

Keven Furiya

Web: furiya.com Instagram: Instagram.com/kevenf Email: kfuriya@furiya.com

Bio

Keven Furiya is an active member of the Seattle art community who has created art in the city for more than 25 years. While pursuing his own practice and exhibiting locally, Furiya has also moderated various life drawing sessions in the art community. His art education began at Seattle Central Community College, with Graphic Design and Illustration. This was combined with work as studio assistant to Seattle-based artist William Elston.



As a nisei (American-born Japanese), Furiya is inspired by the work and shares many of the subjects that intrigued artists Kamekichi Tokita (1897–1948) and Kenjiro Nomura (1896–1956). Both immigrated from Japan at the turn of the 20th century, becoming Seattle business partners in a sign-painting shop. This was located in Nihonmachi, that local precinct currently known as the Chinatown International District. Prominent contributors to the Pacific Northwest art world from the early 1900's to the 1940s, each participated in the national Public Works of Art Project (PWAP). Both artists' plein air paintings of their neighborhoods and surroundings provide a visual snapshot of their era: a time which, for the city, proved pivotal. They continue to influence Furiya's urban landscapes, his interiors and his portraits of fellow artists.

Statement

I am fascinated by the urban everyday, the beauty of spots and surfaces we often pass yet usually scorn. To me these lines and colors, mutations and contradictions, have an equilibrium all their own. Often, in their balance of poise and fatigue, I find an incarnation of our transience.

Although such ephemeral scenes surround us all, we are easily blinded to them by life's distractions. My paintings are a personal chronicle of their character. But it is also my attempt to show how, if we only pause to look, we discover time's fundamental dignity.



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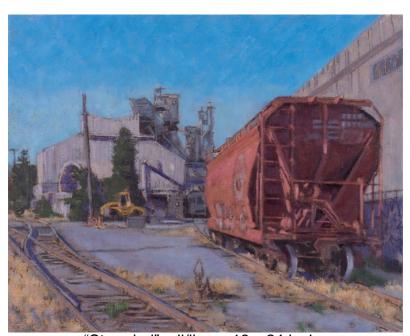
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"Cloudy and Clear", oil/canvas, 24 x 44 inches



"Great Northern Rail Tunnel", oil/canvas, 26 x 21 inches



"Stranded", oil/linen, 16 x 24 inches



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Resume

Selected Exhibitions

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2022	Solo Show, Vermillion Gallery, "Urban Textures", Seattle WA
2022	Asia Pacific Cultural Center, "Plein Air Works on Paper", Tacoma, WA
2018	Solo Show, Zeitgeist Kunst & Kaffee
2017	Solo Show, Dendroica Gallery, Seattle
2016	Group Show, Dendroica Gallery, Seattle
2012	Solo show, Vecta Photo Studio/Gallery, Georgetown, Seattle
2011	Juried group show, C Gallery, Seattle
2011	Group show, Vandenbrink Gallery, Tashiro Kaplan Building, Seattle
2010	Group show, Georgetown Art Center, Seattle
2009	Group show, Corridor Gallery, Seattle
2008	Solo show, Muree M Bronner Gallery, Neptune Art Center, Utica, New York

Awards

2017	Recipient of smART Ventures Grant provided by ACES/Office of Art &
	Culture/Shunpike
2008	Co-recipient, King County 4culture Grant – in collaboration with Doug Vann,
	David Guilbault and Andrew Zadrozny

Education

1995-1998	William E. Elston – Oil painting studies, Seattle Washington
1995-1999	Seattle Academy of Fine Art (Gage), Seattle, Washington
1995-1996	Seattle Central Community College, Seattle, Washington Graphic
	Design & Illustration
1986	Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana – Bachelor of Science



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