

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 and Two-Person Exhibitions

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)

Group Exhibitions

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 (curated by Luiza Brenner)

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

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

Awards

- 2023 Winnipeg Arts 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
- 2020 Canada Council for the Arts: Arts Abroad Residencies 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 Arts Nova Scotia Creation Grant
- 2013 Nova Scotia Talent Trust Scholarship
- 2012 Robert Pope Foundation Painting Scholarship, NSCAD University

Residencies

- 2017 GlogauAIR, Artist in Residence, Berlin, Germany
- 2017 Arteles Creative Residency: *Silence Awareness Existence*, Artist in Residence, Finland
- 2017 Institut für Alles Mögliche, Artist in Residence, Berlin, Germany
- 2013 NSCAD Studio Residency, Artist in Residence, New Glasgow, NS, Canada

Public Talks & Panels

- 2022 Gordon Smith Gallery of Canadian Art, *We can only hint at this with words*, Online Panelist
- 2022 Conversations in Contemporary Art (CiCA), Concordia University, Online Panelist
- 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*, Artist Talk, 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, SFU, Vancouver, BC
- 2017 Emily Carr University, Alumni Presentations, Vancouver, BC
- 2016 *see level*, panelist, Charles H. Scott Gallery, Vancouver, BC

Bibliography & Press

- 2022 Jayne Wilkinson, "Surface Tensions: On Works by Russna Kaur and M.E. Sparks", essay included in zine publication *We can only hint at this with words.*, Gordon Smith Gallery of Canadian Art, North Vancouver, BC
- 2018 Kevin Griffin, "ART SEEN: Art installation in a school bus...", Vancouver Sun, June 2018
- 2018 Joe O'Brien, "Inside Out", Exhibition Text, SiteFactory, 2018
- 2018 Angela Glanzmann, "Mother Tongue", Exhibition Text, Dynamo Arts Association, 2018
- 2017 Kimberly Phillips, "A Terrible Signal", Curatorial Essay, Access Gallery, 2017
- 2017 RBC Painting Competition Catalogue, Canadian Art, September 2017
- 2017 "15 Artists Named Finalists in RBC Painting Competition", Canadian Art, 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

Contributions to Publications & Texts

- 2022 *in_your_painting*, zine publication, Alternator Centre for Contemporary Art, Kelowna, BC
- 2022 *We can only hint at this with words.*, zine publication, Gordon Smith Gallery of Canadian Art, North Vancouver, BC
- 2019 Paperwait, Volume 21, AceArtInc, 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

Teaching Experience

- 2021 University of Manitoba, School of Art, Instructor I, (July 2021 - Present)
- 2020 Emily Carr University: PNTG 200 Painting Practices, 6-credit (Fall)
- 2020 NSCAD University: PNTG 3401 Painting Through the Screen, 6-credit, (Fall),
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)