

# Karen Joan Topping

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## Education

- 2009 Sculpture, MFA, The University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA
- 1993 Painting, BFA, American University, Washington D.C. (Cum Laude)
- 1996 Painting, Academia Di Belle Arti Pietro Vannucci, Perugia, Italy
- 1992 Film, Film Academy Of Fine Arts (FAMU)/American University, Czech Republic
- 1991 Painting, Chautauqua School Of Art, Chautauqua, NY
- 1990 Painting, Chautauqua School Of Art, Chautauqua, NY

## Grants/Awards/Honors

- 2009 Faculty Award, MFA Program, The University of the Arts
- 2006 Small Projects Program Award, Government of the of the District of Columbia, D.C.  
Commission on the Arts & Humanities, Grant Number: SPP-4838-071-2006
- 1993 Elizabeth Van Swinderen Award, American University  
College Of Arts and Sciences School of Communications Juried Visual Media Festival,  
American University
- 1992 College Of Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Research Award, American University

## Solo Exhibition

- 1992 Undergraduate Research Award Exhibition, American University, Washington, D.C.

## Group Exhibitions

- 2009 Art of Change-An Inaugural Celebration, Washington, D.C.  
Art & Design@50, University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA  
12x12x100: 100 Years of Art at Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua, NY  
Sparkplug: New Work, Arlington Art Center, Arlington, VA  
1460 Wall-Mountables, District of Columbia Arts Center, Washington, D.C.  
Sparkplug Presents Findings, District of Columbia Arts Center, Washington, D.C.
- 2008 Peace Now! The Warehouse, Washington, D.C.  
DCAC's Sparkplug, District of Columbia Arts Center, Washington, D.C.  
Works In Progress, University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA
- 2007 Chamber Play/artD.C., District of Columbia Arts Center, Washington, D.C.  
Works In Progress, University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA  
alt.space Festival 2007, Spatial Apocrypha and T.A.G. (Temporary Art Gallery),  
Basekamp, Philadelphia, PA

## Group Exhibitions Continued

- 2007 Art Romp, The Warehouse, Washington, D.C.
- 2006 Millennium Arts Center Artists, Zenith Gallery, Washington, D.C.  
Phantom Floor, Salve Regina Gallery, Catholic University, Washington, D.C.  
Capitol Fringe, Avenue, Washington, D.C.  
Summer Seen-Emerging Artists, Wohlfarth Gallery, Washington, D.C.
- 2005 Traveling With Gulliver, District of Columbia Arts Center, Washington, D.C.  
Where Is The Peace?, Warehouse Gallery, Washington, D.C.  
That's Not How I Remember It..., Salve Regina Gallery, Catholic University, Washington, D.C.
- 2004 Eye Candy, Art-O-Matic, Washington, D.C.
- 2003 CornerViews, Washington Project for the Arts/Corcoran (WPA/C), Washington, D.C.
- 2002 Remembering Pleasure, Art-O-Matic, Washington, D.C.  
Velvet Hammer, Metro Cafe/Ladyfest D.C., Washington, D.C.  
District of Ladies, District of Columbia Arts Center, Washington, D.C.
- 2000 Esmon, Topping, VanSledwright, Art-O-Matic, Washington, D.C.
- 1999 Like Drops Of Water From A Lotus Flower: An Exploration Of Alternatives To "The American Dream", Northern VA Community College, Annandale, VA
- 1998 Art "Unleased", Art Registry International, Washington, D.C.  
5th Annual Small Works Exhibition, Touchstone Gallery, Washington, D.C.

## Commissions

- 2006 "Silver Overcast", The Andy Warhol Party, Space 9 at Kaze Design, Washington, D.C., funded in part by the D.C. Commission on the Arts & Humanities, an agency supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.

## Related Experience

- 2007-Present Sparkplug Artists Collective Member and Liaison, District of Columbia Arts Center, Washington, D.C.  
Board Member, and Visual Arts Committee Member, District of Columbia Arts Center, Washington, D.C.
- 2009 Panelist, Sparkplug: New Work, Arlington Art Center, Arlington, VA
- 2008 Panelist, Philosophy and Art Conference, Stony Brook Manhattan State University of New York. New York, NY  
Co-curator, Ipso Facto: Paintings and Drawings by Jerome Spinner, District of Columbia Arts Center, Washington, D.C.
- 2007-2008 Gallery Manager, District of Columbia Arts Center, Washington, D.C.
- 2005 Co-curator, Traveling With Gulliver, District of Columbia Arts Center, Washington, D.C.
- 2004 Production Assistant, Cherry Red Productions, Washington, D.C.
- 2002-2006 Cofounder, KIOSKdc: a collaborative artist group, Washington, D.C.
- 1999-2004 Staff Docent, The Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C.