KAY ROSEN

Rosen has been exploring the possibilities of words as images for over 50 years. She delights in the small shift; the subtle change that subverts meaning and reveals the unexpected. In her paintings, drawings, wall works, collages and editions she has used varied visual, grammatical, and typographical strategies to challenge the way people see and understand the words they read. For someone whose ammunition is the painted word she is also a very visual artist, using colour to articulate her ideas in a way that is often humorous, sometimes shocking, and frequently profound.

Biography

1943 Born Corpus Christi, Texas, USA

Currently lives in Gary, Indiana and New York, USA

Solo Exhibitions

2024	KAY ROSEN: ICI, Michèle Didier, Paris, France Kay Rosen: Now and Then, Weserburg Museum fur moderne kunst, Bremen, Germany
2023	Kay Rosen Prints and Drawings, Sikkema Jenkins & Co, New York, USA KAY ROSEN: FREE FOOD (for thought), Lora Reynolds Gallery, Austin, USA
2021	KAY ROSEN: LISTS 1989-2021, Krakow Witkin Gallery, Boston, USA
2021	Kay Rosen: New Work 2020-2021, Sikkema Jenkins & Co, New York, USA
2021	SORRY, a comission by Kay Rosen for the National Gallery of Art, Washington DC, USA
2020	Kay Rosen: 202020, Lora Reynolds Gallery, Austin, USA Kay Rosen: New Works on Paper, Lora Reynolds Gallery, Austin, USA
2019	Kay Rosen: Gravity of Language, Osmos Station, New York, USA Kay Rosen: One Wall, One Work, Krakow Witkin Gallery, Boston, Massachusetts, USA
2018	One Wall, One Work, Krakow Witkin Gallery, Boston, Massachusetts, USA
2017	Kay Rosen: Stirring Wirds, Alexander Gray Associates, New York, NY, USA Kay Rosen: Jumbo Mumbo, Lora Reynolds Gallery, Austin, Texas Kay Rosen: H Is for House, Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, Ridgefield, Connecticut
2016	Kay Rosen: Baroken, PPC Contemporary, Frankfurt, Germany
2015	This Means War Billboard for Edinburgh, public art project, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
2014	Map of the World, Entrance Court project, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia Kay Rosen, Sikkema Jenkins & Co, New York City, USA Kay Rosen, Galerie Zilberman, Istanbul, Turkey Kay Rosen: On the Wall, Monique Meloche Gallery, Chicago, USA
2013	Cutout; a windows project, Contemporary Art Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada, curated by Jenifer

	z aparato
2012	Here Are the People and There Is the Steeple, Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetu, Christchurch, New Zealand PEEK/KEEP, Future Home Site, Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, Colorado, USA Kay Rosen: Wide and Deep, Sikkema Jenkins & Co, New York, USA
2011	GO DO GOOD, Kay Rosen: Art Loop, State Street, Chicago, USA Mañana Man, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, USA Kay Rosen: On the Off Ramp, Taubman Museum of American Art, Roanoke, Virginia, USA
2010	Kay Rosen: Black and White and Read All Over, Barbara Krakow Gallery, Boston, USA
2009	Kay Rosen: You and Your Landscapes! Galerie Klosterfelde, Berlin, Germany Kay Rosen, Gallery 400, University of Illinois at Chicago, Learning Modern, Sullivan Galleries, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, USA
2008	Kay Rosen: Huen, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK Kay Rosen: Scareful! Yvon Lambert Gallery, New York, USA Kay Rosen: Alone and Together, Yvon Lambert Gallery, Paris, France No Noose Is Good Noose, Alexander Gray Associates, New York, USA
2007	Kay Rosen: Editions and Multiples, Helga Maria Klosterfelde Edition, Berlin, Germany
2006	Kay Rosen: Wall Paintings and Drawings 2002-2006, Yvon Lambert Gallery, New York, USA
2005	Gray Kapernekas Gallery, New York, USA Kay Rosen: (No) Comment, Galerie Klosterfelde, Berlin, Germany
2004	Kay Rosen: Big Talk, Dunedin Public Art Gallery, New Zealand New Word Order: Kay Rosen, Second Street Gallery, Charlottesville, Virginia, USA
2003	Kay Rosen, The Suburban, Oak Park, Illinois, 2003-4 "Kay Rosen: Rooms," Galerie Friedrich, Basel, Switzerland
2002	Kay Rosen: Collages 1999-2002, The Drawing Center, New York, USA
2001	Rooms, Paul Morris Gallery, New York, USA Kay Rosen: Up and Down, Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, USA
2000	Paul Morris Gallery, New York, USA Ten in One Gallery, New York, USA
1998	Kay Rosen: Lifeli[k]e, Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) and Otis College of Art and Design, Los Angeles, USA
	Kay Rosen: Girl Talk, Ten in One Gallery, Chicago, USA ABC (At Beaver College), Beaver College Art Gallery (now Arcadia University), Philadelphia, USA
1997	Kay Rosen: Short Stories/Tall Tales, M.I.T. List Visual Arts Center, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA Galerie Michael Cosar, Dusseldorf, Germany
1996	Short Stories, Helga Maria Klosterfelde, Hamburg, Germany, Art: Concept, Nice, France Unlimited Contemporary Art, Athens, Greece
1995	Galerie Erika + Otto Friedrich, Bern, Switzerland Paul Morris Gallery, New York, USA
1994	Kay Rosen: Home On the Range, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, USA Richard Telles Fine Art, Los Angeles, USA Kay Rosen: Back Home In Indiana, Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis, USA
1993	Victoria Miro Gallery, London, UK

	Feature, New York, USA
1992	Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago, USA Laura Carpenter Gallery, Sante FE, USA Feature, New York, USA

1991 Shoshona Wayne Gallery, Santa Monica, USA

Feature, New York, USA

1990 Victoria Miro Gallery, London, UK

Witte de With (Center for Contemporary Art), Rotterdam, The Netherlands

1989 Feature, New York, USA

1988 Feature, New York, USA Feature, Chicago, USA

1987 Feature, Chicago, USA

1983 Kay Rosen: Lines On Lines, Bertha Urdang Gallery, New York, USA

1981 Kay Rosen- Stair Walking: Notations/Diagrams, Bertha Urdang Gallery, New York, USA

1980 Kay Rosen: Photographic Performances, Franklin Furnace, New York, USA

1979 Kay Rosen: Photo-texts and Performances, Bertha Urdang Gallery, New York, USA

Selected Group Exhibitions

2025	How's My Painting, paintings from the Falckenberg Collection, Hamburg, Germany A Rose Is, The FLAG Art Foundation, New York, USA Looking Back: White Columns Annual Exhibition, White Columns, New York, USA
2024	Alchemy of Encounter, Collection Lambert, Avignon, France
2023	Twenty-Five, Ingleby, Edinburgh, UK Wörthersee, Wörthersee, Kunstraum Lakeside, Klagenfurt am Wörthersee, Austria One Wall One Work: Lines in Four Directions Over 450 Years, Krakow Witkin Gallery, Boston, USA Mosaic, James Barron Art, Kent, USA
2022	Group Exhibition: Sign Systems, Unit London, London, UK The Power of Print, Turner Carol Gallery, Santa Fe, USA Material Language, Bonnier Gallery, Miami, USA What is the Proper Way to Display a Flag?, Weserberg Museum für moderne Kunst, Bremen, Germany
2021	Was/Is/Ought Comin Secript Collows Chicago USA

2021 Was/Is/Ought, Carrie Secrist Gallery, Chicago, USA The Flag Project, Rene Schmitt, Berlin, Germany

2020 Robert Indiana: A Legacy of Love, McNay Art Museum, San Antonio, USA

Yesterday's Tomorrow: Selections From the Rose Collection 1933-2018, Rose Art Museum, Waltham,

USA

Not So Simple, Krakow Witkin Gallery, Boston, USA

Catalyst: Art and Social Justice, Gracie Mansion Conservancy, New York, USA

We Fight To Build a Free World: An Exhibition by Jonathan Horowitz, Jewish Museum, New York,

USA

Energy In All Directions, The Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery, New York, USA

2019 IN/SITU, EXPO CHICAGO, Chicago, USA

OVERRIDE, EXPO CHICAGO, Chicago, USA

Out of the Retina, Into the Brain: The Art Library of Aaron and Barbara Levine, Art Institute of Chicago, Illinois, USA

Out of Context: A Survey of Art and Language, Mark Moore Fine Art, Los Angeles, USA

Zombies: Pay Attention! Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, Colorado, USA

Orphans of Painting II, Ethan Cohen Gallery, Beacon, USA

2018 DO I HAVE TO DRAW YOU A PICTURE? The Heong Gallery, Downing College, Cambridge

University, UK

Syntheses, Krakow Witkin Gallery, Boston, USA Crossroads, Krakow Witkin Gallery, Boston, USA

one color, PPC Phillip Pflug Contemporary, Frankfurt, Germany

2017 Orphans of Painting, Ethan Cohen Gallery, Beacon, USA

2016 Days and Dailies, Krakow Witkin Gallery, Boston, USA

A Traveling Show, Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, Houston, USA

2015 Colorwheel, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia

> Artists' Recipes, publication by Admir Jahic and Comenius Roethlisberger, Basel, Switzerland 25 Years of Fun, A celebration of Edition Helga Maria Klosterfelde's 25th anniversary, Berlin Softly Overripe, Ha Ha Gallery, Southhampton, UK, curated by Lulu Nunn and HOAX, UK

Re(a)d, Nathalie Karg Gallery, New York City, USA, curated by Ryan Steadman

Over and Under, Sikkema Jenkins & Co, New York City, USA

Once Upon a Time and Now, The LGBT Community Center, New York, USA curated by Ian Alteveer Assisted, Kavi Gupta Gallery, Chicago, USA, curated by Jessica Stockholder in conjunction with her exhibition Door Hinges

Additive Logic, Krakow Witkin Gallery, Boston, USA

2014 Take My Word For It, Art Museum at the University of Kentucky, USA, curated by Stuart Horodner I Was a Double, Tang Museum at Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, New York, USA, curated by Ian Berry and David Lang

The I-70 Sign Show, Highway I-70 near Columbia, Missouri, USA, curated by Anne Thompson

2013 For the Time Being: Wall Paintings-Painted Walls, Kunsthalle Bielefelde, Bielefelde, Germany, in

collaboration with Kunsthalle Baden-Baden, curated by Friedrich Meschede

ABCDEFGHI, Marabouparken, Sundbyberg, Sweden, curated by Bettina Pehrsson

Blues, Krakow Witkin Gallery, Boston, USA 2012-23

2012 Postscript: Writing After Conceptual Art, Museum of Contemporary Art Denver, Denver, USA, curated by Andrea Andersson and Nora Burnett Abrams, Travels to The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery in Toronto, Canada, The Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, Michigan State University,

East Lansing, Michigan, USA

Don't Smile, Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein, Vaduz, Liechtenstein, curated by Christiane Meyer-Stoll Plane Text, Art Basel Miami Beach, Miami, USA, curated by Adam Shopkorn

Ecstatic Alphabets/Heaps of Language, Musuem of Modern Art, New York, USA,

curated by Laura Hoptman

A Thousand Words and Counting, Honolulu Museum of Art, Honolulu, USA, curated by Jay Jensen Girl Talk: Women and Text, CAM Raleigh, Raleigh, North Carolina, USA, curated by Elysia Borowy Beasts of Revelation, DC Moore Gallery, New York, USA

'==,' mfc-michèle didier gallery, Paris, France

Project Projects: Test Fit, Art Institute of Chicago, curated by Project Projects, New York, USA PAR PAR S E T, Krakow Witkin Gallery, Boston, USA

2011 Brainbodygame, Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago, Illinois, USA, curated by Hudson

About Painting, ABC Art Berlin Contemporary, Berlin, Germany, curated by Rita Kersting

In Other Words, Lewis Glucksman Gallery, Cork, Ireland

Seeing Is a Kind of Thinking: A Jim Nutt Companion, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, USA Gravity's Rainbow, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK

Nod Nod Wink Wink: Conceptual Art in New Mexico and Its Influences, Hardwood Museum of Art, Taos, New Mexico, USA

Playtime (works from the Klosterfelde Family Foundation), LAC - Lieu d'Art Contemporain Narbonne, Sigean, France

No Way, Krakow Witkin Gallery, Boston, USA

Mixed Messages, La Mama La Galleria, New York, USA

De-Building, Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetu, Christchurch, New Zealand

Surface Area, Krakow Witkin Gallery, Boston, USA

2009 Third Thoughts, CCA Andratx, Mallorca, Spain

We Between the Lines, Morgan Lehman Gallery, New York, USA

Che Cosa Sono Le Nuvole? (The Enea Righi Collection), Museion, Bolzano, Italy

A to B, MKG127, Toronto, Canada

2007 Just What Are They Saying? Jonathon Ferrara Gallery, New Orleans, USA

Rich Text, Fleisher-Ollman Gallery, Philadelphia, USA

Broken Thorn, Sweet Blackberry, Sikkema Jenkins Gallery, New York, USA

Archeology of Longing, Kadist Art Foundation, Paris, France

Political Corect, Blondeau Fine Art Services, Geneva, Switzerland

Idiolects, Brown Gallery, London, UK

In the Beginning: Artists Respond to Genesis, Contemporary Jewish Museum, Inaugural Exhibition, San Francisco, USA

Always There, Max Hetzler Gallery, Berlin, Germany

La parola nell'arte, Mart-Museo d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea di Trento e Rovereto,

Rovereto Trento, Italy

Words Fail Me, Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit (MOCAD), Detroit, USA

Emerging Wor(l)ds, Billboard Projects for Tina B, The Prague Contemporary Art Festival 2007, Prague, Czech Republic

Sign Language, Des Moines Art Center, Iowa, USA

Been Down So Long It Looks Like Up To Me, Presentation House Gallery, Vancouver, Canada

numerica, Palazzo delle Papesse - Centro Arte Contemporanea, Siena, Italy

2006 Gaylen Gerber, Foundation Musee d'Art Moderne Grand-Duc Jean, Luxembourg

No Lemons, No Melon, David Krut Projects, New York, USA

Under the Skin: Tattoos and American Culture, Asheville Art Museum, North Carolina, USA

2005 General Ideas, CCA Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts, San Francisco, USA

A Thousand Words, Inman Gallery, Houston, USA

Very Early Pictures, Luckman Gallery at California State University, Los Angeles; Arcadia University Art Gallery, Philadelphia, USA

How To Read as part of Collection Remixed, The Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York, USA

2004 Between Letters and Abstraction, 3°W Gallery, Wordsworth Trust, Grasmere, UK

 ${\it Unclosed \ Stories}, \ {\it Unlimited \ Contemporary}, \ {\it Athens}, \ {\it Greece}$

Disturbing the Peace, Danese Gallery, New York, USA

The Center Is Anywhere, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, Chicago, USA

2003 Black Companion, Unlimited Contemporary Art, Athens, Greece

Back in Black, Cohan, Leslie, & Brown Gallery, New York, USA

The Greatest Album Covers That Never Were, Track 16 Gallery, Santa Monica, USA

2002 Art Basel Miami Beach, Artists Projects, Miami, USA

Interstate (Fehrer, Moffet, Rosen, Villareal), Texas Fine Arts Association, Austin, Texas, USA Between Language and Form, Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, Connecticut, USA

Henrik Olesen, Gabriel Orozco, Kay Rosen, Arbeiten auf Papier, Galerie Helga Maria Klosterfelde,

Hamburg, Germany

Words In Deeds, Portland Institute of Contemporary Art (PICA), Oregon, USA

2001 The Game Show, Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art, Massachusetts, USA

Extra-Art: A Survey of Artists' Ephemera 1960-1999, California College of Art and Crafts, San Francisco,

traveled to Minnetonka Art Center, Minneapolis & ICA, London, UK

Drawing On Language, Spaces, Cleveland, USA

2000

Biennial Exhibition 2000, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, USA

Errant Gestures, Apex Gallery, New York, USA

Words-Objects-Acts, Museum of the City of Skopje, Skopje, Macedonia

Art On Paper, Weatherspoon Art Gallery, Greensboro, North Carolina, USA

1998

Billboard: Art On the Road, Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art (Mass MoCa), North Adams, USA

Art In the City III, ("Kunst in der Stadt III"), with Gaylen Gerber, Kunsthaus Bregenz, Bregenz, Austria Word, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, Australia

Points of Departure: Art On the Line, Main Line train stations site-specific projects, Philadelphia, USA The Sea, The Sea, Murray Guy, New York, USA

Wallpaintings, Galerie Helga Maria Klosterfelde, Hamburg, Germany

1997

In the Beginning, Murray Guy, New York, USA

Video Library, David Zwirner Gallery, New York, USA

A To Z: Language To Be Looked At and/ or Things To Be Read, The Approach, London, UK

Editions: General Idea, Christian Jankowski, Kay Rosen, Helga Maria Klosterfelde, Hamburg, Germany

Pierre Molinier, Kay Rosen, Kara Walker, Wooster Gardens (Brent Sikkema), New York, USA

Critical Images: Conceptual Works from the 1960s to the Present, Leslie Tonkonow Gallery, New York,

Point Mort, Art Concept, Paris, France

1996

In Chicago: 1945-1995, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, USA

Small Scale, Joseph Helman Gallery, New York, USA

Varietes, Le Capitou: Art Contemporain Frejus, France

Thinking Print: Prints and Illustrated Books 1980-1995, Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA

50x50x50, Answering Machines at various sites, London, UK

Second Sight: Modern Printmaking in Chicago, Block Gallery, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois,

USA

1995

Temporarily Possessed: The Semi-Permanent Collection, The New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York, USA

Word for Word, Beaver College Art Gallery, Glenside, Pennsylvania, USA

Five Words or Less, Museum of Modern Art, Melbourne, Australia, On Target, Horodner Romley Gallery, New York, USA

Altered States, Forum, St. Louis, USA

Pittura-Immedia: Painting in the 90's, Neue Galerie and Kunstler Haus, Graz, Austria

1994

Korrespondenzen/Correspondences, Berlinische Galerie, Berlin, Germany and Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, USA

Synesthesia: Sound and Vision In Contemporary Art, San Antonio Museum of Art, Texas, USA The Use of Pleasure, San Francisco, USA

1993

Beyond Loss: Art in the Era of AIDS, Washington Project for the Arts, Washington D.C USA Post-Dialectical Index, Piazza Costanza, Trieste, Italy, La Tuatta Studio, Milan, Italy; Horodner Romley Gallery, New York, USA

Substitute Teachers, Sadie Bronfman Cultural Center, Montreal, Canada

Legend in My Livingroom, Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago, USA

Small Talk, P.S.1 and Postmasters Gallery, New York, USA

Painting Culture, University of California Irvine, California, USA

Why Paint?, Renaissance Gallery at the University of Chicago

1991

Magnum de Tabula, Shedhalle, Zurich, Switzerland

At the End of the Day, Randy Alexander Gallery, New York, USA

Candy Ass Carnival (When Good Things Happen to Loozers), Stux Gallery, New York, USA

Just What Is It That Makes Today's Homes So Different, So Appealing? Hyde Collection, Great Falls, New York, USA

Awards in the Visual Arts X, Hirshhorn Museum, Washington D.C.; Albuquerque Museum; Toledo Museum, Ohio, USA

A New Low, Claudio Botello Gallery, Turin, Italy

Something Pithier and More Psychological, Simon Watson Gallery, New York, and Bloom Gallery, Los

Angeles, USA

Artists in Words and #s, Wright State University Museum of Contemporary Art, Dayton, Ohio, USA

1990 Word As Image: American Art 1960-1990, Milwaukee Art Museum; Oklahoma City Art Museum;

Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, Texas, USA Broken Lines, Victoria Miro Gallery, London, UK

Your Message Here, (Billboard Exhibition), Randolph Street Gallery, Chicago, USA

The Clinic, Simon Watson Gallery, New York, USA

1989 AIDS: A Time Line 1979-1990. Matrix Program at University Museum, University of California,

Berkeley; Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, Connecticut, USA

Problems With Reading Rereading, Rhona Hoffman Gallery, Chicago, USA

1988 From Right to Left, Churchman Fehsenfeld Gallery, Indianapolis, USA

Contention, New Langton Arts, San Francisco, USA

Brave and Cruel, (Hudson, Lafreniere, Rosen), Randolph Street Gallery, Chicago, USA

Text Does Not Explain, Stux Gallery, Boston, USA

The Language of Form, The Form of Language, Rosa Esman Gallery, New York, USA

Romantic Distance, Jeffrey Neal Gallery, New York, USA

1987 Wet Paint, Robbin Lockett Gallery, Chicago, USA

Summer Group Show, American Fine Arts Gallery, New York, USA

1986 Cryptic Languages, Washington Project for the Arts, Washington D.C., USA

Spiritual America, CEPA Gallery, Buffalo, New York, USA

Promises, Promises, Feature, Chicago and C.A.G.E., Cincinnati, USA

1984 Indiana Influence, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Inaugural Exhibition, Indiana, USA

1982 Artists Tribute to Bertha Urdang, Israel Museum, Jerusalem, Israel

Tracking, Tracing, Marking, Pacing, Pratt Manhattan Gallery, New York; Sherman Gallery, Ohio State University; Anderson Gallery, University of Richmond; Washington Project for the Arts, Washington

D.C., USA

1981 Bookworks: New Approaches to Artists Books, Franklin Furnace, New York, USA

Ikons/Logos: Word As Image, Alternative Museum, New York, USA

1980 New Dimensions: Time, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, USA

1979 Midway Between Comedy and Art, Midway Studios, University of Chicago, Chicago, USA

1978 Daley's Tomb, N.A.M.E. Gallery, Chicago, USA

1977 All Over the Place, Moming Dance Center, Chicago, USA

Selected Collections

MCA Chicago, Chicago, USA
Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, USA
Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis, USA
Milwaukee Art Museum, Wisconsin, USA
Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, USA
Museum of Modern Art, New York City, USA
New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York City, USA
Norton Family Collection
Progressive Corporation, Cleveland, Ohio, USA
Re Rebaudengo Collection, Turin, Italy
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York City, USA

Selected Publications

2009	Kay Rosen AKAK, Regency Arts Press Ltd., New York
2009	Nau Sea Sea Sick, Kay Rosen, Four Corners Books, London
2007	Kay Says: Essays and Interviews by Kay Rosen, Sara Ranchouse Publishing, Chicago
2006	Kay Rosen: 20 Questions - A Project by Matthew Higgs, Yvon Lambert Gallery, New York
2006	Kay Rosen: Wall Paintings and Drawings, Yvon Lambert Gallery, New York
1998	Kay Rosen: lifeli(k)e, MOCA, Otis Gallery, Los Angeles
1990	Kay Rosen, Paintings 1990, Little Critic Pamphlet Three, Victoria Miro Gallery, London