

Shannon K. Abbey
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Born Eugene Oregon 1962
Currently Live and Work Petaluma, CA

EDUCATION

Western Washington University BFA, Bellingham, WA 1981-85
Academy of Art University, BA, San Francisco, CA 1988-91

FAIRS

StartUp Art Fair SF, San Francisco, CA 2026
StartUp Art Fair LA, Venice Beach, CA 2026

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

Cloverdale Art Alliance, Cloverdale, CA, November 2026
Usher Gallery, Petaluma, CA March 2025
Horse and Plow Winery, Sebastopol, CA 2024
Luminarium Curated, Sebastopol, CA 2023

MUSEUMS

2026 Salon at the Triton, Triton Museum of Art, San Jose CA 2026
MONCA Museum of Northern California, Chico, CA 2025

RESIDENCIES AND GRANTS

Artist in Residence, Glacier National Park, Montana, 2022
Community Life Grant, California College of Art, San Francisco, Ca 2001

Selected GROUP EXHIBITIONS:

Rosebud Gallery, San Francisco, CA 2026
Suite G Studio, Petaluma, CA 2026
Sausalito Open, Sausalito Center for the Arts, Sausalito, CA 2025
Flock, Studio Gallery, San Francisco, CA 2025
Oli Gallery, Petaluma, CA 2024
Birds, Icehouse Gallery, Petaluma, CA 2023
Refusés of the Bay, Voss Gallery, San Francisco, CA 2023
Refusés of the Bay is a collaborative art project of two curated exhibitions by Bay Area artists whose work was inexplicably overlooked by the jurors of The de Young Open 2023.

“Refusés of the Bay” is a tribute to the 1863 Salon des Refusés, which showcased rejected artwork from the highly acclaimed Paris Salon, featuring a staggering two-thirds of the submitted work that was not initially chosen. This renegade art fair included emerging works from James McNeill Whistler, Édouard Manet, Camille Pissarro, and other world-renowned artists whose careers took off after the show.

Art Trails of Sonoma County Studio Tour, Petaluma, Ca, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026
Call of the Wild - 2 person show, online and Villa Marin, San Rafael, Ca, 2021
Delicious, Studio Gallery, San Francisco, Ca 2016 and 2017
50/50 at the Sanchez Art Center, Pacifica, Ca 2014
Art in the Olive Grove, Cornerstone, Sonoma, Ca 2011
Renegade Art and Democracy, Cornerstone, Sonoma, Ca 2009
The Hat Factory Collective First Salon, San Francisco, Ca 2001
California College of Art, Faculty Show, San Francisco 1998 and 2000
Sustainability, The Presidio Art Center, San Francisco, 2000
Art in the Presidio Project, The Presidio, San Francisco, 1999
The Fine Art of the Automobile, Artisans Gallery, Mill Valley California, 1999
Emeryville Lofts Block Party, Emeryville, Ca 1999

ORGANIZATIONS

StartUp Studio
Women Eco Artists Dialog, WEAD
The Hat Factory Artists' Collective, Founding Co-Director, San Francisco, CA
San Francisco Society of Illustrators, Events Chair, San Francisco, CA
Selected artist of the Cavaliers of the West Specialty show 4 years running, Oakland, CA

PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

Jane Metcalfe, founder WIRED Magazine and TCHO Chocolates
Through commissions, numerous collections across the US, the UK and New Zealand including Mary Cunningham world champion breeder of Cavalier King Charles Spaniels

FACULTY

Academy of Art University, San Francisco 1993-1999
California College of Art, San Francisco 1999-2003

Selected ILLUSTRATION CLIENTS

The Wall Street Journal, The Gap, Weldon Owen Publishing, The Verdict Magazine, LinkedIn

My friends and I are those people you see at the museum, standing as close as security will let us to a painting, trying to see that brush stroke up close.

I'm an environmental woman artist inspired by the landscape and wildlife of Sonoma and Marin counties, particularly the wetlands along the Petaluma River and San Pablo Bay. My work is about this place, the natural world of the North Bay, combining representation with abstraction.

After working as an illustrator since the early 1990s, I am now painting full time and my paintings are part of collections across the United States, the UK and New Zealand.

I live and paint in Petaluma California with cartoonist husband, Pete McDonnell, our son Jacob and studio dog Mollie.

Primarily I paint in acrylic on wood panels in the studio, or on location around Sonoma and Marin Counties.

I have an optimistic view of the regenerative power of nature when aware humans intercede.