



Kingston Gallery History

Kingston Gallery is an artist-run cooperative incorporated in 1982, Boston's second-oldest such institution presently in operation. It takes its name from its original location at 129 Kingston Street near Boston's Chinatown. In 1997, the gallery relocated to 37 Thayer Street in the South End (now 450 Harrison Avenue #43), a short walk from the Boston Center for the Arts.

Kingston was founded by two Massachusetts College of Art graduates—Joanne Jolly and David Kay. The pair served as the gallery's first directors, succeeded over the years by Joann Winkler, Nancy Ryder, Rob Todd, Steve Novick, Kathleen O'Hara, Caroline Taggart, Jeanne Griffin, Janet Hansen Kawada, and currently Mary Lang. The gallery is governed and staffed by dues-paying, exhibiting artist-members with the mission of showcasing emerging contemporary artists. Group and solo shows by members have been consistently augmented by exhibitions and events which feature non-members; these have included the Eclectica film and performance series, work by graduated students from New England colleges and universities, lectures, and artists-invite-artists shows. The New Art annual national juried exhibition has attracted participants from across the United States and has been curated by, among others, Trevor Fairbrother of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Christoph Grunenberg of the Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston; Bill Arning at MIT List Visual Arts Center; Susan Stoops from the Worcester Art Museum; and Laura Heon from Mass MOCA.

More than sixty artists have held membership in and shown at the Kingston Gallery, with hundreds more exhibiting in the aforementioned invitational and juried events. The gallery has been covered in the Boston Globe, Boston Herald, Art New England, artsMedia, and Art in America magazines.

Kingston's current roster of artists includes Sophia Ainslie, Susan Alport, Joan Baldwin, Ruth Daniels, Richard DeVeau, Gail Erwin, Audrey Goldstein, Jeanne Griffin, Janet Hansen Kawada, Hilary Hutchison, Mary Lang, Barbara Moody, Rose Olson, Sharon Pierce, Bonita Sennott, Elif Soyer, Hilary Tolan, Ann Wessmann, and Carolyn Wirth. The gallery remains committed to presenting a broad range of contemporary styles and media and to providing an alternative and complement to Boston's museums and commercial galleries. If you are interested in applying for membership or for a show in the Center Gallery, please speak to one of the members at the desk or see the Kingston Gallery website, www.kingstongallery.com.