

Kaye Buchman

Big Ink



The McLean County Arts Center presents *Big Ink*, an exhibition featuring work by Kaye Buchman in the Armstrong Gallery from March 6 to April 18, 2015. An opening reception will be on Friday, March 6 from 5 to 7 pm during Downtown Bloomington's First Friday. This event is free and open to the public.

Big Ink features large scale pen and ink drawings on paper that physically pull you in and don't let go. The intricate black marks on the paper command shape and depth, line and motion that defy the flat surface. Kaye Buchman created these drawings on 40 by 70 inch sheets of paper pinned directly to the wall. Each piece begins with the first mark made in the middle of the paper, and every mark after that is a precise and improvised call and response to the previous marks.

Buchman notes, "As I began working, I intentionally pushed away any preconceived ideas and tried to work with a clear and empty mind. I recognized that this approach had a kinship with the Zen concept of "shoshin" or "beginner's mind" that allows through regular practice an emptiness and readiness for anything. I imagined that this activity of making marks on paper would simply record my use of time, physical movement, and relationship to flat space."

The resulting drawings are nonrepresentational and yet "suggest connections to natural phenomena and terrestrial forms." Water, clouds, and wind come to mind as they ebb, flow, swirl, and curl like Buchman's lines and shapes.

Buchman deduces, "With a healthy respect for the familiar adage less is more in a world of dramatically shrinking resources coupled with the compelling space of empty mind, my work aims to make transparent only that which shows up as most essential and necessary—no more, no less."

Kaye Buchman is an artist and arts educator in Chicago, IL. She received her BFA from Illinois State University and MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Buchman has taught painting, drawing, creative research, and art history for over 25 years in the Chicago area. She is the director of Kaye Buchman Studio where she makes art and mentors adult students interested in expanding their creative practices.

This exhibition was generously sponsored by Paul & Sandra Harmon.