

# Lys Akerman Frank

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## BIO

Lys, a native Brazilian, has been living in the United States for the past 28 years and became a proud American citizen in 2015. She graduated from Full Sail University with a Master's Degree in Instructional Design and Technology. She also graduated from St. Catherine University in 2001 with a B.A. in Graphic Design. She also received a Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant degree from Mount Ida College in Boston, MA, and a degree in Industrial Design from Faculdade de Belas Artes in Sao Paulo, Brazil. For over ten years, Lys worked in the corporate world as a liaison between creative and marketing departments and managed the print production of large-scale advertising materials. To balance her work and family life and create more time for her art-making, she started Art & Frames in 2010, her custom frame shop and gallery in St. Paul, Minnesota. In addition to her framing business, she designs professional awards for companies and sells art made by local and international artists. Lys's latest artistic endeavor includes designing, producing, and selling puppets. She has exhibited her work in various venues throughout the Twin Cities, including the Minneapolis Institute of Art (Mia). She currently works at The Catherine G. Murphy Gallery at St. Catherine University. Learn More: [akerlys.com](http://akerlys.com)

## EXHIBITIONS

### SHAPING A CREATIVE LIFE

#### **An Exhibition by the Faculty and Staff of the Department of Art and Art History • Catherine G. Murphy Gallery, Saint Paul, MN**

September 10–October 23, 2022. Inspired by a new series of courses offered in the Department of Art and Art History that invite students to build their creative lives through inquiry, imagination, and action, Shaping a Creative Life asks faculty and staff to share the ongoing content, questions, themes, and methods of their creative practices. Featuring a variety of art forms that range from photography, painting, and printmaking to drawing, textiles, sculpture, and installation, these artist-scholars reflect on identity, loss, resilience, and the concurrence of hope and despair. They explore memory, intimacy, mortality, and in-betweenness. They situate their work within their experiences as artists and educators, seeking to understand themselves, their communities, and the world through their art. <http://gallery.stkate.edu/exhibitions/shaping-a-creative-life>

### ARNOLD • PUPPETEERS OF AMERICA FESTIVAL •

#### **PUPPETRY EXHIBIT 2017**

Puppeteers can display some of their latest works as well as examine international and historical examples of puppet art. It is an eye-opening and thought-provoking chance to see how design styles and engineered problem-solving have evolved through the ages.

### THE SELFIE FACE • CATHERINE G. MURPHY GALLERY

#### **Saint Paul, MN**

February 4th – March 17th, 2017. Art is a personal challenge. The process, techniques, mistakes, energy, and emotional baggage put into every aspect of art makes it what it is. The St. Kate's Selfie Project became a personal challenge as well as a collaboration between myself and each student willing to "donate" her self-image to a mural. This mural

evolved into a sculpture – a face – made up of the many and varied selfies St. Kate’s students submitted and the words they used to describe their images.

**SELFIE MURAL • MINNEAPOLIS INSTITUTE OF ART (MIA)  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN**

November 3rd, 2015, to January 24th, 2016.

Installed in the Community Corridor on the first floor of the Museum. Lys Akerman-Frank worked with the MIA Community Arts team this summer to celebrate our 100th Birthday Year. I attended. She popped up at various community workshops and events in the Twin Cities, and participants from around the world were invited to be a part of the mural by sending her their selfies via various multimedia platforms.

**THE NAKED PUPPET EXHIBIT • UCONN, STORRS, CT**

August 10 -15, 2015, at the 2015 National Puppetry Festival of Puppeteers of America held at the University of Connecticut in Storrs, CT - The Fettig Project! We are passionate about puppetry, especially puppets that work well and have unique mechanisms. We are also responsible for THE NAKED PUPPET EXHIBIT, which travels to puppetry conferences and festivals.

**FLUID ART EXHIBITION • ART&FRAMES, LLC •**

Saint Paul, MN. September 24th to November 2nd, 2013 • My Art utilizes exploration of form and color and a process of transformation from a feeling to a fluid image. Using invert Macro-photography, I create abstract, fluid images.

**SELF PORTRAIT • CITIES PRIDE ART EXHIBITION •**

Aloft Hotel • Minneapolis, MN • June 8th to June 25th, 2012 • Minneapolis, MN. Juried Exhibition following a “Red” Theme for that year’s TwinCities Pride.

**INDIVIDUAL ART EXHIBITION • JCC GALLERY WALK**

Jewish Community Center of the Greater St. Paul, Saint Paul, MN. Cooking is the term I use for creating this art because I begin to place ingredients on a light table, and my senses come to life. My ingredients are food coloring, various oils, water, and solvents. Using inverted Macro-photography, I record a fluid abstract image.

**WOMEN’S ART INSTITUTE •**

Summer 2010, Minneapolis, MN. “Self Portrait” is an intensive three-week summer program designed for individuals who have mastered basic skills and now want to move to deeper levels of understanding and expression in their work. Under close supervisor establishes collaboration to bring the artist to the next level. Disciplines explored include photography, video, painting, drawing, collage, mixed media, installation, and more, depending on the artist's direction with the medium.