New Talent: Six Rising Painters Exploring Landscape & Abstraction

Kirby Fredendall
Biography

Kirby Fredendall was raised in Carversville, Pennsylvania, in Bucks County, where art was part of everyday life rather than separated from it. As a young person, she was surrounded by working artists and their environments: sculptures integrated into an artist's backyard, a family friend who was a portrait painter capturing moments of her early life, and time spent in homes where painting and music shared the same rooms. These early experiences shaped her understanding of art as something physical and present, made by people she knew. She earned her BA from Duke University, where she studied art history. She earned her MEd from Arcadia University and teaches at a small private high school in Solebury, PA.

Fredendall's work is grounded in sustained observation of a single lake that she returns to over time. She uses the horizon as both a structural anchor and a point of tension, allowing it to balance against the shifting textures and colors of sky and water. In her paintings, the horizon, the surface of the water, and even what lies beneath the surface operate as competing visual destinations. Rather than describing what she sees, she works from what she feels in those moments, using subtle changes in color, surface, and proportion to build paintings that resist fixed readings. The work remains open, allowing mood and meaning to shift with each viewing and with the viewer's experience.

A dual attention to structure and material shapes her approach. An early exposure to the precision and order of Georgian architecture informed her sensitivity to balance, proportion, and restraint. Time spent working in a metalworking studio introduced her to tin as a surface shaped by process and chance. She works on acid-washed tin and canvas, allowing each surface to assert itself: on tin, the unpredictability of the acid-etched ground interacts with smooth, controlled glazes, while canvas permits more direct and expressive mark-making. Across both, her paintings maintain a controlled economy while remaining materially specific.

She is represented by Sarah Gormley Gallery, Candita Clayton Gallery, Susanna Gold Art Consultancy, and LAA Art Collective. Fredendall has maintained an active exhibition history for more than two decades, with work presented nationally in galleries and museums, including the James A. Michener Art Museum and the Woodmere Art Museum. Her work has been featured in publications including Luxury Magazine, River Towns, and New American Paintings, and is held in private collections throughout the United States.

Kirby Fredendall
Artist Statement

Kirby Fredendall is a contemporary landscape painter who creates original oil paintings on acid-washed tin and canvas that explore memory, light, and the emotional experience of place.

The images are derived from elements she observes, then pulls apart and selectively reconfigures.

The viewer is gently led away from a directly observed image to one where a balance is struck between the known and the felt. The surface is organized into separate areas where one can experience the landscape as a vista across a body of water, as the transparency of light and objects seen beneath the water, and the combinations of light and color that play together among all of these views. The viewer can be drawn deep into the visual space or skate along the surface.

These shifting points of view enable her to selectively extract elements from the visual experience that most effectively convey a heightened awareness of the felt experience of the place. The artist's goal is to capture the sublime, remembered landscape.

She does not try to capture a specific place but rather a mood. She transports the viewer to a place remembered by the use of subtle color combinations that are found in the landscape. The use of the acid-washed tin allows her to create a surface that feels "of" water over which she describes a water place. Place is not simply location. These serene landscapes allow a moment of beauty for the viewer - a communication with a landscape past seen or experienced. A connection to the watery earth that seems to be more and more elusive.

As poet John O'Donnohue writes: "With complete attention, landscape celebrates the liturgy of the seasons, giving itself unreservedly to the passion of the goddess. The shape of a landscape is an ancient and silent form of consciousness."

These contemporary landscape paintings are developed in the studio through observation, abstraction, and material experimentation.

Kirby Fredendall
CV

EDUCATION:

1988 Duke University, BA
1987 Boston University, British Art & Architecture Program, London, England
1986 Duke University, Renaissance Art & History Program, Florence, Italy
1992 Arcadia University, Med

SOLO EXHIBITIONS :

2026 Quiet Horizons: Paintings by Kirby Fredendall, New Hope Arts Center, New Hope, PA
2025 Echoes of the Sublime: Landscape in Water and Sound, Artwrkd, Newtown, PA
2022 Kirby Fredendall: New Landscapes, LAA Art Collective, New Hope, PA
Kirby Fredendall '84: The Color of Light, Walton Center Gallery, George School, Newton, PA
2021 New Landscapes: Kirby Fredendall, Candita Clayton Gallery, New London, NH
2020 In Liquid Art in Offices, Archer Law, Philadelphia, PA
2019 Kirby Fredendall: New Work, Candita Clayton Gallery, Pawtucket, RI
Water Meeting the Sky, Welcome Gallery, Main Line Arts Center, Haverford, PA
2016 The Balance of Light, Bazemore Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
2013 Color and Light, Reinboth Gallery, Lambertville, NJ
2011 Add Sugar and Stir, Michener Art Museum, Doylestown, PA
2010 New Abstraction, Reinboth Gallery, Lambertville, NJ
2009 Kirby Fredendall: Ancestor Series, Reinboth Gallery, Lambertville, NJ
2007 Add Sugar and Stir, Peggy Lewis Gallery, Lambertville, NJ
2002 Kirby Fredendall: Recent Paintings, Morpeth Gallery, Hopewell, NJ
2001 Kirby Fredendall: Ancestors, Emerald City Fine Art, Seattle, WA
1998 Seen in Parts, Multiple Choice Gallery, Montgomery County Community College, Blue Bell, PA

AWARDS:

2020 Philadelphia/Tri State Artists' Equity Annual Juried Show, Third Place Award, Juror Bridgette Mayer, Wayne, PA
2017 Main Line Art Center Spring Gala Exhibition and Benefit, Honorable Mention, Haverford, PA
2016 Artists of Yardley First Choice Bank 2nd Place Award, Yardley, PA
2015 Robert Rauschenberg Foundation: The Power of Art

TWO AND THREE PERSON EXHIBITIONS:

2025 Quiet Precision: Craig Carlile & Kirby Fredendall, Sarah Gormley Gallery, Columbus, OH

Undercurrent: Houston, Quarracino, Fredendall, In Liquid Wannamaker House, Philadelphia, PA

2024 Featured Artists: February, LAA Collective Gallery, Wayne, PA

2023 Endless Summer, Candita Clayton Gallery, New London, NH
Landscapes, Sarah Gormley Gallery, Columbus, OH

2022 Three Gallery Artists, LAA Collective Gallery, New Hope, PA

2018 Landscapes: Kirby Fredendall and Mirjam Seeger, In Liquid, Crane Hall, Philadelphia, PA

2015 Kirby Fredendall & Alex Damevski: A Dialog, A Space Gallery, New Hope, PA

1997 Modern or Post-Modern? Three Abstract Painters, Nancy Moore Gallery, New York, NY

1996 Two Paintings, Union League Club Art Gallery, New York, NY

GROUP EXHIBITIONS:

2026 Pride at SG, Sarah Gormley Gallery, Columbus, OH

2025 Michael Bush and Friends, Sarah Gormley Gallery, Columbus, OH 13th Annual Juried Show, Artists of Yardley, Yardley, PA

2024 Gratitude, Sarah Gormley Gallery, Columbus, OH
Fresh Perspective: Gallery Artists, Candita Clayton Gallery, East Greenwich, RI
94th Annual Juried Show, Phillips Mill Association, New Hope, PA
Endless Summer, Bucks County Community College, Newtown, PA
Converge 9th Benefit Exhibition, Bridgette Mayer Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
Drawing Madness, Conversations With Artists, Online exhibition
Love and Other Stuff, Sarah Gormley Gallery, Columbus, OH
Gallery Artists, Candita Clayton Gallery, East Greenwich, RI
12th Annual Juried Show, Artists of Yardley, Yardley, PA
Art Across the River 2024, New Hope Arts, Spring Members Salon, New Hope, PA
In Liquid Benefit Auction 2024, In Liquid, Philadelphia, PA

2023 Gratitude, Sarah Gormley Gallery, Columbus, OH
Winter Gallery Artists, Candita Clayton Gallery, Providence, RI
94th Annual Juried Show, Phillips Mill Association, New Hope, PA
Summer Installation, New Hope Arts, New Hope, PA

2022 Pump it Up Gala Selected Artists, Michener Art Museum Doylestown, PA
Gallery Artists Summer & Fall Shows, Candita Clayton Gallery, New London, NH
93rd Annual Juried Show, Phillips Mill Association, New Hope, PA
3rd Annual Juried Exhibition, Maker's Alley, Frenchtown, NJ
Viewpoints 2022, Studio Montclair, Montclair, NJ
New Hope Arts Salon, New Hope Arts League, New Hope, PA

2021 The Woodmere Annual: 79th Juried Exhibition Seeing the Story, Woodmere Art Museum, Philadelphia, PA

Hope and Possibility, Bridgette Mayer Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
Summer Group Show, Candita Clayton Gallery, New London, NH

2020 The Gallery at Main Line Coop Show, LAA Art Advisory, Wayne, PA
Philadelphia/Tri State Artist's Equity Annual Juried Show, Philadelphia, PA
Gallery Artists, Bluestone Fine Art Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
Professional Member's Show, Main Line Art Center, Media, PA
Member's Exhibition, Main Line Art Center, Media, PA
New Hope Arts Salon, New Hope Arts League, New Hope, PA

2019 Professional Member's Show, Main Line Art Center, Media, PA
Gallery Artists, Bluestone Fine Art Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
Really Big Group Show, Candita Clayton Gallery, Pawtucket, RI
Transitions, Abington Art Center, Abington, PA

2018 Bridgette Mayer Gallery, Benefit Exhibition for the Friends of the Rail Park, Philadelphia, PA
American Visions, Michener Museum, Doylestown, PA
Summer Show Gallery Artists, Candita Clayton Gallery, Pawtucket, RI
51st Art of the State, State Museum of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, PA
Pictures at an Exhibition, New Hope Arts Center, New Hope, PA
Viewpoints 2018, Studio Montclair, Montclair, NJ
Professional Member's Show, Main Line Art Center, Media, PA

2017 Winter Show Gallery Artists, Candita Clayton Gallery, Pawtucket, RI
Member's Exhibition, Main Line Art Center, Media, PA
National Juried Show, Larkin Arts, Harrisonburg, VA
Water Ways: A Greater Philadelphia Region Artist Installation, Freeman's Art Gallery, Wayne, PA
Fresh Hues, Media Arts Center, Media, PA
154th Exhibition of Small Oils, Philadelphia Sketch Club, Philadelphia, PA
Spring Gala Exhibition and Benefit, Main Line Art Center, Haverford, PA
49th Art of the State, State Museum of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, PA
West Chester Arts Walk, Blank Canvas Gallery, West Chester, PA
5th Annual Juried Show, Artists of Yardley, Yardley, PA

2015 Annual Show, New Hope Art League, New Hope, PA
Annual Show, Abington Art Center, Abington, PA2014
Mixed Media & Photography, Bucks County Project Gallery, Doylestown, PA
Annual Show, New Hope Arts, New Hope, PA

2013 Annual Show, In Liquid, Philadelphia, PA

2009 Summer Gallery Artists, Ocean Gallery at Barnegate Light, Barnegate, NJ

2008 Gallery Artists, Morpeth Gallery, Hopewell, NJ

2006 Gallery Artists, Trimbur Henry Gallery, Doylestown, PA

2005 Works on Paper, Perkins Center for the Arts, Moorestown, NJ
Gallery Artists, Morpeth Gallery, Hopewell, New Jersey, 2005
2004 37th Art of the State, State Museum of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, PA
Small Works Show, Morpeth Gallery, Hopewell, NJ
2003 Bucks County Artists: A Cross Section, Bucks County Community College, Newtown, PA
2002 Gallery Artists, Morpeth Gallery, Hopewell, NJ
2001 34th Art of the State, State Museum of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, PA
Gallery Artists, Morpeth Gallery, Hopewell, NJ
2000 Shaping the American Landscape, Unison Arts Gallery, New Paltz, NY
Beginnings & Endings, Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts, Wilmington, DE
1999 32nd Art of the State, State Museum of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, PA
Under One Foot, Pentimenti Gallery, Philadelphia, PA, 1999
71st Annual Exhibition, Art Association of Harrisburg, Harrisburg, PA
9th Annual Exhibition, Lyet Gallery, Elizabethtown College, Elizabethtown, PA
1998 National Juried Open Exhibition, The STAGE Gallery, Merrick, NY, 1998
Artsbridge at Prallsville Mill, Prallsville Mill Gallery, Stockton, NJ, 1998
Gallery Artists, Nancy Moore Gallery, New York, NY
Member's Juried Exhibition, Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts, Wilmington, DE
1996 Fin de Siecle, Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts, Wilmington, DE
Summer Group Exhibition, Nancy Moore Gallery, New York, NY
Inside/Out, Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts, Wilmington, DE
144" Square, Erector Square Gallery, New Haven, CT
Two Up, Philadelphia Art Alliance, Philadelphia, PA
1995 Return to Beauty, Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts, Wilmington, DE

PUBLICATIONS AND INTERVIEWS:

2025 The Essence of Spring, Upper Makefield Magazine, April 2025
2024 Artist Talk Magazine Issue 30, Milne Publishing
2023 ArtTalk: Kirby Fredendall, Phillips' Mill Community Association, artist interview produced by Laura Womack & Jen McHue, YouTube
Fragile Express, Featured online artist, January
2022. Kirby Fredendall '84: The Color of Light, The Georgian Online, Nov 7, 2021
2021 Artist's Way (Featured Artist), Zielinski, Patti, River Towns Magazine, Summer issue
Spirituality on Canvas- Artist Spotlight on Kirby Fredendall, Kostianovsky, Deborah, Magazine In Liquid
2020 Nature Study: Kirby Fredendall Profile, Kaufman, Jason Edwards, Luxury Magazine, Spring
Artists in the time of Coronavirus, an ongoing virtual exhibition, Part 40, Artblog, June 11, 2020
2018 7th Juried Exhibition, Create Magazine, juried by Bridgette Mayer, Bridgette Mayer Gallery

2017 Fragile Express, Featured online artist, February

2016 Fresh Paint Magazine, Juried August edition
Kirby Fredendall: Open Studio Event, Brewster, Don, DoNArTNeWs, Philadelphia Art News Blog, October

2015 Plymouth dentist and her husband team up for shared exhibit at New Hope gallery, The Times Harold, November 23

2011. Kirby Fredendall at Michener Art Museum, Artworks

2007 Kirby Fredendall Paintings, Collins, Shannon, LifeStyle Magazine, April
Women & Cookbooks Show at Peggy Lewis Gallery, Town Topics, March
Kirby Fredendall Serves Cookbooks in Art Exhibition, Briggs, Stacey, Bucks County Herald, March

2002 Review Morpeth Gallery, Rivera, F.R., US 1 Art Review, September
Open Studio Press, New American Paintings, Mid-Atlantic #27

1998 Looking Ahead (Featured Artist), Art Matters, Philadelphia's Regional Magazine of the Arts, Spring/Summer

1997 The Persistence of Modernism and Other Tales From Delaware and Surrounds, Huntingdon, Richard,Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts Newsletter, Summer

1995 Exhibit Curator Calls for a Return to Beauty, Francis, Anna, Art Matters, Dec/Jan