

# KOHN GALLERY

## KATE BARBEE

Born 1994, Dallas, Texas

Lives and works in Brooklyn, NY

Born and raised in Dallas, TX, Kate Barbee received her BFA in Studio Art from the University of Texas at Austin, TX in 2017. Barbee's practice is an interdisciplinary one, ranging across hand-embroidered mixed media painting, collage, drawing, and sculpture. The inherent tension in her work is born from a flurried relationship to her body and her visceral power within it. Barbee's densely populated paintings pulse with an energetic sexuality. Her subjects push and pull through a fractured composition—intimately spaced and dynamically posed, creating an energy and rhythm which forces the eye on a nonlinear journey throughout the canvas. Barbee's figures reveal themselves slowly as they engage in activity, and emerge from the tactile, multi-hued, collaged, and textile-laden canvases which they populate. Her work harnesses an exceptional degree of emotional and sexual directness and figural distortion which abstracts the figures beyond recognition and distances them from the activities in which they are engaged. Every painting is a snapshot of the self, taken from an angle removed from the moment as if floating above or next to it—raw, naked, and dominant.

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## EDUCATION

2017 University of Austin, BFA Studio Art, Austin, Texas

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2021 *Feral Flora*, Kohn Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2023 *People of the Otherworld: Ken Kiff in Dialogue*, Albertz Benda, New York, NY  
2022 *Home/Work*, San Luis Obispo Museum of Art, San Luis Obispo, CA  
2020 *myselfs*, Kohn Gallery, Los Angeles, CA, curated by Joshua Friedman  
*Wyld Classic*, O-project Space, Los Angeles, CA  
2019 *HYGIENE & SURPLUS*, GalleryALSO, Los Angeles, CA, curated by Kate Barbee  
*Sweet Primal Things*, James Wright Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
*Labyrinth of Language*, WerkArtz, Los Angeles, CA  
*DICE THEORY*, UQBAR Gallery, Berlin, Germany  
*Sensible Ecstasy*, GalleryALSO, Los Angeles, CA, curated by Kate Barbee  
*Like A Wet Braid*, GalleryALSO, Los Angeles, CA  
2018 *Papercuts*, Saatchi Gallery, London, U.K., curated by Kristian Day  
*Second Glimpses & Alternate Forms*, The Golden Gate Parlor, Los Angeles, CA  
2017 *A Tribute to Fragmentation*, Royal Co-op, Austin, TX, curated by Kate Barbee  
*Teeter: Senior Art Exhibition*, Visual Arts Center, Austin, TX  
*PLAYGROUNDS*, Co-Lab Gallery, Austin, TX  
2016 Activation Gallery, Austin, TX  
Dollhouse Space, Chicago, IL

## RESIDENCIES

2021 Bed Stuy Art Residency, Brooklyn, NY

## COLLECTIONS

Hill Art Foundation, New York, NY  
Andrew Xue Collection, Singapore  
Danjuma Collection, London, UK

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

2023 Liz Scheer, "Ken Kiff Group Show: People of the Otherworld at Albertz Benda," *Arte Fuse*, Aug 1

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- 2021 Nicole Bray, "Artist to Watch," *Mercer Contemporary*, June 19  
Juan Marti Serrano, "The Endless Spring of Kate Barbee," *ODDA Magazine*, May 12  
Lita Barrie, "Kate Barbee's Feral Flora at Kohn Gallery," *Whitehot Magazine*, March 25  
"Here Are 6 Artists in the Artnet Gallery Network That We're Watching This March,"  
*Artnet*, March, 2  
Lindsay Preston Zappas, "Art Insider: These Pseudo-Cubist works stich together 'failed'  
paintings," *KCRW*, February 9  
Joshen Mantai, "Kate Barbee | Debut Exhibition 'Feral Flora' Opening at Kohn  
Gallery," *Flaunt*, February 5
- 2020 David Alarcón, "Making Sense of the World," *Metal Magazine*, February 5  
Sydney Walters, "myself at Kohn Gallery," *Art and Cake*, October 6  
Cristina Samper, "Exploring Selfhood through Medium at Kohn Gallery, LA,"  
*Art of Choice*, September 26  
Margaux Bang, "27 Emerging Artists Reflect on the Impacts of Isolation on  
Selfhood and Community," *L'Officiel Art*, September 14  
Barry Samaha, "State of the Art Industry in the Time of Coronavirus," *Harper's Bazaar*,  
May 7
- 2018 "Art & Life with Kate Barbee," *VoyageLA*, May 21