

Suzanne Onodera

Suzanne Onodera creates lush, multi-layered abstract landscapes that blur the line between realism and abstraction. Rooted in her observations of nature, her work is defined by expressive gesture, rich color, and the physicality of paint. These atmospheric compositions evoke both chaos and serenity, inviting viewers into a world that is at once mysterious, ambiguous, and undeniably beautiful.

Before returning to fine art in 2004, Onodera spent over a decade designing immersive environments for video games at LucasArts and Electronic Arts, contributing to iconic franchises like Star Wars, Star Trek, James Bond, and Lord of the Rings. Since shifting her focus back to painting, she has exhibited widely and completed numerous private commissions. Her work has been shown by galleries including Dolby Chadwick (San Francisco), Lanoue (Boston), and Seager Gray (Mill Valley), and she is currently represented by Costello Contemporary (Scottsdale, AZ) and Argazzi Art (Connecticut).

Born in Berkeley, California, Onodera holds a BFA in painting from California College of the Arts and studied at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She has been awarded residencies at Millay Arts, Caldera, VCCA, VSC, and others, and received grants from NYFA, NEA, NYSCA, and the Community Arts Partnership of Tompkins County. A Bay Area native, she now lives and paints in upstate New York.

Solo Exhibitions

Argazzi Art, Verdant, Lakeville, CT

Argazzi Art, Suzanne Onodera, Lakeville, CT

Community Arts Partnership, "After the War", Ithaca, NY
Corners Gallery, Elsewhere, Ithaca, NY

The Rook, Some Other Things I Think About, Ithaca, NY

Corners Gallery, The Wild and the Deep, Ithaca, NY

Community Arts Partnership, A Selection of New Work, Ithaca, NY

Tang Gallery, Suzanne Onodera: New Work, Bisbee, AZ

East Bay Municipal Utility District, Second April, Oakland, CA

Morris Graves Museum of Art, The Landscape of Memory, Eureka, CA

Maturango Museum of Natural History, Suzanne Onodera: Paintings, Ridgecrest, CA
Joyce

Gordon Gallery, New Work, Oakland, CA

Tang Gallery, Atmospheres, Bisbee, AZ

50 Fremont Street, New Work, San Francisco, CA

Head Room Productions, First Cuts, Berkeley, CA

2025 Argazzi Art, Gallery Artists, Lakeville, CT

2024 Seager Gray Gallery, Repose, Mill Valley, CA

Main Street Arts, Path of Totality, Clifton Springs, NY

2023 Argazzi Art, Winter Exhibit, Lakeville, CT
2022 Main Street Arts, Six Painters, Clifton Springs, NY
2021 Seager Gray Gallery, Oasis, Mill Valley, CA
2020 Seager Gray Gallery, The Influence of the Earth, Mill Valley, CA 2019 Corners Gallery,
Plus One , Ithaca, NY

SXSW: The Politics of Punk in the Era of Trump, presented by Dr. Judith Periano, Professor of

Music at Cornell University, Austin, TX

2018 The Politics of Punk in the Era of Trump, presented by Dr. Judith Periano, Professor of

Music at Cornell University, Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY

Schweinfurth Art Center, Made in NY, Auburn, NY 2017 Corners Gallery, Fresh Paint, Ithaca, NY

Rare and Manuscripts Collection, Anarchy in the Archives, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

Heritage Museum, Painted Landscapes: Contemporary Views, Cape Cod, MA

2016 Corners Gallery, Two Person Summer Exhibit: Suzanne Onodera and Stan Taft, Ithaca,
NY.

2015 Schweinfurth Art Center, Water Effect, Auburn, NY

Seager Gray Gallery, All in the Family, Mill Valley, CA

2014 Gallery Wright, Beautiful Dreamers, Wilmington, VT

Seager Gray Gallery, A Sense of Place, Mill Valley, CA Echo Art Fair, Buffalo, NY

Chico State University, CSU Watershed Review, Chico, CA

2013 Tompkins County Public Library, Banned!, Ithaca, NY

2012 Marin Museum of Contemporary Art, The Altered Book, Novato, CA

2011 Costello Childs Contemporary, Small Works Invitational, Scottsdale, AZ

2010 San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art, 30th Anniversary Annual Auction, San Jose, CA

Tompkins County Library, Landscape and Memory, Ithaca, NY

Branstein Quay Gallery, Papaza Benefit, San Francisco, CA

2009 Michael Rosenthal Gallery, Mixed Metaphors and Obsessive Behavior, San Francisco, CA

2007 Chinese Cultural Center, Cheers to Muses, San Francisco, CA

Selected Group Exhibitions

Falkirk Cultural Center, Annual Juried Exhibition, San Rafael, CA LoBot Gallery, Virology, Oakland, CA
Encantada Gallery, AAWAA Group Exhibit, San Francisco, CA Sunset Magazine, Idea House, Menlo Park, CA

Richmond Art Center, Top of the Map, Richmond, CA SOM/Smith Group, Group Exhibition, San Francisco, CA

Dolby Chadwick Gallery, AAF Contemporary Art Fair , New York, NY
Tang Gallery, Small Treasures, Bisbee, AZ
SOM/Smith Group, Revolving Art Series, San Francisco, CA
Richmond City Hall, Asian American Artists of Contra Costa, Martinez, CA Hollis Street Project, Open Surface, Emeryville, CA

Contra Costa Civic Center, Art Passages: Asian American Artists, Martinez, CA Mad River Post, Fall Exhibition, San Francisco, CA
70 Washington Street, Group Exhibition, San Francisco, CA
Berkeley Art Gallery, Group Exhibition, Berkeley, CA

San Francisco State University, Contemporary Asian American Art, San Francisco, CA Squiggle Gallery, Storefront Exhibition, San Francisco, CA
La Pena Cultural Center, Group Printmaking Exhibition, Berkeley, CA
Isabelle Percy West Gallery, CCA Oakland, CA

Dennis Smith Architects, Group Exhibition, San Francisco, CA I

sabelle Percy West Gallery, Group Exhibition, CCA, Oakland, CA

Group Exhibitions, Continued

Awards and Residencies

2023 Community Arts Partnership of Tompkins County SOS Grant
2020 New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA) Keep NYS Creating Grant

Community Arts Partnership of Tompkins County SOS Grant
2017 Brush Creek Foundation for the Arts, Artist in Residence, Saratoga, WY

Community Arts Partnership of Tompkins County SOS Grant

2015 Virginia Center for the Creative Arts (VCCA), Artist in Residence, Amherst, VA 2010 Millay Colony for the Arts, Artist in Residence, Austerlitz, NY

National Park, Artist in Residence, Bar Harbor, ME
2007 Vermont Studio Center, Artist in Residence, Johnson, VT

Caldera, Artist in Residence, Deschutes National Forest, OR

1988 Harvest Merit Full Tuition Scholarship, CCA, Oakland, CA

Exhibition Award, Dennis Smith Architects, San Francisco, CA

1986 Mobility Student Award, Travel Scholarship, CCA, Oakland, CA

Lectures, Curatorial and Teaching Experience

2024 Homer Center for the Arts, Lecture with Ralph Turturro, Homer, NY

2022 Creative Recovery Podcast, interview with Brenna Fitzgerald, Ithaca, NY

2021 Community Arts Partnership, After the War, Ithaca, NY

2019 CSMA Annual Group Exhibition, Curator, CSMA, Ithaca, NY

2014 Out of Bounds Radio, Interview with Suzanne Onodera Hosted by Tish Pearlman, Ithaca, NY
2013 Constance Saltonstall Foundation, Lecture, Ithaca, NY

2012 CAP Space, Lecture, CAP, Ithaca, NY

2009 San Francisco School of the Arts High School, Lecture, San Francisco, CA

2008 Acadia National Park, Acadia Residency, Teaching, Bar Harbor, ME

Lectures, Curatorial and Teaching Experience Continued

2007 Sisters Middle School, Teaching, Sisters, OR

2006 Maturango Museum of Natural History, Lecture, Ridgecrest, CA

Art on Site, Lecture, Joyce Gordon Gallery, Oakland, CA

Private Art Mentor, San Rafael, CA

2004 Art on Site, Lecture, Contra Costa College, CA

1988 City Arts Series with Allan Kaprow, Oakland, CA

Publications

2025 Haven: "A Serene Sanctuary Shaped by Mediterranean-Inspired Minimalism",
TheHavenList.com

2024 Marin Magazine: Susan Skornicka Interior Design "Kentfield Home Spotlight"

San Francisco Magazine: Denise Hall Montgomery Architect "A Fine Romance"

2020 Cover artwork for Native Tongue: Poems by Jack Slocomb, Winter/Spring, Akinoga Press, Baltimore, MD

Artwork for Electrifying Music: The Life and Legacy of Robert Moog,

Rare and Manuscripts Collection and Department of Music, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
2019 Cover artwork for Native Tongue: Poems by Jack Slocomb, Fall/Winter, Akinoga Press, Baltimore, MD

2013 Painted Landscape: Contemporary Views, Lauren P. Della Monica, Schiffer Books, Philadelphia, PA

2009 EDNA, Millay Colony for the Arts, Austerlitz, NY

2007 Cheers to Muses, Contemporary Works by Asian American Women, AAWAA San Francisco, CA

Education

1989 BFA, Painting with High Distinction. California College of the Arts, Oakland, CA, Harvest Merit Full Tuition Scholarship

1987 School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL. Mobility Scholarship Award

Selected Collections

Cornell University Rare and Manuscripts Collection, Ithaca, NY Argo's Inn, Ithaca, NY
Miller Mayer LLP, Ithaca, NY
CalFox Inc, San Francisco, CA

Genentech, South San Francisco, CA

Kaiser Corporate Offices, Oakland, CA Matthew Funds Investments, San Francisco, CA

Gallery Representation

Costello Gallery, Scottsdale,

AZ Argazzi Art, Lakeville, CT

Pryor Fine Art, GA