts, Instructor, Narrative Painting, Portland, OR.
- 2002-11 College of the Redwoods, Associate Faculty: Drawing Fundamentals,  
Beginning Painting, Figure Drawing, Color and Design, Intro to Art,  
Techniques in Printmaking, Post-Modern Art: Galleries, Museums of CA.  
Open Art Lab, Eureka Campus.
- 2003/09 Humboldt State University: Beginning and Intermediate Drawing.

2000-02 UC Berkeley Extension Art Faculty, drawing & painting courses.  
2002 San Jose State University: Expressive Drawing.  
2000 San Francisco Art Institute, Visiting Instructor, CORE, printmaking.  
1999-01 SFAI Community Education, Instructor, painting, drawing, printmaking.  
1999 M.H. De Young Memorial Museum, Art Studio program instructor.  
1997-99 Teaching Assistant to Professor Carlos Villa, Irene Pijoan, Inez Storer, SFAI.  
1996 Studio for Technology and Art, Visiting Artist, Yerba Buena Center, SF.

## INTERDISCIPLINARY

2007 Playwright, puppeteer, stage designer, *Moon Lady*, Autumn Moon Festival, Benefit for Half the Sky Foundation/Chinese Orphanages, Bayside, CA.

2007 *Rock, Paper, Scissors* Four large-scale, site-specific murals, and artist presentation at Community School for Music and Art, Tateuchi Hall, Mountainview.

2005 Visual Art for Sarah Hammond's *Green Girl*, Bay Area Playwright's Festival, Magic Theater, San Francisco.

2005 Lecture, *Skagit Stratiforms: Artists and Archaeologists in the North Cascades*, Math/Sci/Engineering Colloquium, College of the Redwoods, Eureka.

2002 Invited Member, San Francisco Art Institute's Artist Committee. Invited juror, Diego Rivera Gallery, Student Exhibitions, SFAI.

2000 Oakland Museum of California, Sales Associate.

1999 Interim Painting Department Manager, San Francisco Art Institute.

1998 Selection Committee, first Richard C. Diebenkorn Teaching Fellowship, and Hiring Committee, Visiting Faculty, San Francisco Art Institute.

1993-01 Artistic Director, performer, *Three-Legged Puppet Troupe*, with shows at Zeum, Yerba Buena Gardens Center for the Arts; 509 Cultural Center/Luggage Store Gallery, San Francisco; San Jose Discovery Museum; Wise Fool Puppet Festival at Cell Space; Black Pine Circle Theater, Berkeley; Laurel Community Playhouse, Oakland; 60th Street Gallery; No-Penny Opera, Golden Gate Lutheran Church, and other SF Bay Area venues.

1994 Choreography/dance performance *Sidhe*, Energy Arts Institute, Oakland.

1994 Library Scribe, *Diagonal Core Wall*, by Ann Hamilton and Ann Chamberlain with Margaret Kilgallen, San Francisco New Main Public Library permanent installation.

1994 Lecture/slide show, Chiron Corporation's Art Program, Emeryville.

1994 Tuesday Artist Lecture Series, Oakland Chamber of Commerce.

1993 Video/Super-8 film for *Close Your Mind and Kiss Me*, Underworld Opera Company, SomArts Theater, San Francisco.

1993 Performance/video for *Vent* interdisciplinary arts troupe performing at Headlands Center for the Arts, Sausalito.

1993 Performance/video/super-8 for *Aqua* at Pacific Stock Exchange, various venues, San Francisco Bay Area.

1993 Presentation on Artist's Journals, Pacific Center for the Book Arts, Berkeley.

## PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Library of the Museum of Modern Art, New York.

University of South Florida, Tampa, FL.

New York Public Library, New York.

Chiron Corporation, Emeryville, CA.

The Julia and David White Art Colony, Costa Rica.

The Morris Graves Foundation, Loleta, CA.

## PRESS/MEDIA

PBS KEET TV *North Coast Perspectives* 'Breaking Out' interview, Season 3, Episode 10, 2018.

NORTH COAST JOURNAL *Students Inside* Vol. XXIV, Issue 1, 2018.

Handmade books included in G. Johnson's *1000 Ideas for Creative ReUse*, Quarry Books, 2009.

KHSU ARTWAVES interview 12/30/08.

ARTWEEK magazine *McNiel at Mohr Gallery*, 11/2007.

MOUNTAINVIEW VOICE *What Dreams are Made of*, 8/10/07.

KQED Online *Gallery Crawl* Small Paintings at Stellar-Somerset, 2005.

PALO ALTO DAILY *McNiel at Stellar-Somerset* 6/3/05.

EUREKA REPORTER *Art, Science, on Common Ground* 1/27/05.

EUREKA TIMES-STANDARD *Two Artists Collaborate* 9/2/04.

EUREKA REPORTER *Images Half-Seen* 9/10/04.

WATCHWORD PRESS #5 drawings published, 2003.

EUREKA TIMES-STANDARD *Imaginary Worlds* 8/29/03.

KHSU ARTWAVES *McNiel's Glamour Wood* 9/9/03.

THE BOHEMIAN *Triple Play at MeSH Gallery* 7/2001.

ARTWEEK magazine *D'Andrade, McNiel, and Smith at MeSH* 7/2001.

WEST WIND REVIEW drawings published, 1997.

MOUNTAINS AND ALLEYS Elephant Press, drawings published, 1997.

1987-96 Drawings/poetry published in various literary & arts 'zines including *Nerve Cowboy*, *Lynx Eye*, and *Free Lunch*. Drawings featured in *The Island* San Francisco Irish Arts Foundation. Featured artist/writer, *510 Magazine*, Oakland. Free-lance illustrator for non-profits, including *California Tomorrow* magazine, and the Philippine Drug Intervention Project, San Francisco. Illustrator, Barron Storey's *WATCH* magazine.

## COMMUNITY/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Comics Projects, Community Education, School of Visual Arts, New York, 2020.

Cultural Competency/Equity/Inclusivity Training, WJA/Dr. Tamu Nolfo, 2019-20.

Humboldt County Correctional Facility, volunteer art instructor, 2018.

Arts in Corrections Conference, taught Portraiture workshop, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, 2017.

Humboldt County Chinese School, Co-Director 2011-2014.

ICON 8 Illustration Conference attendee, Portland, OR. 2014.

## What Some Art Critics Have Said:

*Julie McNiel's consummate skills as a master of drawing and graphic technique is everywhere evident... clearly revealing the impetus and excitement she brings to each of her drawings. Each work is an exploration of uncharted space, a new locus of discovery and visual imagination that is literally 'drawn out' of the blank paper... an exploration of character, the artist's personality, and her active and vivid way of seeing. What she sees and re-creates for us to see, is a fanciful and powerful world of stories and imaginary landscapes drawn from the 'realms' and influences of her life, literary works, fairy tales and their illustrations, medieval engravings, icons, comic books, German Expressionism... McNiel's drawings are exquisitely executed, with a command of stroke, color and composition, that leaves no doubt of her mastery of her medium and control of her space of exploration...*

— — — Frank Cebulski, ARTWEEK magazine, 11/2007.



*...she comes to grips with an aspect of self which is difficult to describe in words or in any other way. Her notions about how and why to draw fade into the background, as she sifts through the layers of her imagination, calling forth what resonates within her...as a result, her exhibit is a collection of phantasmagories - the lines anxious, dark and deep, the colors bright and unbridled...McNiel's work resembles dreams in that they are neither linear nor obvious. This makes many of them difficult to digest. But, like dreams, they are at turns, beautiful, absurd, and nearly always affecting.*

— — — Melody Dye, MOUNTAINVIEW VOICE, 8-10-07.

*McNiel's pencil drawings dominate the show...trained as a painter, with a strong background in costume and set design, McNiel surely has a sly slice of the English major lurking in her as well. Her chatty drawings are covered with thoughts, droll statements and punning text...draw McNiel can. She presents strong, confident lines in strong, confident compositions, the framed pieces achieving an elegance that is pleasing and flirts with downright beauty...*

— — — Gretchen Giles, THE BOHEMIAN, 6/2001.

## **JULIE 'Jules' MCNIEL : the Personal Biography of an OG Artist**

Born in San Francisco in the '60s, she grew up immersed in a vibrant, culturally diverse street scene, resonant with music and dance. Her friends came from all over the world. Jules's classmates were Chinese, Sicilian, Navajo, African-American, Mesoamerican, Irish. Jules learned early to find sustenance in ink drawing, oil painting, clay sculpture, and made handmade books out of found materials. Jules started hustling early as a teaching artist, showing other kids in her neighborhood how to draw and sell cartoons, while still in elementary school.

Jules had a passion for ecology and the natural world. In the 1960s and 70s, she roamed the redwoods along the slopes of Mt. Tamalpais (a Miwok name) and was awe-struck by the beauty of the sea urchin shells she picked up on Ocean Beach. She joined the feminist movement in her teens. In the 1980s she made 'zines with other young artists in San Francisco and Oakland that addressed homelessness and under-paid labor. Jules drew patrons and volunteered at the Glide Memorial Church soup kitchen. She worked as a freelance illustrator for the Philippine Drug Intervention Project. She visited San Francisco Jail as an artist-journalist. Jules collaborated in creating a quilt with the AIDs Quilt Project, after the death of a college friend. She then made her first trip to China in 1987, resulting in a series of award-winning experimental illustrations.

She was involved in the San Francisco Mission School in the '90s, now considered the forerunner of the *urban rustic* art movement. The 1980s-90s was a time when

she realized how powerful the intersection between the arts, culture, and activism could be.

Today, and over the past 2 decades, Jules works as an artist in far northern California. She has taught university and community arts classes, including youth and elders programs. Jules also provided art workshops for eight years as a Site Coordinator and Teaching Artist at Pelican Bay State Prison. As an artist-entrepreneur, Jules has provided tutoring/ mentoring services, and exhibited her paintings, etchings and hand-drawn animated films in galleries and museums.

She is currently designing a series of workshops that integrate circles, meditation, creative visualization exercises, with visual arts practices. She is working on a comics book project.

She is a member of the Humboldt Bay Mycological Society and the California Native Plant Society. Jules has a loving Life Partner of 40 years - an accomplished Taiko drummer and Sensei. They have a beloved adopted daughter who is passionate about social justice issues, and the art of crochet.

*December 2022*