

## Anna McKee

Seattle, WA • Website: [annamckee.com](http://annamckee.com)

### STATEMENT

Though we can only experience the present moment, we share our memories of past events and future projections through the art of storytelling. Deep geologic time is illusive. Events compact into layers sometimes visible, but often perceived only through scientific analysis. Anna enjoys the struggle to capture ephemeral change in land through time, even though the effort to depict and share this inevitably results in fractured or faded facsimiles.

*Planar Retreat* is a sequence of three maps that illustrates the loss of ice from a section of the Greenland ice sheet over the past 12,000 years. This piece is part of a larger body of work comprised of water and rock samples, map drawings, and landscape paintings. Collectively, it becomes either a puzzle with clues that convey a story, or as a visual environment to be enjoyed as an experience. McKee was inspired by the accretion and recession of an ice sheet through multiple dimensions of time and space, pulsing, recursive events that speed up and pause, but are never static.



### ABOUT SNOW ON ICE

In 2018, Anna joined a team of women geologists to collect lakebed sediment cores in Western Greenland for the research project, *Snow on Ice*. The project brought together scientists from different institutions and disciplines to explore fundamental questions about Arctic climate change. A primary goal was to create a more accurate model for predicting past and future Greenland Ice Sheet growth and retreat. The field team was led by Dr. Elizabeth Thomas, University of Buffalo.

## BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Anna McKee holds a master's degree in landscape architecture from the University of Washington. She has received several awards for her artwork, including an Artist Trust GAP grant, 4Culture Grant, and the National Science Foundation Artist and Writers Program to travel to Antarctica. Her work has been widely exhibited throughout the Northwest and nationally.

She endeavors to deepen her understanding of climate change and what it means for our planet. Her goal is to create art that expresses both the beauty of the earth's gyrations and the power of deep geologic change. The work also provides a framework to learn about and discuss climate change in a unique context.

## EDUCATION

1981 Bachelor of Arts, The Evergreen State College

1994 Masters of Landscape Architecture

## SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2022 *Fire & Ice*, Wildling Museum, Solvang, CA

2021 *Climacteric Confluence*, Columbia City Gallery, Seattle

2020 *Gathered from the Field Art Provoked by Climate Research*, Kittredge Gallery, Tacoma

2019 *Evidence Wall*, installed for "Surge" at the Museum of Northwest Art, La Conner

2018 *WAIS Reliquary: 68,000 Years*, Museum of Art, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH  
*Glacier: Persistent Ice in Motion*, solo exhibition, Bend Art Center, Bend OR

2017 *WAIS Reliquary: 68,000 Years*, Center For Visual Art, Metropolitan University of Denver, CO  
*In Print*, Surface Design Journal, Winter 2017, Vol. 40, No. 4.

2016 *What Remains*, installation for "In Context" invitational exhibition during Seattle Art Fair  
*WAIS Reliquary: 68,000 Years*, Nevada Museum of Art, Center for Art+Environment, Reno, NV

2014 *Mt. Waddington Reliquary, Accreted Terrane*, Museum of Northwest Art, LA Conner

2013 *Vanishing Ice: Alpine and Polar Landscapes in Art 1775-2012*, Whatcom Museum, Bellingham  
*Mt. Waddington Reliquary*, installation, Francine Seders Gallery, Seattle  
*Ice Structures - New Prints*, Francine Seders Gallery, Seattle

2011-12 *Thin Ice*, Sun Valley Center for the Arts, Ketchum, ID

*Ice Stories*, Washington State Convention Center, Seattle

2010 *Deep Ice, Deep Time*; Francine Seders Gallery, Seattle

*Critical Messages: Contemporary Northwest Artists in the Environment*; Western Gallery, Bellingham, WA; Halle Ford Museum, Salem, OR; Boise Art Museum, Boise, ID.

## AWARDS & RESIDENCIES

2018 Visiting Artist, *Snow on Ice* Research Project, Western Greenland

2016 *Playa* Artist Residency, Oregon

2010 4Culture Individual Artist Grant – support to create work and presentations.

2009-10 National Science Foundation Antarctica Artists and Writers Program, West Antarctica

2006 Artist Trust Grant for Artists Projects (GAP) Award, Seattle

## PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Art+Environment Archives, Nevada Museum of Art  
Public Utilities Portable Works Collection, City of Seattle  
University of Washington, Quaternary Research Center  
Group Health Cooperative, Seattle  
City of Kent  
Horizon House, Seattle

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2021 "Artists Chronicle Climate Change in the Arctic and Antarctic", Pope, Kristen, Yale Climate Connections, May 12, 2021
- 2017 "Grim Forecast", M. Paglia, Westword Weekly, September 13, 2017.
- 2017 "*Water Line*" review, R.M.Rinaldi, The Know-Denver Post Online, Oct 13, 2017
- 2017 "In Print", ed. M. McDade, Surface Design Journal, Winter 2017, Vol. 40, No. 4.
- 2015 "Vanishing Ice: Art as a Tool for Documenting Climate Change", Kothe, E. L., Maute, MJ, Brewer, C., Art Education, March 2015.
- 2014 "Accreted Terrane, An Artist's Amusement Park", S. Hunter, Cascadia Weekly, Oct 22, 2014.
- 2013 Vanishing Ice: Alpine and Polar Landscapes in Art, 1775 – 2012. Matilsky, Barbara C., Whatcom Museum, 2013.
- 2011 "Anna McKee Makes Art about Ice" Interview with Marcie Sillman, November 8, 2011, KUOW radio
- 2010 Critical Messages: Contemporary Northwest Artists on the Environment. ed. Clark-Langager, Sarah & Deitrich, William, Halle Ford Museum of Art and Western Gallery, 2010
- 2010 In Studio Artist, ArtZone with Nancy Guppy (regional art TV series), episode November 5, 2010

Art sales and other inquiries: <https://annamckee.com/contact-anna/>