

CELESTE KELLER

ARTIST STATEMENT / BIO

"I'm a figurative oil painter rooted in traditional realism. In my work, I consciously seek to combine the technical proficiency of realism with the boundless imagination of abstraction, creating compositions that invite the viewer on a journey of introspection and discovery.

My current body of work is a series of underwater self portraits, with images that move fluidly between figuration and abstraction; floating between a restricted realism and an ethereal loosening of traditional form. In these works, I strive to capture the struggle between maintaining control and letting go.

These paintings offer an immersive exploration in duality, portraying the shimmering reflections of the subject beneath the water's surface, and provide a playful interpretation of portraiture where reality and fantasy exist in harmonious balance".

Celeste Keller is a large scale, figurative painter working in oils. She currently lives and works in Scarborough, ON. She received her formal Fine Art training at the University of Guelph in 1994 obtaining a Bachelor of Arts degree in Studio Art. While at Guelph she was fortunate to study under Tony Scherman, Margaret Priest, Ron Shuebrook and Greg Murphy.

Her paintings are collected world wide and have received several local awards. In 1997 she appeared on an episode of BRAVO's Star Portraits and her work can often be seen on HGTV's Income Property. She has painted a few well known Canadian celebrities including Mike Holmes, Moses Znaimer and Carla Collins.

When she's not painting, Celeste is designing residential Interiors. She believes that every space has the potential to be a work of art, and approaches each project with a commitment to creating an environment that not only looks beautiful but also evokes emotion and inspires creativity.

SELECTED EXHIBITION HISTORY

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2023	Artist Project, Exhibition Place, Toronto, ON
2021	Artist Project, Online Exhibition, Toronto, ON
2016	Annual Juried Exhibition, Latcham Gallery, Stouffville, ON
2015	54th Annual Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition, Nathan Phillips Square, ON
2011	Open Juried Show, Beaux-Arts Brampton, Brampton, ON
2010	Whodunit? Mystery Art Sale, Invitee, OCAD, Toronto, ON
2010	Star Portraits, Edward Day Gallery, Toronto, ON
2010	Square Foot Show, AWOL Gallery, Toronto, ON
2010	49th Annual Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition, Nathan Phillips Square, ON
2010	Open Juried Show, Beaux-Arts Brampton, Brampton, ON
2010	Bank on Art, ATM Machine, Queen St. W., Toronto, ON
2009	Whodunit? Mystery Art Sale, OCAD, Toronto, ON
2009	The Last Taboo, The Zoomershow, Direct Energy Centre, Toronto, ON
2009	Square Foot Show, AWOL Gallery, Toronto, ON
2009	Impact 2009, 17th Annual Juried Show, Neilson Park Creative Center, Etobicoke, ON
2009	48th Annual Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition, Nathan Phillips Square, ON
2009	Open Juried Show, Beaux-Arts Brampton, Brampton, ON
2009	Sweet Talk Annual Juried Exhibition, Propeller Centre for Visual Arts, Toronto, ON
2008	Square Foot, AWOL Gallery, Toronto, ON
2008	Impact 2008, 16th Annual Juried Show, Neilson Park Creative Centre, Etobicoke, ON
2008	Opposites Attract, Etobicoke Art Group, Neilson Park Creative Centre, Etobicoke, ON
2007	Surfacing, Scarborough Arts Council, Scarborough, ON

AWARDS

2016	People's Choice Award, Annual Juried Exhibition, Latcham Gallery, Stouffville, ON
2009	Honourable Mention, Impact 2009, Neilson Park Creative Centre, Etobicoke, ON
2009	David H. Semple Award of Excellence, Open Juried Art Show, Beaux-Arts Brampton, ON
2008	Edward Jones Award of Merit, Impact 2008, Annual Juried Competition, Neilson Park Creative Centre, Etobicoke, ON

EDUCATION

2009 OCAD/CARFAC, Bridging the Gap for Artists
2008 Sir Fleming College, Advanced Painting 1 & 2
2001 OCAD, Life Drawing and Figure Painting
1994-96 OCAD, Painting and Drawing
1989-94 University of Guelph, BA Honours, Studio Art

PRESS

2010 "Moses Znaimer in Pictures", The Globe and Mail, November 19th
2010 Winner of Star Portraits, Episode 209 with Mike Holmes, BRAVO, November 6th
2010 "Year End round Up 2010", Patrick Donahue, Dilettantesdiary.com, July 14th
2009 "Winning Artists, Fleming's Best", Jenn Watt, Haliburton County Echo, June 9th
2009 "Year End round Up 2009", Patrick Donahue, Dilettantesdiary.com, July 13th

PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

Mike Holmes, Holmes on Holmes, Milton, Ontario
Carla Collins, Malibu, California, USA
Moses Znaimer, Zoomer Media, Toronto, Ontario
Bill Wells, Biovail, Vermont, N.Y., USA