



# The Garage Art Center

**Exhibition Title:** *Around the Edges*

**Artist Name:** Richard Keen

**Exhibition Date:** 5/6 – 6/4/2023

**Opening Reception:** Saturday, 5/6/2023, @ 4 pm – 6 pm

**Art Workshop:** Sunday, 6/4/2023 @ 3 pm – 4:30 pm

## About the Exhibition

We are thrilled to present a selection of paintings from Maine-based artist Richard Keen in our upcoming exhibition 'AROUND THE EDGES.'

The show will feature a series of small-format paintings mounted on a low-profile triangular wooden rail that were created collaboratively with Richard's friend Scott Stuart. These rails, designed using shapes and lines found in Keen's work, will encircle the room, providing visitors with a unique opportunity to interact with the art in a more meaningful way.

To ensure the artwork is kept in pristine condition, visitors will be required to wear proper hand protection when handling the paintings. This gives viewers the chance to move the paintings around and alter their relationship with each other within the gallery space, creating a more engaging experience for everyone. One of the exhibition's primary goals is to eliminate the stigma of artwork being too valuable to touch, making it accessible and approachable for all.

Along with the paintings, the exhibition will include a curated grouping of dimensional wall sculptures and shaped panels, providing visitors with a truly immersive experience that will stay with them long after they leave. The combination of Keen's paintings with these additional pieces creates an environment that is both intimate and expansive, allowing visitors to immerse themselves in the artist's world.

This exhibition is a must-see for art lovers and anyone seeking a unique and inspiring cultural experience. Don't miss your chance to see Richard Keen's paintings in person and be a part of this exciting exhibition.

The exhibition will run from May 6 to June 4, 2023, at the Garage Art Center located at 26-01 Corporal Kennedy St. Bayside, NY.

Also, join us on the last day of the exhibition for a unique art experience at the gallery. Artist Richard Keen will lead a 90-minute workshop where participants can explore their creativity and

learn how to compose and create abstract drawings based on an object they are connected with. Basic drawing supplies such as cardboard, paper, and spray fix will be provided, but participants are encouraged to bring flat/non-precious objects to draw on, around, trace, etc. This is a wonderful opportunity to engage with the exhibition and learn from the artist.

\* All programs are FREE and open to the public. Registration required. To schedule your visit or register for the workshop, please use our scheduler:

<https://garageartcenter.as.me>

**For more information about the exhibition:**

<https://www.garageartcenter.org/exhibition-single-richard.html>

## About the Workshop

### *Drawing Abstraction*

Sunday, 6/4/2023 @ 3 pm – 4:30pm

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**More about the workshop:**

<https://www.garageartcenter.org/event-single-richard.html>

(Seats are limited. The registration link won't work once workshop is now fully booked, but please email us to inquire about last min. cancellations.)

## About the Artist

Richard Keen is a contemporary artist based in Maine who has been creating stunning art for over two decades. From 1997-2003, Keen taught privately and in public schools before devoting his time to his art. He now maintains a studio at Ft. Andross Mill in Brunswick while subsidizing his life as an artist by working as a professional diver.

Originally from Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, Keen holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Millikin University in Decatur, IL, and a Master of Arts from SUNY Albany. His work can be found in public and private collections worldwide, and he has received numerous grants from New England institutions such as the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, Sheffield, MA, and Rhode Island Sea Grant, Narragansett, RI. Keen's recent solo exhibitions include shows at the Zillman Art Museum in Bangor, ME, and Elizabeth Moss Galleries in Falmouth, ME. Keen also exhibits with Abigail Ogilvy Gallery in Boston, MA, and the Painting Center in NY, NY. He has

also created public art and received grants from the Maine Arts Commission, the University of Rhode Island, and the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation. His work has been included in the United States “Art in Embassies Program.” His work has been reviewed in Art New England, Portland Press Herald, Maine Home, and Design, Dispatch Magazine, Fresh Paint Magazine, and Studio Visit Magazine.

As a diver, Keen’s art is heavily influenced by the shapes and shadows he encounters in his underwater world. The arc of a hull, the slide of a rudder, and the way sunlight filters through the dark Maine waters are all elements that re-emerge in his abstract art. Keen’s creative process begins with observation, where he removes unnecessary details and filters which elements to focus on. His paintings reference boat components such as rudders, keels, and boat designs, but in a minimal and reductive approach to making art. Keen’s painting methods vary widely, from scraping, wiping, and brushing to spreading the paint with palette knives, scrapers, and even old credit cards. He balances crisp lines and shapes (created by taping off areas) with visible aspects of brushwork and other mark-making processes.

## Our Location

The Garage Art Center, Inc.  
**26-01 Corporal Kennedy Street, Bayside, NY 11360**

Website

[www.garageartcenter.org](http://www.garageartcenter.org)

Email

[contact@garageartcenter.org](mailto:contact@garageartcenter.org)

Follow Us On Social Media

**Facebook:** TheGarageArtCenter

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**YouTube Channel:** The Garage Art Center

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqGTZINabMWrXVantxFDrWA>

## Image List



*Form Singularity 295* by Richard Keen



*Form Singularity 224, 293, & 286* by Richard Keen