

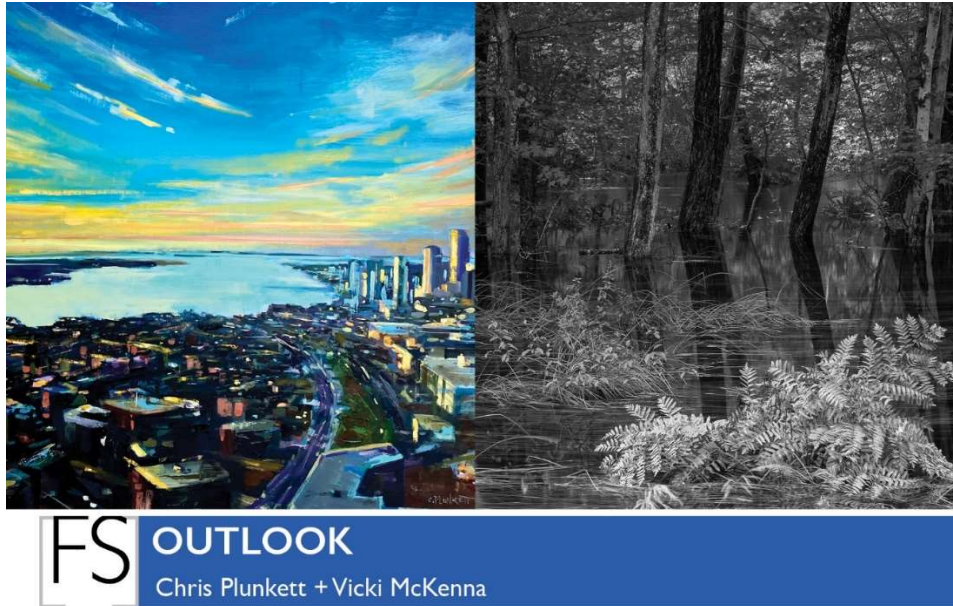
OUTLOOK

Chris Plunkett + Vicki McKenna

March 30–April 24, 2022

SoWa First Friday Art Walk: April 1 | 5–8PM

FOR PRESS-READY IMAGES CONTACT: Marie Craig at director@fsfaboston.com, (774) 286-1800



BOSTON, MA – Beginning March 30th, Fountain Street Gallery will exhibit “Outlook,” featuring the work of Chris Plunkett and Vicki McKenna. “Outlook” presents landscapes both personal and communal. Through the intertwining of light and composition we can recognize what the familiar has to offer. The powerful color of Chris Plunkett’s oil paintings and the atmospheres of Vicki McKenna’s black and white photographic prints celebrate the commonplace. They ask you to forego the preconditioned expectations of scenic grandeur and uncover interest in the everyday.

Chris Plunkett is a painter who works en plein air as well as in-studio. He is deeply influenced by local landscapes, both urban and rural. His paintings are personal reflections of the controlled chaos, occasional calm, and overall beauty of the everyday. Much of Plunkett’s work is created in his studio using photographs and sketches as reference, but it is plein air painting that inspires him the most. From the outdoor vantage point he chases light as it moves, and reacts quickly to the scene unfolding before him. Plunkett’s plein air paintings serve as an illuminating study of the interaction between light and landscape.

Plunkett is a full-time visual art teacher in Boston Public Schools. He earned his BA in Visual Art from Plymouth State University, NH, studied art education at Massachusetts College of Art and Design, and received his Master’s in Art Education from Boston University. He has shown his work in numerous Boston-area venues, including in a solo exhibition at Boston City Hall. Plunkett was raised in Jamaica Plain and lives in Dorchester, MA. He is a Core Member of Fountain Street.

Vicki McKenna presents photographs from three projects of personal landscapes, both natural and developed. The projects are united by a common thread of scale. Encompassing a natural field of view, the images are relatable. It is easy to envision being there. However, each project is motivated by a different underlying emotion—nostalgia, contentment, or humor. The majority of McKenna’s work comprises black and white photographs printed using historic processes. This involves hand coating watercolor papers with light-sensitive platinum or palladium salts. These prints have rich blacks and subtle mid-tones. Because each print is unique, McKenna finds this printing approach offers an additional avenue for her artistic expression.

McKenna earned an ALB in Natural Sciences from Harvard University and a PhD in Geological Sciences from Brown University. She studied photography at the New England School of Photography, the Photography Atelier at the Griffin Museum, and Maine Media Workshops. She has exhibited throughout New England and along the East Coast in solo, two-person and group shows, including at the Firehouse Center for the Arts, Newburyport, MA, the Danforth Museum, Framingham, MA, the Cambridge Art Association, Cambridge, MA, PhotoPlace Gallery, Burlington, VT, and the Kiernan Gallery, Lexington, VA. She has taught a freshman seminar focused on photography at M.I.T. McKenna lives and works in Newton, MA. She is a Core Member of Fountain Street.

Image Information

Left: Plunkett, *Aerial Dawning* (detail), oil on wood panel, 2021

Right: McKenna, *Flooded Wetland* (detail), handcrafted palladium print, 2021

About Fountain Street

Fountain Street is a contemporary gallery in the SoWa Art + Design District of Boston. We exhibit a wide array of media from over 30 emerging and mid-career artists in both our main and annex galleries, and 24/7 at our sidewalk video gallery. Founded in 2011, our passion has always been about connecting art seekers and makers through thoughtfully curated exhibitions, juried shows, collaborative projects and installations. Our deep commitment to local artists and frequent rotation of new exhibits offers visitors a fresh and dynamic art experience.

Contact

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