

Karl Wirsum

b. 1939, Chicago, IL

Lives and works in Chicago, IL

Education

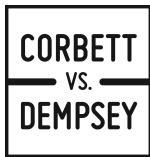
1961 BFA, School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Professional

Full Adjunct Professor, School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Solo Exhibitions

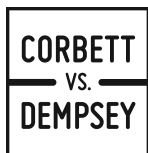
- 2017 *Mr. Whatzit: Selections from the 1980s*, Derek Eller Gallery, New York
No Dogs Aloud, Corbett vs. Dempsey, Chicago, IL
- 2015 Derek Eller Gallery, New York
- 2013 Derek Eller Gallery, New York
- 2010 Derek Eller Gallery, New York
- 2010 Jean Albano Gallery, Chicago
- 2008 *Winsome Works(Some): Career Retrospective*, Herron School of Art & Design, Indianapolis, IN
Karl Wirsum: Paintings & Prints, Contemporary Art Center of Peoria, Peoria, IL
- 2007 *Winsome Works(Some): Career Retrospective*, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Madison, WI
Karl Wirsum: Plays Missed It For You, Jean Albano Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2005 Union Art Gallery, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI
- 2004 *Hello Again Boom A Rang: Ten Years of Wirsum Art*, Jean Albano Gallery, Chicago
- 2002 *Paintings and Cutouts*, Quincy Art Center, Quincy, IL
Jean Albano Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2001 Rockford College Gallery, Rockford, IL
- 2000 Jean Albano Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1998 Jean Albano Gallery, Chicago, IL
University Club of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 1997 The University of Iowa Museum of Art, Sculpture Court, Iowa City, Iowa
- 1994 Phyllis Kind Gallery, Chicago, IL
J. Maddux Parker Gallery, Sacramento, CA
- 1992 Phyllis Kind Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1991 *Retrospective*, Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- 1989 Phyllis Kind Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1988 Phyllis Kind Gallery, Chicago, IL
Phyllis Kind Gallery, New York, NY
College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, IL
- 1986 Phyllis Kind Gallery, Chicago, IL
Phyllis Kind Gallery, New York, NY
- 1984 Phyllis Kind Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1983 Phyllis Kind Gallery, New York, NY



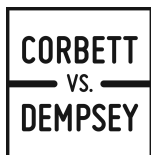
- 1982 Phyllis Kind Gallery, Chicago, IL
Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, Winston-Salem, NC
- 1981 Phyllis Kind Gallery, Chicago, IL
Hare Toddy Kong Tamari: Selected Objects, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago
- 1980 Phyllis Kind Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1979 Phyllis Kind Gallery, New York, NY
- 1978 Phyllis Kind Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1977 Phyllis Kind Gallery, New York, NY
- 1976 Phyllis Kind Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1971 Wabash Transit Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1970 St. Xavier College, Chicago, IL
- 1967 Dell Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1963 Fairweather-Hardin Gallery, Chicago

Selected Group Exhibitions

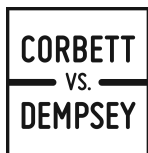
- 2018 *The Imagist Object: New Dimensions in Chicago Art 1964 – 1980*, The Frances Young Tang Museum and Art Gallery, Saratoga Springs, NY
- 2017 *Famous Artists from Chicago 1965 – 1975*, curated by Germano Celant, Fondazione Prada, Milan, Italy
World Premiere of Kings and Queens: Pinball, Imagists and Chicago, curated by Dan Nadel, Elmhurst Art Museum, Elmhurst, IL
Others, Rockford Art Museum, Rockford, IL
- 2015 *A Shared Space: KAWS, Karl Wirsum and Tomoo Gokita*, Newcomb Art Museum, New Orleans, LA
What Nerve! Alternative Figures in American Art, 1960 to Present, Matthew Marks Gallery, New York, NY
America is Hard to See, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
Painting 2.0, Museum Brandhorst, Munich
- 2014 *What Nerve! Alternative Figures in American Art, 1960 to Present*, RISD Museum, Providence, RI
If You're Accidentally Not included, Don't Worry About It, curated by Peter Saul, Zürcher Studio, New York, NY
- 2013 *Chicago Imagists*, Karma International, Zurich, Switzerland
- 2012 *Sinister Pop*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
The Invitational Exhibition of Visual Arts, American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York, NY
Re-Source, Jean Albano Gallery, IL
Objets Extraordinaire, Highland Park Art Center, Highland Park, IL
Multiple Encounters Indo-US Print Exhibition, Lalit Kala Akademi Galleries, New Delhi
- 2011 *Pretty on the Inside*, Kasmin Gallery, New York City
: Hypercolon :, SMART Project Space, Amsterdam
Chicago Imagists, Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Madison, WI
Works on Paper: Selections from the Elmhurst College Collection, Elmhurst Art Museum, IL
DRAWN, Adam Baumgold Gallery, New York, NY
Pretty on the Inside, Paul Kasmin Gallery, New York, NY
The Paper Show, Jean Albano Gallery, Chicago, IL
Play Ball, Lancaster Museum of Art, Lancaster, PA
The Art of Collecting, the Flint Institute of Arts, Flint, MI
Re: Chicago, DePaul Art Museum, Chicago



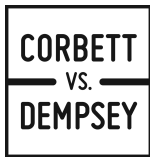
- 2009 *Cool! Cool! Cool! Cool!*, Jean Albano Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2008 *The Baseball Show*, Jean Albano Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2008-7 *On Line*, Adam Baumgold Gallery, New York, NY
- 2006 *Drawn into the World*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
The Artful Jester, The Painting Center, New York, NY & Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, Brattleboro, VT
181st Annual: An Invitational Exhibition of Contemporary American Art, National Academy of Design, New York, NY
The Wirsum-Gunn Family Show, Jean Albano Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2003-6 *Faces, Places & Inner Spaces*, Art Institute of Chicago, IL
- 2005 *The Cartoonist's Eye*, A + D Gallery, Columbia College, Chicago, IL
25th Anniversary Show, Block Museum, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
Next in the Gallery: Karl Wirsum, Paul Lurie, & Hans Richter, Herron Gallery, Indiana University; Purdue University, Indianapolis, IN
The John Cain Sideshow, Carl Hammer Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2004 *Painting the Town Red*, Jean Albano Gallery, Chicago, IL
Out of the Blues, Jean Albano Gallery, Chicago, IL
From Folk to Funk: Selections from the Robert A. Lewis Collection, Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC
That 70s Show, Northern Indiana Arts Association, Munster, IN
The Artist as Collector, Northern Indiana Arts Association, Munster, IN
- 2003 *The Ganzfeld (unbound)*, Adam Baumgold Gallery, New York, NY
January White Sale, Jean Albano Gallery, Chicago, IL
Scapes of the Land, Sisson Art Gallery, Henry Ford Community College, Dearborn, MI
Chicago Artists in the New Millennium, Union League Club of Chicago, IL
- 2002 *Made in Chicago: Circa 1970*, Adam Baumgold Gallery, New York, NY
Absolut Vision VII: Contemporary Views of Nature, Jean Albano Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2001 *The Lopsided Grin: Facing the New Century*, Williard Wankelman Gallery, Fine Art Center Galleries, Bowling Green State University
Reflections: Fifteenth Anniversary Exhibition, Jean Albano Gallery, Chicago
- 2000 *Chicago Loop: Imagist Art 1949-1979*, Whitney Museum of American Art, Fairfield County, CT
Jumping Jack Backlash, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, IL; Northern Illinois Art Association, Munster, IN
The Figure: Another Side of Modernism, Snug Harbor Cultural Center, New House Center for Contemporary Art, Staten Island, NY
- 1999 *Chicago Subjects*, Laura Mesaros Gallery, University of West Virginia, Morgantown, WV
Primary Colors, Jean Albano Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1998 *Making Marks*, Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee, WI
Roger Brown and Friends in the 90's, Van Every/Smith Galleries, Davidson College Visual Arts Center, Davidson, NC
- 1997 *Breadth of Aesthetic*, Phyllis Kind Gallery, Chicago, IL
Grins: Humor and Whimsy in Contemporary Art, Millard Sheets Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 1996 *Art in Chicago: 1945-1995*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago
Second Sight: Modern Printmaking in Chicago, Block Gallery, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
Dealer's Choice: 25 Chicago Dealers Bring Their Art to Indiana, Northern Indiana Arts Association, Munster, IN
Arts Center 10th Anniversary: Illinois Artists, College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, IL
- 1995 *Phyllis Kind Gallery Revisited*, The Foster Gallery, University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire, WI



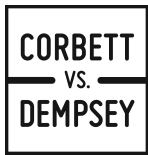
- Off the Wall*, Phyllis Kind Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1993 *Chicago Art Festival*, The Union League Club, Chicago, IL
Imagery: Incongruous Juxtapositions, Phyllis Kind Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1992 *From America's Studio: Drawing New Conclusions*, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Illinois Painter's Invitational, Western Illinois University Art Gallery, Macomb, IL
The Chicago Imagists: Art with an Edge To It, Land's End Gallery, Dodgeville, WI
N.A.M.E.'s 11th Annual Saint Valentine's Day Exhibition and Benefit Auction, N.A.M.E. Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1991-3 *Spirited Visions: Portraits of Chicago Artists by Patty Carroll*, The State of Illinois Art Gallery (traveling exhibition)
- 1991-2 *Zero Gravity*, Citibank, Long Island City, NY
- 1990-1 *Word as Image/American Art 1960-1990*, Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee, WI (traveling to Oklahoma City Art Museum, OK; Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, TX)
Portraits of a Kind, Phyllis Kind Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1991 *Figuration*, Pfizer Inc., New York, NY
Zero Gravity, Citibank, New York, NY
- 1990 *1990 Drawing Invitational/29 Chicago Artists*, Central Washington University, Sarah Spurgeon Gallery, Ellensburg, WA
Cast, Constructed, and Site-Specific Paper Works, The Paine Art Center and Arboretum
California A to Z and Return, The Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, OH
- 1989-90 *Chicago Painters in Print: Brown, Paschke, Hull, Lostutter, Pasin-Sloan, Bramson, Wirsum*, Landfall Press, Chicago, IL
- 1989 *Birthday Cake, 50th Anniversary Exhibition*, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL
Human Concern/Personal Torment-Revisited, Phyllis Kind Gallery, New York, NY and Chicago, IL
- 1988 *Seymour Rosofsky and the Chicago Imagist Tradition*, The Milwaukee Art Museum at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI
- 1987-88 *Contemporary Cutouts: Figurative Sculpture in Two Dimensions*, Whitney Museum of American Art, NY
- 1987 *Frida y Diego: Una Pareja*, The Prairie Avenue Gallery, Chicago, Illinois – organized by Artemisia Gallery, Chicago, IL
Made in the U.S.A.: An Americanization in Modern Art. the 50s and 60s, University of California at Berkley, and traveled to Nelson Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, MO, Virginia Museum of Art, Richmond, VA
Urgent Messages, The Chicago Public Library Cultural Center, Chicago, IL
Of New Account: The Chicago Imagists, The School of Art Gallery, Bowling Green State University, OH
Surfaces: Two Decades of Painting in Chicago – Seventies and Eighties, Terra Museum of American Art, Chicago, IL
- 1987-92 *Diamonds are Forever: Artists and Writers on Baseball*, New York State Museum, Albany, NY and traveling exhibition: Norton Gallery of Art, West Palm Beach, FL; Museum of Art and History, San Juan, Puerto Rico; Contemporary Arts center, Cincinnati, OH; Utah Museum of Fine Arts, Salt Lake City UT; Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX.; Baltimore Museum of Art, MD; Chicago Public Library Cultural Center, Chicago, IL; Oakland Museum of Art, CA; New York Public Library, New York, NY; The Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, MA; San Diego Museum of Contemporary Art, La Jolla, CA; Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, Winston Salem, NC; The Skydome, Toronto, Canada; Yurakucho Art Forum/Seibu Department Store, Tokyo, Japan; The Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taipei,



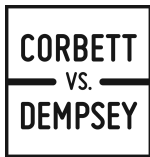
- Taiwan; Denver Art Museum/Downtown Branch, Denver, CO; Scottsdale Center for the Arts, Scottsdale, AZ; Albright Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY.
- 1987 *Drawings of the Chicago Imagists*, Renaissance Society of the University of Chicago
The Chicago Imagist Print: Ten Artists' Works, 1958-1987, The David and Alfred Smart Gallery, The University of Chicago
- 1986-87 *Biennial III*, Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, OH and traveling; Cleveland Institute of Art; Herron Gallery of Contemporary Art, Indianapolis, IN; Cranbrook Academy of Art Museum, MI
- 1986 *Komic Ikonoclasin*, I.C.A. Gallery, London, England and traveling exhibition
Sculpture Exhibition, Phyllis Kind Gallery, NY
Art in Paper, Swen Parson Gallery, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL
- 1985-86 *Correspondences: New York Art Now*, Laforet Museum, Tokyo, Japan and traveling exhibition; Tochigi Prefectural Museum of Fine Art, Tochigi, Japan; Tasaki Hall, Espace Media, Kobe, Japan
- 1985 *Modern Masks*, The Whitney Museum of American Art at Phillip Morris, New York, NY
Bases are Loaded, Gallery 53, Cooperstown, NY
Wood Hue or Knot?, Phyllis Kind Gallery, Chicago, IL
Works on Paper, Morgan Gallery, Kansas City, MO
- 1984 *Visions of Childhood: A Contemporary Iconography*, Whitney Museum of Art at Federal Hall, New York, NY
80th Exhibition by Artists of Chicago and Vicinity, Art Institute of Chicago, IL
10 Years of Collecting at the M.C.A., Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL Chicago Cross-Section, Trisolini Gallery, University of Ohio at Athens, OH
Small But Hot, Burpee Art Museum, Rockford, IL
Chicago Imagist Update, Phyllis Kind Gallery, Chicago, IL
Contemporary Works on Paper, University of Tennessee at Knoxville, TN
Heads, Randolph Street Gallery, Chicago, IL
Artists' Call Against Nicaragua, Artemisia Gallery, Chicago, IL
The Museum of Contemporary Art Selects: Paintings and Sculptures From Chicago's Best, The Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
Joseph Yoakum, His Influence on Contemporary Art and Artists, Carl Hammer Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1983 *Gladys Nilsson, Jim Nutt, Ed Paschke, Suellen Rocca, Karl Wirsum*, Gallery Bonnier, Geneva, Switzerland
Marathon '83, International Running Center, New York Road Runners Club, NY
The Comic Art Show, Whitney Museum of Art At Federal Hall, New York, NY
Chicago Scene, Mandeville Art Gallery, University of California at San Diego, CA
- 1983 *The Last Laugh*, Southern Ohio Museum and Cultural Center, Portsmouth, OH, and traveling exhibition
Festival of the Arts, Muhlenberg College, Allentown, PA
The Big Pitcher Show: Twenty Years of the Abstracted Figure in Chicago Art, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL
Fans/ Invitational Exhibit for the Benefit of the Hyde Park Art Center, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL
- 1982-83 *Dialect=Dialectic: A Group Show of Artists With Complex and Individual Vocabularies*, Phyllis Kind Galleries, New York, NY and Chicago, IL
- 1982 *Paintings and Sculpture Today*, Indianapolis Museum of Art, IN
Chicago on Paper, Ray Hughes Gallery, Brisbane, Australia
Chicago Images, Kansas City Art Institute, MO; Saginaw Museum of Art, Saginaw, MI
Hot Chicago, Douglas Drake Gallery, Kansas City, KS
From Chicago, Pace Gallery, New York, NY



- Selections From the Dennis Adrian Collection*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
- 1980-82 *Who Chicago? An Exhibition of Contemporary Imagists*, Sunderland Arts Centre, Ceolfrith Gallery, London, England; and traveling to Camden Arts Centre; London; Third Eye Centre, Glasgow; The Scottish National Gallery, Edinburgh Scotland; The Welsh Arts Council, Glynvivan Gallery, Swansea, Wales; Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, MA; Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans, LA
- 1981 *Figuratively Sculpting*, Institute for Art and Urban Resources at P.S. 1 Gallery, Long Island, NY
New Dimensions in Drawing, The Aldrich Museum, Ridgefield, Connecticut
The Broken Surface, Bennington College, Vermont; Tibor de Nagy Gallery, NY; Virginia Technical Institute, Blacksberg, Virginia
50 Works of Art That Shouldn't Leave Madison, Madison Art Center, Wisconsin
- 1980 *Contemporary Drawings and Watercolors*, Memorial Art Gallery of the University of Rochester, New York
Six Artists From Chicago, The Ackland Museum of Art, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; San Diego Museum of Art, California
- 1980 *Seen in Chicago*, Illinois Bell Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1979 *Art, Inc. – American Paintings from Corporate Collections*, Montgomery Museum of Fine Art, Alabama; Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC; Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indiana
Painters From New York Galleries, James Madison University, Harrisburg, Virginia; Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia; Roanoke College, Salem, Virginia
Chicago Currents: The Koffler Foundation, The National Collection of Fine Arts, Washington DC
Material Pleasures, Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania, and Philadelphia, PA
- 1978 *Contemporary Chicago Painters*, University of Northern Iowa Gallery of Art, Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Eleven Chicago Painters, University of Southern Florida Gallery of Art, Tallahassee
Chicago Collects, Northern Illinois University Gallery 200, DeKalb, IL
- 1977 *Masterpieces of Chicago Art*, Chicago Public Library Cultural Center, Chicago, IL
- 1976-77 *The Chicago Connection*, E.B. Crocker Art Gallery, Sacramento and traveling exhibition to Newport Harbor Art Museum, Newport, California; Phoenix Art Museum, Phoenix, AZ; Brooks Memorial Art Gallery, Memphis, Tennessee; Memorial Art Gallery, University of Rochester, NY
- 1976 *Old and New Works by the Artists From the Phyllis Kind Gallery*, Foster Gallery, University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire
100 Artists/100 Years: Alumni of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 1975 *Art Now*, Artrend Foundation, John F. Kennedy Center, Washington, DC
- 1974 *75th Exhibition of Artists of Chicago and the Vicinity*, The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 1973-74 *XII Bienal de Sao Paulo*, Sao Paulo, Brazil and traveling throughout South America (an enlarged exhibition entitled *Made In Chicago* was installed at the National Collection of Fine Arts, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC; Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL)
- 1973 *Cook County Art Machine*, Evanston Art Center, Evanston, IL
- 1972-73 *What They're Up To In Chicago*, The National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario and traveling exhibition
- 1972 *Chicago Imagist Art*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL; New York Cultural Center, New York
- 1971 *Chicago Antigua*, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL
Phyllis' Teens, Phyllis Kind Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1970 *Surplus Slop from the Windy City*, San Francisco Art Center; Sacramento State College of Art, CA
Marriage Chicago Style, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL
Thirteen Artists from Chicago, Richard Feigan Gallery, New York, NY
- 1969-71 *The Spirit of the Comics*, Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania, PA



- 1969-70 *Human Concern/Personal Torment*, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
- 1969 *Don Baum Sez 'Chicago Needs Famous Artists,'* Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
The Hairy Who: Drawings, The School of the Visual Arts Gallery, New York, NY
da Hairy Who?, Dupont Center, Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington D.C.
- 1968 *Now! Hairy Makes You Smell Good*, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL
Biennial, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY
- 1966-67 *The Hairy Who?*, Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL



Selected Commissions

- 2000 *Glass Wall Aviation Mural Installation*, Midway Airport Terminal, Chicago, IL
Sculpture, Dawn Foods Corporation, Munster, IN
- 1998 *Cut-Out*, Playboy.com, Chicago, IL
- 1997 *Mural*, University of Iowa Sports and Recreation Center, Iowa City, IA
- 1991 *Installation*, Harold Washington Library, Chicago
Plug Bug mural, City of Chicago Public Arts Program, Commonwealth Edison Dearborn Substation, Chicago, IL
- 1988 *Mural*, The First National Bank of Chicago, IL

Selected Collections

American Medical Association, Chicago, IL
American Telephone & Telegraph, New York, NY
Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Arthur Anderson Co., Chicago, IL
Ball State University, Muncie, IN
Brauer Museum of Art, Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN
Chase Manhattan Bank, New York, NY
Chazen Museum of Art, Madison, WI
DePaul Art Museum, Chicago, IL
Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, IL
Elvehjem Museum of Art, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI
First National Bank of Chicago, Chicago, IL
The Illinois Collection for the State of Illinois Center, Chicago, IL
Illinois State Museum, Springfield, IL
Kalamazoo Institute of Art, Kalamazoo, MI
Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois, Champaign, IL
Kresge Art Museum, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Madison, WI
Midwest Museum of American Art, Elkhart, IN
Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
Museum des 20. Jahrhunderts, Vienna
National Museum of American Art, Smithsonian Institute, Washington D.C.
Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, KS
Northern Illinois University, Dekalb, IL
David and Alfred Smart Gallery, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Weatherspoon Art Gallery, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, NC
Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY