

Jess Beyler was born in Urbana Illinois. The light and the empty space of that landscape was her first formative visual experience and it has remained an important component of her work ever since

She studied art at Schiller European University in Strasbourg, France, earned a BFA in painting at the Maine College of Art, and an MFA at the University of Iowa. Because her practice is body-based, she also studied and danced with Chester Wolensky of the Jose Limon Company, at the Ram Island Dance Co. of Portland ME, and earned a 2nd degree black belt from the Japan Karate Association in Chicago, where she also taught.

Ms Beyler has shown her paintings in galleries across the country, including Chicago, New York, Portland ME, New Jersey, Denver, the Kansas City area, and Champaign-Urbana IL. Her practice has been sustained by residencies in North Adams MA, and the Vermont Studio Center as well as by time spent in Lisbon, Venice, Munich, and Vienna.

Ms Beyler has shown large scale work at Prairieland Mediation Center, and at the M2 Building in downtown Champaign, which recently acquired *100 Famous Views of the Universe*, for their permanent collection.