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# Amber Kempthorn

## Education

2008 Master of Fine Arts, Sculpture - Cranbrook Academy of Art  
2006 Post Baccalaureate Certificate - Maryland Institute College of Art  
2000 Bachelor of Arts, Studio Art - Hiram College

## Solo Exhibitions

2024 *Sweet Monotony*, Sally Otto Gallery, University of Mount Union, Alliance OH  
2022 *(With)drawing*, The Bonfoey Gallery, Cleveland, OH  
2017 *A River Isn't Too Much to Love*, The College of Wooster Art Museum, Wooster, OH  
2016 *No Name No. 3* Judith Rae Solomon Gallery, Youngstown State University, Youngstown, OH  
*New Work*, The Link Gallery, Kent State University, Kent, OH  
2014 *A Moderately Melancholy Dictionary and Other Missives*, Miller Yezerski Gallery, Boston, MA  
2012 *The Ghost of Ted K or The Unforgettable Fire*, 1point618, Cleveland, OH  
2010 *Was it a dream, was I in it*, 1point618, Cleveland, OH

## Select Group Exhibitions

2025 *Hiram Hill & The World Beyond: Treasures from the Hiram College Art Collection*, Gelbke Fine Arts Center, Hiram College, Hiram, OH  
*Buddy System*, Manifest Gallery, Cincinnati, OH  
*Faculty Affairs*, Waterloo Arts, Cleveland, OH  
*Nevertheless, She Created: Encore*, Bonfoey Gallery, Cleveland, OH  
*Love is Resistance*, Transformer Station, Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, OH  
2024 *Cosmic Glow*, Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park, Peninsula, OH  
2021 *More is More: Visual Richness in Contemporary Art*, Akron Art Museum, Akron, OH  
*Uplifters: New Beginnings from Old Things*, Yards Projects, Cleveland, OH  
2020 *Another Roadside Attraction*, River House Arts, Toledo, OH

- 2019 *Mirror, Mirror*, Waterloo Arts, Cleveland, OH
- 2018 *The Great Lakes Research*, FRONT International: Cleveland Triennial for Contemporary Art, Reinberger Gallery, Cleveland Institute of Art, Cleveland, OH  
*Full Fathom Five*, Progressive Art Collection, Mayfield Village, OH  
*Aspects*, The Bonfoey Gallery, Cleveland, OH
- 2017 *Great Lakes Drawing Biennial*, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI  
*Detroit Sequential*, Signal Return Gallery, Detroit, MI
- 2016 *Thump... Dump, Clump, Lump... Bump!* The Bonfoey Gallery, Cleveland, OH
- 2015 *The Show*, 1point618, Cleveland, OH  
*Memeography*, Zygote Press, Cleveland, OH
- 2014 *Solo::Together*, 50<sup>th</sup> Annual UF Art Faculty Exhibition, Harn Museum of Art, Gainesville, FL  
*The Big Show*, Zygote Press, Cleveland, OH  
*On the Table*, Drawing Center, Viewing Program, Cleveland Public Library Fine Arts Department, Cleveland, OH
- 2013 *Remastered*, 1point618, Cleveland, OH
- Car Art/Crash*, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI  
*Seat's Taken*, Burlington Center for the Arts, Burlington, VT
- 2011 *Zygote Monothon*, The Zygote Press, Cleveland, OH  
*Collection Exhibition*, Cleveland Art Association, Cleveland, OH
- 2010 *The Boston Store*, 8<sup>th</sup> Street Gallery, Boston, MA
- 2009 Aqua Art Fair, Miller Block Gallery, Art Basel Miami Beach, Miami FL

## Film Festivals & Screenings

- 2023 *Ordinary Magic: A Sunday in the Cuyahoga Valley*, Hiram Historical Society, Hiram, OH  
*Ordinary Magic: A Sunday in the Cuyahoga Valley*, Cleveland International Film Festival, Cleveland, OH
- 2022 *Ordinary Magic: A Sunday in the Cuyahoga Valley*, premiere screening with the Akron Symphony Orchestra, E.J. Thomas Performing Arts Hall, Akron, OH

## Awards & Grants

- 2024 Institutional Bickford Award for Visiting Artists, Cleveland Institute of Art, Cleveland, OH
- 2022 Cleveland Arts Prize, Emerging Artist Award, Cleveland, OH  
Dan Tranberg Teaching Excellence Award, Cleveland Institute of Art, Cleveland, OH

- 2021 Arts & Culture Grant, Akron Community Foundation (ACF), Akron, OH  
(2) Community Support Grant, Hiram Community Trust, Hiram, OH  
Arts Grant, Pegs Foundation, Akron, OH  
Arts Grant, Fox Charitable Foundation, Akron,
- 2020 Arts & Culture Grant, GAR Foundation, Akron, OH  
Arts Grant, Fox Charitable Foundation, Akron, OH  
Faculty Development Award, The Cleveland Institute of Art, Cleveland, OH
- 2019 Knight Arts Challenge Akron Grant \$54,000, John S. & James L. Knight Foundation, Miami, FL  
Individual Excellence Award, Ohio Arts Council, Columbus, OH  
Nominee, American Academy of Arts and Letters' Annual Visual Arts Exhibition, New York,

## Special Projects

- 2021 Writer, "Drawing from the Music of Benjamin Britten," *Symposium Magazine*, Issue One *Transition*
- 2018 Co-organizer, *Full Fathom Five*, The Progressive Art Collection, Mayfield Village, OH
- 2017 Curator, *Dan Tranberg: So Vivid. So Luminous. So Fluorescent.* CIA Alumni Gallery  
Co-chair, Dan Tranberg Memorial Scholarship Fund and Art Auction
- 2016 Writer, *PART BODY BODY BEING* in collaboration with Dobama theatre and MOCA Cleveland
- 2013 Seven Below Artist Residency, Westford, VT
- 2011 Viewing Program, The Drawing Center, NY, NY  
*Goodbye, Hello!*, Annual Benefit & Art Auction, MOCA Cleveland
- 2009 Nesnadny & Schwartz, Visiting Curator Program, MOCA Cleveland

## Commissions

- 2024 Public Art Project, Student Residential Village, Putnam Collection, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH
- 2018 Drawings for "Rock This Town: Backstage in Cleveland" by Fran Belkin
- 2016 Album cover design BLK SWN by Smino, Interscope Records

## Press

Wise, Carrie, "Artist Amber D. Kempthorn shares Ordinary Magic, a visual and musical celebration of life," [ideastream.org](http://ideastream.org), November 11, 2022.

Clawson, Kerry, "Animator Kempthorn to receive Cleveland Arts Prize," Akron Beacon Journal, October 29, 2022.

Litt, Steven, "Artist Amber Kempthorn's delightful animation of Benjamin Britten's "Sea Interludes" on view at Bonfoey, following Akron Symphony Premiere," October 16, 2022.

Utter, Douglas Max "Amber Kempthorn (Extra)Ordinary Magic," CAN Journal, August 2022.

Butz, Michael C. "CIA Faculty's Community-Focused Projects Have Impact in and Out of the Classroom," CAN Journal, March 2021.

Goist, Robin "Sixteen winners share \$592,000 in Knight Arts Challenge Akron 2019," Cleveland.com, September 2019.

von Schneider, Dott "In Mirror, Mirror at Waterloo Arts, a Collection of Artists Reveal Their Lived Experiences," Cleveland Scene, October 2019.

Connelly Rice, Karin "CIA's new Great Lakes Research exhibition puts the region's art culture FRONT and center," FreshWater Cleveland, July 2018.

Litt, Steve "FRONT's 'Great Lakes Research' show, including 6 artists from NEO, may have a chip on its shoulder," Cleveland.com, May 2018.

Keffer, Mark "Expressive Figuration," Around Kent Magazine, Fall/Winter 2016.

Wolff, Carlo "Storytelling Devices," Canvas Magazine, Fall/Winter 2015.

Usmani, Josh "Zygote Press Themed Show Explores Iconography in History," Cleveland Scene, June 2015.

Detroit Performs "Car Art/ Crash," [www.DetroitPerforms.org](http://www.DetroitPerforms.org), September 2013.

Tursi, Alexandra "Seat's Taken," Artscope: New England's Culture Magazine, February 2013.

Clark, Joseph "Teaching by Doing," Cleveland Scene, August 2012.

Zevitas, Steven "Must See Painting Shows, March 2012" New American Paintings BlogSpot, March 2012.

Utter, Douglas Max "Hungry Heart, Amber Kempthorn at 1point618," Giraffe Trap, July 2010.

## Collections

Bloomfield Township Public Library, Bloomfield Hills, MI

Cleveland Art Association, Cleveland, OH

Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH

Fidelity Investments, Boston, MA

Hiram College, Hiram, OH

Progressive Art Collection, Mayfield, OH

The Putnam Collection, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH

## Visiting Artist Lectures/Presentations

2024	Kershaw Lecture, The University of Mount Union, Alliance, OH
2023	Department of Art and Art History, The College of Wooster, Wooster, OH
2022	University of Akron, Myers School of Art, Synapse Lecture Series, Akron, OH Juror, Annual Student Art Exhibition, Gelbke Art Gallery, Hiram College, Hiram, OH
2021	MFA Program, Department of Art, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN
2018	The Progressive Corporation, Mayfield Village, OH
2017	The College of Wooster Art Museum, Wooster, OH
2016	DALS Visiting Artist Lecture, Youngstown State University, Youngstown, OH
2015	Professional Practice, Cleveland Institute of Art, Cleveland, OH Senior Drawing, Cleveland Institute of Art, Cleveland, OH
2014	Sculpture Department, Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI
2012	Post Baccalaureate Program, Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD Sculpture Department, Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI
2011	Professional Practice, Cleveland Institute of Art, Cleveland, OH Drawing I, Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD Advanced Painting & Drawing, Towson University, Towson, MD