

# BIO

**CAROLYN PARKER** (b. 1952, Cincinnati, OH USA)

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## ARTIST STATEMENT

Carolyn Parker is a multidisciplinary artist devoted to creating media experiences for our constantly changing world. Striving to access latent, collective memory is critical to interpreting the myriad relationships among her experiences and observations within the respective worlds we inhabit and engage. These narratives provide dynamic, multifaceted perspectives in her contemplative expression using visual metaphors and allegories, thus facilitating balance- and counterbalance- amid perceived chaos and order. Few themes are singular in nature but, rather, compilations and juxtapositions of formal elements amid disparate thoughts, beckoning resolution between internal dialogues and outward manifestations.

## EARLY YEARS

As a fine art photographer and upstream media creator, Parker's professional experience has allowed her to grow with the times- from analog to dynamic.

Born and raised in Cincinnati, Ohio, she pursued drawing and painting at a young age in the mid-60s. Following high school in the early '70s, she entered the blue chip advertising agency world while pursuing life drawing night studies at the Art Academy of Cincinnati- when it was still affiliated and physically connected to the Cincinnati Art Museum.

Earning full-time acceptance into the Art Academy was soon realized through their competitive portfolio review, with only 20 or so being accepted as incoming students each year. At that time, they offered a diploma upon graduation. Upon leaving in her Junior year due to financial constraints, she worked in various roles and first creative gig was a full-time Artist/Photographer at WLWT-TV, an NBC affiliate.

This fueled her continued pursuit to complete her undergrad studies and moved to Dayton to begin studying at Wright State University, School of Fine and Performing Arts in Dayton, Ohio, with continued concentration in Printmaking, Photography and Film/Video. She worked concurrently as

designer in the university's research department and as a photo lab technician in the fine art department. Carolyn graduated *magna cum laude* in 1982 with her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree.

Immediately upon graduation, she accepted an offer from the University of California, Irvine, Clair Trevor School of the Arts, learning a Master of Fine Arts degree in 1984. As an incoming student at UCI, she was also awarded the Regents Fellowship and Teaching Assistantship, Printmaking Department, while also working at the Costa Mesa publishing company Western Outdoors as Head Typographer, and pursued freelance gigs in Orange County typography houses as computerized typesetting was being introduced.

## **CAREER OVERVIEW**

Endorsements describe her as being a diligent, strategic marketer with substantial experience in placing emphasis on both quality of delivery and creativity. With each assignment and opportunity, she consistently demonstrated a progressive record of success, and was internationally recognized within highly competitive, diverse environments, primarily Motorola in Scottsdale, Arizona where she and her new husband landed circa 1987.

She describes her business acumen as follows: "It really takes a big-picture thinker to ensure complex projects, data management, and systems react seamlessly and responsively to targeted needs. That means you need to get in the weeds as well as blue-sky the upstream opportunities. Sometimes you work independently; sometimes it takes a matrix of talent to bring the project to the finish line."

Carolyn's focus has shifted from her established corporate career to renewed interest in personal fine art projects. Recently she has embraced the relative freedom to pick and choose personal projects and worthy causes:

- Tiger Lily Press Artist Member and newly appointed Communications Chair on the Tiger Lily Press Board of Directors
- Kennedy Heights Art Center Collective Member Artist and implements ongoing data management projects

As of 2023, she has been exhibiting and earning distinction within several local venues, as well as online galleries. Details may be found on her curriculum vitae, found below.

## EDUCATION

University of California, Irvine, Master of Fine Arts, 1984

Wright State University, Bachelor of Fine Arts, 1982

Art Academy of Cincinnati, 1974-1977

### MASTER OF FINE ARTS – UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

Major: Fine Art Photography and Printmaking, Studio Management, Contemporary Art

**Regents Fellowship** incoming year; Teaching Assistantship second year. Worked concurrently as Head Typographer for *Western Outdoors*, Costa Mesa, CA.

### BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS – WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY, DAYTON, OHIO

Fine Art Photography, Film and Video, Printmaking major. Psychology minor.

Concurrent part-time work: Fine Art Photo Lab Technician incoming year; Research and Academic Services Graphic Designer and Technical Illustrator remaining years.

### ART ACADEMY OF CINCINNATI

Fine and Applied Arts, English, Art History, Perspective Technical Drawing

Concurrent part-time work: Art History Slide Technologist