

### Education

MFA, Painting and Drawing, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL, 2006.  
BFA, Studio Art, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL, 2004.  
BA, Philosophy, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, 1997.

### One and Two Person Exhibitions

- 2018 *James Kao: Starlight*, boundary, Chicago, IL.  
2017 *Shelter, likewise*, Heaven Gallery, Chicago, IL.  
2014 *Domestics*, Adds Donna, Chicago, IL.  
2011 *Habitations*, Patricia Ladd Carega Gallery, Sandwich, NH.  
2010 *Do it cuz you love it*, China Projects, San Francisco, CA.  
*Possible Worlds*, Toomey Tourell Fine Art, San Francisco, CA.  
2009 *Ways of Worldmaking*, Lloyd Dobler Gallery, Chicago, IL.  
2008 *Frequencies: New Paintings by Michael Ajerman and James Kao*, Toomey Tourell Fine Art, San Francisco, CA.  
*Prehensile*, Ford Center for the Fine Arts, Knox College, Galesburg, IL.  
2007 *James Kao: New Paintings*, Gosia Koscielak Gallery, Chicago, IL.  
*Filaments*, Lee E. Dulgar Gallery, South Suburban College, South Holland, IL.  
*Dilations*, Gosia Koscielak Gallery, Chicago, IL.  
2006 *James Kao: Recent Paintings*, American Theater Company, Chicago, IL.

### Group Exhibitions

- 2019 *McCormick House—Past, Present, and Future*, curated by Rob Kleinschmidt, Elmhurst Art Museum, IL.  
*Summer Essentials*, Sears Peyton Gallery, New York, NY.  
*Storytellers*, Carrie Secrist Gallery, Chicago, IL.  
*With a Capital P: Selections by 6 Painters*, Elmhurst Art Museum, Elmhurst, IL.  
2018 *The Monochrome Set*, Soccer Club Club, Chicago, IL.  
*The People's Forest: a Centennial Celebration of the White Mountain National Forest*, Museum of the White Mountains, Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH.  
2017 *Blue Notes*, Ace Hotel, Chicago, IL.  
*The Dangerous Professors*, Triumph, Chicago, IL.  
*Universal Love*, Heaven Gallery, Chicago, IL.  
2016 Alfred and Trafford Klots International Program for Artists Exhibition, Abbaye Saint-Magloire, Lehon, France.  
2015 *the Barack Obama Presidential Library*, Southside Hub of Production, Chicago, IL.  
2014 Baltimore Alternative Art Fair w/ Adds Donna, Baltimore, MD.  
*Evanston + Vicinity Biennial*, juried by Allison Peters Quinn & Sergio Gomez, Evanston Art Center, Evanston, IL.  
*Circle in a Square*, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL.  
2013 Three Walls 10 x 10 Auction, Salvage One, Chicago, IL.  
*artWork 6*, Sullivan Galleries, Chicago, IL.  
2012 *Water-reading*, ADDS DONNA, Chicago, IL.  
*Landscape: A Fresh Perspective*, Patricia Ladd Carega Gallery, Sandwich, NH.  
*B.A.D.*, curated by Molar Productions, Beverly Arts Center, Chicago, IL.  
2011 *MDW Fair w/ Lloyd Dobler Gallery*, Chicago, IL.  
*Sexy*, Gene Siskel Film Center, Chicago, IL.  
*Sexier*, Zhou B Art Center, Chicago, IL.  
*Abacus Asleep with James Kao, Mie Kongo, and Sarah Nishiura*, Art Igloo, www.artigloo.com.  
*Ox-Bow Benefit Auction*, Architectural Artifacts, Chicago, IL.  
2010 *BamBUDDHAed*, curated by Larry Lee, portage ARTspace, Chicago, IL.  
*CPC Student Exhibition*, Chicago Printmakers Collaborative, Chicago, IL.  
*Next Art Fair w/ Lloyd Dobler Gallery*, Chicago, IL.  
*Potluck*, The Op-Shop, Chicago, IL.  
*Hospitality House 25th Annual Auction*, Andrea Schwartz Gallery, San Francisco, CA.  
2009 *University-wide*, juried by Allison Peters Quinn, DOVA Temporary, Chicago, IL.  
*Seeking Art: 'Bargain Basement', a project by Hui-min Tsen*, Co-Prosperity Sphere, Chicago, IL.  
*The Diorama Show*, curated by Laura Schaeffer, HOME, Chicago, IL.  
*Third National Juried Exhibition*, juried by Susanna Coffey, Prince Street Gallery, New York, NY.  
*Seeking Art: 'Bargain Basement', a project by Hui-min Tsen*, NFO EXPO, Version Fest, Chicago, IL.  
2008 *(re)Visions*, The O' Connor Gallery of Art, Dominican University, River Forest, IL.  
*Mutability: New Paintings by Sevando Garcia, James Kao, and Ann Toebbe*, curated by Patricia Courson, ATC Gallery, Chicago, IL.  
*Ten*, Toomey Tourell Fine Art, San Francisco, CA.  
*Bridge Art Fair w/ Toomey Tourell Fine Art*, New York, NY.  
*sMART Benefit & Auction*, Beverly Arts Center, Chicago, IL.  
*artWork 5*, Gallery 2, Chicago, IL.

- 2007 Flow: Miami Invitational Art Fair w/ Toomey Tourell Fine Art, South Beach, FL.  
 Art Now Fair w/ Gosia Koscielak Gallery, Miami Beach, FL.  
*Plaza Art Exhibition*, Beverly Arts Center, Chicago, IL.  
 Bridge Art Fair w/ Toomey Tourell Fine Art, London, UK.  
*Faculty Group Exhibition*, Evanston Art Center, Evanston, IL.  
*Interstitial*, Zhou B Arts Center, Chicago, IL.  
 Bridge Art Fair w/ Gosia Koscielak Gallery, Chicago, IL.  
*Celebration of Faculty Work*, Rebecca Crown Library, Dominican University, River Forest, IL.  
 Around the Coyote w/ Gosia Koscielak Gallery, Chicago, IL.
- 2006 Pool Boomerang Art Fair w/ Gosia Koscielak Gallery, Miami Beach, FL.  
*Moreover: Practicing Representation + Abstraction*, curated by Michelle Grabner, Beverly Arts Center, Chicago, IL.  
*Slowness*, Heaven Gallery, Chicago, IL.  
*Gallery Artists*, Gosia Koscielak Gallery, Chicago, IL.  
*SAIC Graduate Exhibition*, Gallery 2, Chicago, IL.  
*Landscape, Seascape, Dreamscape*, The Arts Alliance Center at Clear Lake, Nassau Bay, TX.
- 2005 *Plaza Art Exhibition*, Beverly Arts Center, Chicago, IL.  
*Experiment 400/5*, Gallery 400, Chicago, IL.  
*Chicago Art Open*, Gallery 2, Chicago, IL.  
*Strictly Drawing*, Bloomingdale Park District Museum, Bloomingdale, IL.  
 Nippon Steel USA, Inc., Juried Show, Chicago, IL.
- 2004 *Undergraduated Talent*, ATC Gallery, Chicago, IL.  
*SAIC Undergraduate Exhibition*, Gallery 2, Chicago, IL.  
 Nippon Steel USA, Inc., Juried Show, Chicago, IL.
- 2003 Galleria ISA, Group Show, Montecastello di Vibio, Italy.  
*Festival of the Arts*, The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL.

#### Professional Activities

- Co-Founder/ Co-Director, 4<sup>th</sup> Ward Project Space, 2014-Present.  
 Panelist, Collaborative Practices for Artist-Run Spaces, Chicago Artists Coalition, Chicago, IL, 2018.  
 Faculty Teaching and Research Symposium, Under Hödler's Clouds, Aurora University, Aurora, IL, 2018.  
 Juror, Skyway Juried Art Competition and Exhibition, Waubensee Community College, Sugar Grove, 2017.  
 Artist's Lecture, *Observations, Reflections, and Re-Presentations*, Faculty Speaker Series, Aurora University, Aurora, IL 2017.  
 Lecture, *Art, Freedom, and Responsibility*, "Let Freedom Ring", Aurora University, Aurora, IL, 2017.  
 Co-Curator and author of catalogue essay, *Chrome Green*, Heaven Gallery, Chicago, IL, 2015.  
 Juror, Aurora Public Library Foundation, Aurora, IL, 2015.  
 Juror, Space Coast Art Festival, Cocoa Beach, FL, 2011.  
 Visiting Artist Lecture, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Contemporary Practice Department, Chicago, IL, 2011.  
 Visiting Artist Lecture and Critiques, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, 2011.  
 Artist Lecture, 8 Days of Weeks: White Mountains Cultural Festival, The Branch: An Extension of the Jeanne Limmer Dance Center, North Conway, NH, 2011.  
 Artist's Lecture, *Artist's Connect: James Kao Connects with Giovanni Battista Tiepolo*, Museum of the Art Institute of Chicago, 2011.  
 Artist's Lecture, Ox-Bow School of Art, Saugatuck, MI, 2010.  
 Artist's Lecture, Lloyd Dobler Gallery, Chicago, IL, 2009.  
 Visiting Artist Lecture and Critiques, Knox College, Galesburg, IL, 2008.  
 Artist's Lecture, Gosia Koscielak Gallery, Chicago, IL, 2007.  
 Visiting Artist Lecture, Whittier College, Whittier, CA, 2006.  
 Co-Director, Interlink Visiting Artist Program, SAIC, Chicago, IL, 2005-2006.  
 Panelist, *Painting: Issues of Color*, "Wittgenstein, the Language of Color, and Painting", College Art Association Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA, 2005.  
 Co-Curator, *Drawn to Drawing*, Betty Rymer Gallery, Chicago, IL, 2005.  
 Juror, Exhibitions and Events Committee, SAIC, Chicago, IL, 2005.

#### Teaching Experience

- Aurora University, Assistant Professor of Art, Aurora, IL, 2013-Present.  
 School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC), Instructor in Painting and Drawing, Chicago, IL, 2007-2013.  
 Ox-Bow School of Art, Instructor in Painting and Drawing, Saugatuck, MI, summer 2010, 2013.  
 SAIC, Early College Program, Instructor in Painting and Drawing, IL, 2006-Present.  
 Dominican University, Adjunct Assistant Professor in Painting and Drawing, River Forest, IL, 2006-2010.  
 Hyde Park Art Center, Instructor in Painting and Drawing, Chicago, IL, 2008.  
 Evanston Art Center, Instructor in Painting and Drawing, Evanston, IL, 2006-2007.  
 Indiana University Northwest, Instructor in Drawing, Gary, IL, 2006.  
 SAIC, Teaching Assistant (Nine Teaching Assistantships in Studio, Seminar, and Art History), Chicago, IL, 2002-2005.  
 Private Tutor in Painting and Drawing, Chicago, IL, 2001-2008.

Academic Service

Faculty Speaker Series Committee, Aurora University, Aurora, IL, 2013-Present.  
 Assessment Committee, Aurora University, Aurora, IL, 2018-Present.  
 General Education Committee, Aurora University, Aurora, IL, 2014-Present, Chair: 2017-18.  
 Institutional Budget and Strategy Committee, Aurora University, Aurora, IL 2016-17.  
 Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Chair, Aurora University, Aurora, IL, 2014-16.  
 Fine Arts Council, Aurora University, Aurora, IL, 2014-Present.  
 Faculty Representative, Part-Time Concerns Committee of the Faculty Senate, SAIC, Chicago, IL, 2010-2013.  
 Faculty Representative, Admissions, SAIC, Chicago, IL, 2007-2013.  
 Senator, Student Government, SAIC, 2004.  
 Judicial Review Committee, SAIC, Chicago, IL, 2002-2004.

Awards & Honors

Artist in Residence, Montello Foundation, Montello, NV, 2019.  
 Artist in Residence, Trelex Residency, Trelex, Switzerland, 2017.  
 Artist in Residence, Alfred and Trafford Klots International Program for Artists, Lehon, France, 2016.  
 Dr. Robert and Lina Thyll-Dürr Foundation Fellowship: Artist in Residence at Casa Zia Lina, Elba, Italy, 2015.  
 Artist in Residence, Catwalk Art Residency, Catskill, NY, 2012.  
 Artist in Residence, White Mountain National Forest, Sandwich, NH, 2011.  
 Artist in Residence, Marina Abramović Institute-West, San Francisco, CA, 2010.  
 Best of Show, 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Plaza Art Competition, 2007.  
 Best Figurative Painting Award, 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Plaza Art Competition, 2005.  
 Nippon Steel USA, Inc. Presidential Purchase Award, 2005.  
 Incentive Merit Scholarship Award, SAIC, 2004-06.  
 Enrichment Scholarship Award, SAIC, 2001-04.  
 Student Leadership Award, SAIC, 2002, 2003, 2004.  
 City of Hope Service Award, 2001.

Citations

Riksha: Asian American Creative Arts in Action, "Starlight", v2.4, January, 2019.  
 The Comp Magazine, "An Idea, Reference or Sensation, with painter James Kao", May 6, 2018.  
 Chicago Artists Portrait Project, Chester Alamo-Costello, <http://alamo-costello.net/portfolio-item/chicago-portraits/>, 2018.  
 Le Telegramme, "Expo. Huit Américains inspirés à l'Abbaye", July 16, 2016.  
 Asian American Art Oral History Project, DePaul University, 2016.  
 Southside Weekly, "Three Heads are Better than One", Emiliano Burr DiMauro, April 28, 2015.  
 Art.Newcity.com, "Three New Gallery Programs Start This Summer While Humboldt Park Art Hub Loses Its Lease", Matt Morris, June 27, 2014.  
 Sarah Boyle Studio Journal (www.sarahboyle.squarespace.com) "Recent Shows: James Kao at Adds Donna", March, 2014.  
 Dumlam (dumlam.blogspot.de), May 7, 2014.  
 A/Art (<http://blogaart.blogspot.com>), November, 2013.  
 Conway Daily Sun, "White Mountain National Forest Artists in Residence Honored", September 7, 2013.  
 Bailliwik, Issue 9, Autumn, 2012.  
 The Laconia Daily Sun, "'Habitations' exhibit opens at Sandwich Gallery", Roger Amsden, September 1, 2011.  
 The Nashua Telegraph, Encore, Being White Mountain artist in residence offers different perspective than Chicago, Los Angeles", Robbie Feinberg, August 7, 2011.  
 Boston Globe, The Associated Press, "Chicago painter named NH forest artist.", July 17, 2011.  
 Bailliwik, Issue 8, Autumn, 2010.  
 at Length Magazine, "Poetry/ Painting", April, 2010.  
 ArtSlant.com, "Not So Ordinary", Roby Farrell Roulo, September 28, 2009.  
 at Length Magazine, "A Correspondence with James Kao", Elaine Bleakney, September, 2009.  
 Dominican Star, "(Re)visions Showcases Faculty Artwork, November 19, 2008.  
 Time Out Chicago, "Mutability", Garin Pirnia, Issue 189, October 9-15, 2008.  
 The Knox Student, "Kao paints with mixed meanings", Anjali Pattanayak, February, 21, 2008.  
 The Villager, "BAC Auction Offers Original Art", February 2008.  
 The Villager, "Winners Announced for 2007 Plaza Art Competition", December 2007.  
 Flavorpill Chicago, Issue 132, March 31, 2007.  
 Chicago Reader, March 29, 2007.  
 Chicago Sun-Times, "'Classic Hits' from the past still a real blast", Margaret Hawkins, March 23, 2007.  
 "Time is on Our Side", Terry Myers, exhibition catalogue for Slowness.  
 "Returns to an Evacuated Site", Aaron Walker, exhibition catalogue for Slowness.  
 F News, "Drawn to Drawing", Katrina Kuntz, July 2005.

Public Collections:

Ace Hotel, Chicago, IL.

White Mountain National Forest Service, Campton, NH.

Nippon Steel USA, Inc., Chicago, IL.