

TARA SWEENEY, tarasweeneyart@gmail.com, tarasweeneyart.com

EDUCATION

Minneapolis College of Art and Design, MFA, 1997;

University of Wisconsin, BS Design; BS Studio Art, 1978

West Surrey College of Art and Design, plein air watercolor coursework, UK, 1978

EMPLOYMENT

Visual Artist, 1979 to present

Department Chair, Augsburg College, 2011 to 2017, retired

Professor, Augsburg College, 1991 to 2017, retired

Owner, Principal Designer, Fruitful Results Publication Design, St. Paul, MN, 1988-2001

Art Director, Minneapolis-St. Paul Magazine, Minneapolis, MN, 1984-1988

Publications Designer, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, 1980-1984

SERVICE to the PROFESSION

Programming Chair, MN Watercolor Society, 2015 to 2018; *Workshop Chair* 2018-2020

EXHIBITION, AWARD, WORKSHOP and EVENT RECORD

Group Exhibitions

- 2018 *Bonnie & Friends III*, Ames Center, Burnsville, MN; *MN State Fair Juried Exhibition*; *Transparent Watercolor Society of America International Exhibition*, Kenosha, WI; *MN Watercolor Society Open Show*; *MN Watercolor Society Juried Member's Show*
- 2017 *NWS 97th International Exhibition*, San Pedro CA; *Bonnie & Friends II*, Ames Center, Burnsville, MN; *MN State Fair Juried Exhibition*; *MN Watercolor Society Open Show*; *MN Watercolor Society Juried Member's Show*, Minnetonka Center for the Arts *Figure Show*
- 2016 *MN State Fair Juried Exhibition*; *Invited Exhibition*, Anderson Center, Redwing, MN; *Invited Exhibition* American Swedish Institute, Minneapolis, MN; *Minnetonka Center for the Arts Faculty Show*; *MN Watercolor Society Juried Member's Show*; *North Star Water Media International*; *Bonnie & Friends I*, Ames Center
- 2015 *MN Watercolor Society Open Show*; *North Star National Exhibition*, Hopkins, MN; *Minnetonka Center for the Arts Faculty Show*; *MN Watercolor Society Juried Member's Show*, Minnetonka, MN
- 2014 *MN Watercolor Society Open Show*, Burnsville, MN; *MN State Fair Juried Exhibition*, St. Paul, MN; *Red River Watercolor Society International Juried Water Media*, Fargo, ND; *The Figure Show*, Minnetonka Center for the Arts, Minnetonka MN
- 2013 *MN Watercolor Society Open Show*, Edina, MN; *National Watercolor Society All Member Juried Exhibition*, San Pedro CA; *MN Watercolor Society Juried Member's Show*, Minnetonka, MN
- 2012 *National Watercolor Society All Member Juried Exhibition*, San Pedro CA; *MN Watercolor Society Juried Member's Show*, Minnetonka, MN; *Red River Watercolor Society International Juried Water Media*, Fargo, ND.
- 2011 *MN Watercolor Society Open Show*, Edina, MN; *MN State Fair Juried Exhibition*, St. Paul, MN; *National Watercolor Society All Member Juried Exhibition*, San Pedro, CA; *MN Watercolor Society Juried Show*, Minnetonka, MN
- 2010 *The Nude in the 21st Century*, Astoria, OR; *Watercolor West International Juried Exhibition*, Brea, CA; *MN State Fair Juried Exhibition*, St. Paul, MN; *MN Watercolor Society Open Show*, Burnsville, MN; *MN Watercolor Society Juried Show*, St. Anthony, MN
- 2009 *Savoring Summer*, A-Z Gallery, St. Paul, MN; *WARM Chronicles: A Journey Through Visual Landscapes*, Minneapolis, MN; *MN Watercolor Society Open Show*, Bloomington, MN; *Waterborne: Selections from the Weisman Traveling Exhibition*, Winona State College, Winona, MN; *Paradigm Shift*, Minneapolis College of Art and Design
- 2008 *Waterborne: Selections from the Weisman*, U of M Katherine Nash Gallery, Minneapolis, MN; *MN Watercolor Society Fall Show*, Minneapolis, MN; *Annual MN State Fair Juried Exhibition*, St.

- Paul, MN; *WARM Juried Healing Arts*, Abbott NW Institute for Health and Healing, Minneapolis, MN; *MN Watercolor Society Juried Show*, Edina, MN; *Women's Art Registry of MN Juried Members Show*, Banfill-Locke Center for the Arts, Fridley, MN; *Faculty Exhibition*, Gage Gallery, Augsburg College, Minneapolis, MN; *Celebration of Community*, St. Paul, MN
- 2007 *MN Watercolor Society Open Show*, Bloomington, MN
Annual MN State Fair Juried Exhibition, St. Paul, MN; *The Open Road*, Gallery 360, Edina, MN; *Members Salon*, Minnetonka Center for the Arts, MN; *MN Watercolor Society Juried Show*, Minnetonka Center for the Arts, MN
- 2006 *MN Watercolor Society Open Show*, Blaine, MN; *Soul Searching*, Concordia College, MN; *Members Juried Exhibition*, Minnetonka Center for the Arts, MN; *MN Watercolor Society Juried Show*, Minnetonka Center for the Arts, MN

Solo Exhibitions

- 2014 *Close to Home: A Minnesota Year in Sketches*, Gage Gallery, Minneapolis, MN
- 2013 *Close to Home: A Visual Journal*, Phipps Center for the Arts, Hudson WI
- 2011 *Mediterranean Sketchbook Suite*, Hudson Hospitals, Hudson, WI
- 2010 *Drawing Lessons*, St. Martin's Table, Minneapolis MN
- 2009 *Along the Way*, Phipps Center for the Arts, Hudson WI
- 2008 *Pilgrimage*, Hudson Hospitals Healing Arts Series, Hudson WI
Drawing from Life, Augsburg House, Minneapolis, MN
- 2007 *Listen*, Christensen Gallery, Augsburg College, Minneapolis, MN
- 2007 *What Comes After Z?*, Augsburg House, Minneapolis, MN
- 2002 *Traveling Light*, Christensen Center Gallery, Minneapolis, MN
New Watercolors, Minneapolis Alliance Française, Minneapolis, MN
- 2001 *Watercolors from French Travels*, The Undercroft Gallery, St. Paul, MN
- 1998 *Turning the Page*, Gage Family Gallery Augsburg College, Minneapolis, MN

Honors and Awards

- 2018 Merit Award, *Fall Exhibition*, MN Watercolor Society; Honorable Mention: *MN State Fair Juried Exhibition*, St. Paul, MN; Emrich Stordahl Award: *Juried Exhibition*, MN Watercolor Society, Minnetonka Center for the Arts, MN
- 2017 Artist Initiative Grant, Minnesota State Arts Board, FY 2017-18
 Merchandise Award and Signature Status, *97th International*, National Watercolor Society
- 2015 Merit Award, *Fall Exhibition*, MN Watercolor Society; 2015 Cover Design Award, *AIGA 50 Books/50Covers national juried competition*
- 2014 Fourth Place Award: *MN State Fair Juried Exhibition*, St. Paul, MN; Merit Award: *20th Annual International*, Red River Watercolor Society, Fargo, ND
- 2013 Publication: *Revelations, L'Art de l'Aquarelle*, issue #12, Diverti Editions, Paris
- 2012 Purchase Award: *19th Annual International*, Red River Watercolor Society, Fargo, ND; Grangaard Summer Research Grant: Augsburg College
 2011 Second Honors: *Fall Exhibition*, Minnesota Watercolor Society, Edina, MN; Honorable Mention: *Spring Exhibition*, Minnesota Watercolor Society
- 2009 WorkCulture Grant, Center for Teaching and Learning, Augsburg College; Lilly Vocation Grant, International Programs, Augsburg College; Merit Award: *Savoring Summer, A-Z Gallery Juried Exhibition*, St. Paul, MN; Merit Award: *Spring Exhibition*, Minnesota Watercolor Society, Minnetonka, MN; Artist Initiative Grant, Minnesota State Arts Board
- 2008 Summer Research Grant: Center for Teaching and Learning, Augsburg College; National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, alternate, Italy; Lifetime Signature Status: Minnesota Watercolor Society
- 2007 Merit Award and Signature Status: *Fall Show*, Minnesota Watercolor Society, Bloomington, MN
- 2006 Honorable Mention: *Fall Open Show*, Minnesota Watercolor Society, Blaine, MN; Honorable Mention: *Members Juried Exhibition*, Minnetonka Center for the Arts, MN

Invited Workshops and Events

- 2019 Watercolor workshops: Dillman's Art Retreats, WI; Grand Marais Art Colony, MN; American Swedish Institute, Minneapolis, MN; Wet Paint Studio, Saint Paul, MN; Assisi Heights, Rochester, MN; Artistry, Bloomington, MN
Watercolor demos: Dillman's Art Retreats, WI; Grand Marais Art Colony, Grand Marais, MN; Superior Watercolor Society, Duluth, MN; Central MN Watercolor Society, St. Cloud, MN
- 2018 Watercolor workshops: Grand Marais Art Colony, Grand Marais, MN; American Swedish Institute, Minneapolis, MN; Wet Paint Studio, Saint Paul, MN; Assisi Heights, Rochester, MN; Artistry Bloomington, MN
Watercolor demos: Grand Marais Art Colony, Grand Marais, MN; American Swedish Institute, Minneapolis, MN; Wet Paint Studio, Saint Paul, MN; MN Watercolor Society
Juror: MN Artists Association member's show, MN; North Star Water Media Society member's show, MN
- 2017 Watercolor workshops: Grand Marais Art Colony, Grand Marais, American Swedish Institute, Ames Center, Minnetonka Center for the Arts, Wet Paint Studio, MN
Watercolor demos: North Star Water Media Society, MN
- 2015 "Close to Home," presentation, AWE conference, Minneapolis, MN
- 2014 "Close to Home," author readings, artist talks Augsburg College, Minneapolis MN; "Urban Sketching," workshop, MN Watercolor Society, Minneapolis MN; "Visual Journal," demonstration, MN Watercolor Society, Minneapolis MN; "A Sociology of Pilgrimage" publication, Via Francigena Sketchbook, Ursus Press, London Ontario.
- 2012 "Walking from Lucca to Rome," presentation, Augsburg College, Minneapolis MN
- 2010 Artist Initiative Grant Review, panelist, Minnesota State Arts Board, St. Paul, MN
"Plein Air Sketching," workshop, Women's Art Registry of MN, Lake Harriet, Minneapolis, MN
- 2009 "Plein Air Sketching," workshop, Minnesota Watercolor Society, Minneapolis, MN
"Intimate Art: Journey Beyond Cancer," presentation, U of Michigan Urology Department, Prostate Cancer Research Division;