



PROFESSIONAL ARTIST
BIO

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BIOGRAPHY

Sheila Kernan is a Calgary based artist; who is known for her unique, sophisticated, and tactile aesthetic. Born and raised in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; she grew up in a large family (one of 6 children) who fostered the arts and encouraged creativity at every opportunity.

She was crafting, drawing, painting, sewing, woodworking, sculpting etc., since the age of 3. Demonstrating incredible passion and talent professional artists, teachers and artistic family members, quickly mentored her.

Today, her work oscillates between realism and abstraction, reference memory and imagination. Her compositions are meticulously crafted, cultivated through her use of referential collages made from multiple photographs and sketches. Ethereal softness, hardedges and thick painterly strokes collide in multiple layers, alluding to a feeling rather than a specific location or subject. While her primary focus is on paintings she also pushes beyond conventional boundaries and explores other creative avenues such as digital art, corporate installations and sculptural works.

Kernan aims to transmit an experience that stimulates others own emotions into the work. She chooses to leave out information aiming not to include too much detail. Playing with the notion. "How much information do you have to provide in order to still tell the story?" The viewers' emotions play into the narrative.

Kernan's art is avidly collected. Over 15 years as a full time artist her work can be found in numerous private, corporate, and public art collections across North America, Europe, Australia, and Africa. Earning her B.F.A from the Alberta University of the Arts formerly Alberta College of and Design (ACAD) in 2006. She has gone on to showcase her work nationally in more than 40 exhibitions. In 2017, she was awarded a lifetime achievement award as the recipient of the ACAD Alumni Legacy Award.