

M.E. Sparks

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b. Kenora, ON

Education

2016 Master of Fine Arts, Emily Carr University of Art + Design, Vancouver, BC

2013 Bachelor of Fine Arts, NSCAD University, Halifax, NS

Solo & Two-Person Exhibitions

2025 (forthcoming) ace art inc. Winnipeg, MB (solo)

2022 *and a Rag in the Other*, Alternator Centre for Contemporary Art, Kelowna, BC (solo)

2021 *A Fine Line*, Trapp Projects, Vancouver, BC (two-person)

2019 *Hiatus*, The Ou Gallery, Duncan, BC (solo)

Pleated Fingers Parted, The Fifty Fifty Arts Collective, Victoria, BC (solo)

2018 *near channels*, Support, London, ON (two-person, organized by Graham Macaulay)

Inside Out, SiteFactory, Vancouver, BC (two-person, organized by Leah Weinstein)

Mother Tongue, Dynamo Arts Association, Vancouver, BC (two-person)

2016 *Still Here*, Point Gallery, Salt Spring Island, BC (solo)

2015 *LINEUP*, Helen For Now Gallery, ECUAD, Vancouver, BC (two-person)

Drift, First Floor Gallery, Barrie, ON (two-person)

2014 *Image Search*, Corridor Gallery, VANS, Halifax, NS (solo)

From There to Here, Eventide Art Gallery, New Glasgow, NS (solo)

Still Life, Anna Leonowens Gallery, NSCAD, Halifax, NS (solo)

Selected Group Exhibitions

2025 *Piece and Parse*, 226 Main St. Gallery, Winnipeg, MB (curated by Lindsay Inglis)

2022 *We can only hint at this with words.*, Gordon Smith Gallery of Canadian Art, North Vancouver, BC (curated by Kate Henderson)

2019 *13suite15*, 2244 East Hastings, Vancouver, BC

Road Trip, Monica Reyes Gallery, Vancouver, BC

some body, anybody, SOMA Gallery, Vancouver, BC

2017 *A Terrible Signal*, Access Gallery, Vancouver, BC (curated by Kimberly Phillips)

19th Annual RBC Painting Competition, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, ON

Dear Home, GlogauAIR, Berlin, Germany

Shape Form Colour Line, Elissa Cristall Gallery, Vancouver, BC

2016 *A Beast Salient*, Franc Gallery, Vancouver, BC (curated by Brynn McNab)

18th Annual RBC Painting Competition, The Power Plant, Toronto, ON

Endless Summer, Elissa Cristall Gallery, Vancouver, BC

Fresh Paint / New Construction, Art Mûr, Montreal, QC

see level, Charles H. Scott Gallery, Vancouver, BC

Still Here, MFA Thesis Exhibition, Concourse Gallery, ECUAD, Vancouver, BC

2015 *Salt Spring National Art Prize Exhibition*, Mahon Hall, Salt Spring Island, BC

Flight Lines, Concourse Gallery, ECUAD, Vancouver, BC

- 2014 *By and By*, Port Loggia Gallery, Halifax, NS
Redux, The Craig Gallery, Dartmouth, NS (curated by Teto Elsidique)
- 2013 *Emerging NSCAD Artists*, NSP Headquarters: Studio 21 Fine Art, Halifax, NS

Awards & Grants

- 2025 Canada Council for the Arts: Concept to Realization Grant
- 2024 Canada Council for the Arts: Arts Abroad Residencies Grant (Vermont Studio Center)
- 2024 Manitoba Arts Council: Learn/Travel (Vermont Studio Center)
- 2023 Winnipeg Arts Council: Individual Project Grant
- 2022 Winnipeg Arts Council: Professional Development Travel Grant
- 2021 BC Arts Council: Project Assistance Grant
- 2020 Canada Council for the Arts: Research and Creation Grant
- 2019 Salt Spring National Art Prize: Finalist
- 2018 Canada Council for the Arts: Research and Creation Grant
- 2018 BC Arts Council: Project Assistance Grant
- 2017 19th Annual RBC Painting Competition: Finalist
- 2016 18th Annual RBC Painting Competition: Finalist
- 2016 Nancy Petry Foundation Award: Royal Canadian Academy of Arts & Joseph Plaskett Foundation
- 2016 Valedictorian, Master of Fine Arts, Emily Carr University of Art + Design
- 2015 Salt Spring National Art Prize: Juror's Choice Award
- 2015 BC Arts Council Scholarship
- 2014 Gordon and Marion Smith Painting Scholarship, Emily Carr University
- 2013 Nova Scotia Talent Trust Scholarship
- 2013 Arts Nova Scotia Creation Grant
- 2012 Robert Pope Foundation Painting Scholarship, NSCAD University
- 2009 Canada Millennium Foundation Scholarship

Residencies, Courses & Mentorships

- 2025 NARS Foundation International Artist Residency, Brooklyn, NY
- 2024 Vermont Studio Center Residency Program, Johnson, VT
- 2023 MAWA Focused Mentorship, "Painting & The Studio", Leading Mentor, Winnipeg, MB
- 2021 School for Poetic Computation, "Digital Love Languages", NY (online course)
- 2017 GlogauAIR gGmbH, Berlin, Germany
- 2017 Arteles Creative Center Residency: *Silence Awareness Existence*, Haukijärvi, Finland
- 2017 Institut für Alles Mögliche, Berlin, Germany
- 2013 NSCAD Studio Residency (2013-2014), New Glasgow, Canada

Public Talks & Panels

- 2024 *Wrestling with Static*, Panelist, ace art inc., Winnipeg, MB
- 2022 "Hard Edge, Soft Body: On the Paintings of Christina Senkiw", Lecture, Oseredok Ukrainian Cultural Centre, Winnipeg, MB
- 2022 *We can only hint at this with words*, Online Panelist, Gordon Smith Gallery of Canadian Art
- 2022 Conversations in Contemporary Art (CiCA), Online Panelist, Concordia University

2020 Emily Carr University, MFA Program, Visiting Speaker + MFA Studio Visits, Vancouver, BC
 2020 NSCAD University, Media Toolbox Course, Artist Talk with Matthis Grunsky, Halifax, NS
 2019 Simon Fraser University, MFA Program, Visiting Speaker + Studio Visits, Vancouver, BC
 2018 *some body, anybody*, Panelist, SOMA Gallery, Vancouver, BC
 2018 University of the Fraser Valley, Artist Talk, Abbotsford, BC
 2018 *Overly Dedicated*: Artist Podcast hosted and produced by Claire Scherzinger
 2018 AFK Paradise Valley Summer School, Artist Talk, Squamish, BC
 2017 *A Crimp in the Fabric: Situating Painting Today*, Panelist, Simon Fraser University
 2017 Emily Carr University, Alumni Presentations, Vancouver BC
 2016 *see level*, Panelist, Charles H. Scott Gallery, Vancouver BC

Writing & Contributions to Publications

2025 (forthcoming) exhibition text, Martha Street Studios, Winnipeg, MB
 2024 "Blanket Charades (Thoughts on Taking Shape)", exhibition text for Wrestling with Static, ace art inc., Winnipeg, MB
 2022 *in_your_painting*, zine publication, Alternator Centre for Contemporary Art, Kelowna, BC
 2022 *We can only hint at this with words.*, exhibition publication, Gordon Smith Gallery of Canadian Art, North Vancouver, BC
 2019 *Paperwait*, Volume 21, Ace Art Inc., Winnipeg, MB
 2018 *Materials*, Volume 4, July 2018, Support, London, ON
 2018 "Surfacing: Looking at the Paintings of Ben Reeves", exhibition catalogue essay for *Floating Among Phantoms*, Art Gallery at Evergreen, Coquitlam, BC

Texts & Interviews

2025 Lindsay Inglis, "Liminal Gathering", exhibition essay, 226 Main St. Gallery
 2024 Lindsay Inglis, Interview for Public Parking, online journal, April 2024
 2024 *Canthius: Feminism and Literary Arts*, Artist Feature and Interview, Issue 13, Ottawa, ON
 2022 Jayne Wilkinson, "Surface Tensions: On Works by Russna Kaur and M.E. Sparks", essay included in exhibition publication for *We can only hint at this with words.*, Gordon Smith Gallery of Canadian Arts
 2022 Katherine Pickering, *and a Rag in the Other // An Interview with M.E. Sparks*, Alternator Centre for Contemporary Art
 2018 Kevin Griffin, "ART SEEN: Art installation in a school bus...", Vancouver Sun, June 2018
 2018 Joe O'Brien, "Inside Out", exhibition text, SiteFactory, July 2018
 2018 Angela Glanzmann, "Mother Tongue", exhibition text, Dynamo Arts Association
 2017 Kimberly Phillips, "A Terrible Signal", Curatorial Essay, Access Gallery
 2017 RBC Painting Competition Catalogue, Canadian Art, September 2017
 2017 "15 Artists Named Finalists in RBC Painting Competition", Canadian Art, September 2017
 2017 Lucien Durey, "Vancouver Report: From Black and White to Coloured Lights", Canadian Art
 2016 RBC Painting Competition Catalogue, Canadian Art, September 2016
 2015 SSNAP Finalist Exhibition Catalogue, Art Barn International, October 2015

Auctions & Fairs

2023	Brilliance Gala, Gordon Smith Gallery, North Vancouver, BC
2021	<i>Combine: An Art Fair</i> , Griffin Art Projects, Vancouver, BC
2021	<i>The Polygon Gallery Auction</i> , The Polygon Gallery, North Vancouver, BC
2020	<i>Trapped in 2020: Works on Paper</i> , Trapp Projects, Vancouver, BC
2019	<i>Access Auction Fundraiser</i> , Access Gallery, Vancouver, BC
2018	<i>Canadian Art Social 2018</i> , Toronto, ON
2017	<i>#3 Gallery Auction</i> , R Gallery, Vancouver, BC
2017	<i>Contemporary Art Gallery Gala & Auction</i> , Vancouver, BC
2017	<i>C Magazine Contemporary Art Auction</i> , Division Gallery, Toronto, ON
2016	<i>Access Auction Fundraiser XXV</i> , Access Gallery, Vancouver, BC

Teaching Experience

2021-	University of Manitoba, School of Art, Instructor I (continuing appointment)
2020	Emily Carr University: PNTG 200 Painting Practices, 6-credit (Fall online)
2020	NSCAD University: PNTG 3401 Painting Through the Screen, 6-credit (Fall online), co-taught with Matthis Grunsky
2020	NSCAD University: PNTG 3401 Painting Through the Screen, 6-credit (Spring), co-taught with Matthis Grunsky
2019	Emily Carr University: PNTG 200 Painting Practices, 6-credit (Fall)
2019	Emily Carr University: PNTG 214 Painting: Materials + Process, 3-credit (Summer)
2019	Emily Carr University: VAST 410 Senior Studio, 6-credit (Spring), co-taught with Patrik Andersson
2019	Emily Carr University: PNTG 210 Thinking Through Painting, 6-credit (Spring)
2018	Emily Carr University: PNTG 210 Thinking Through Painting, 6-credit (Fall)
2018	Emily Carr University: PNTG 216 Drawing for Painting, 3-credit (Summer)
2017	Emily Carr University: PNTG 216 Drawing for Painting, 3-credit (Fall)

Selected Additional Teaching Experience

2020	ECU Continuing Studies: CEPN 100 Intro Painting Techniques (Fall - online)
2019	ECU Continuing Studies: CEPN 103 Intro Oil Painting (Fall, 2 sections)
2019	ECU Continuing Studies: CEPN 210 Contemporary Painting (Summer)
2019	ECU Continuing Studies: CEPN 105 Mixed Media Painting (Summer)
2019	ECU Continuing Studies: CEPN 103 Intro Oil Painting (Spring)
2018	ECU Continuing Studies: CEPN 100 Intro Painting Techniques (Fall)
2018	ECU Continuing Studies: CEDR 121 Drawing Into Painting (Fall)
2019	ECU Continuing Studies: CETP 179 Expanded Painting for Teens (Fall)
2018	ECU Continuing Studies: CEPN 103 Intro Oil Painting (Spring)
2018	ECU Continuing Studies: CEPN 100 Intro Painting Techniques (Summer)
2016	ECU Continuing Studies: Instructor, Welcome Lab: Academic Skills (Summer)
2016	Emily Carr University: Seminar Leader, AHIS333 "Chroma"