

Ken Abbott curriculum vitae

271 Fairway Dr., Asheville, NC 28805
828-301-1657
kenabbo@gmail.com

Education:

- M.F.A. Photography*, 1987
Yale University School of Art, New Haven, CT
- B.A. Political Science*, 1980, cum laude
The Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO

Awards and Grants:

- North Carolina Arts Council Teaching Grant*. Fall, 2013. Grant to teach workshop with Belle Boggs in Columbus County, NC.
- Mary Duke Biddle Semans Foundation*, Durham, NC., 2008
Grant to support photography work at Hickory Nut Gap Farm, Fairview, NC.
- Kenan Family Foundation*, Chapel Hill, NC., 2008
Grant to support photography work at Hickory Nut Gap Farm, Fairview, NC.
- North Carolina Arts Council Artist Fellowship Grant*. 2006.
Individual artist grant to support work in progress.
- Blue Ridge National Heritage Area Living Traditions Grant*. 2005.
Funding toward completion of *Rank Strangers, The Story of Mrs. Hyatt's OpraHouse*, a film and music CD project with team including Rod Murphy, film director, Asheville, NC.

Solo Exhibitions

- Heritage & Home: Photographs of Hickory Nut Gap Farm by Ken Abbott*, Asheville Art Museum. July 18 - October 11, 2015
- Pop Up exhibition* – Kevin Hogan's studio, Asheville – panoramas and recent work. February, 2015
- Useful Work – The Legacy of Hickory Nut Gap Farm portfolio* – Center for Studies of the American South, Chapel Hill, NC. Summer 2014
- Unauthorized Panoramas* - Ruffin Hall Photo Gallery, Studio Art Department, University of Virginia. October-November, 2013.
- Landscapes from Western North Carolina* - Ruffin Hall Photo Gallery, Studio Art Department, University of Virginia. March-April 2011.
- Hickory Nut Gap Farm portfolio* – Fine Art Gallery, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC, June 2009.
- Photographs from the River District*, solo exhibition, Clingman Avenue Cafe gallery, Asheville, NC. May 2006. Sponsored by the River District Artist's Association.
- Photographs from Mrs. Hyatt's OpraHouse*, Pack Place Gallery, Asheville, NC. Accompanied the local premier of the documentary film *Rank Strangers*, at Asheville Film Festival. October, 2005.
- On the Margins: Images of a Changing Landscape*, solo exhibition, Blue Sky Gallery, Portland, OR. April 1998.
- Photographs by Ken Abbott*, The Midtown Y Photography Gallery, New York, NY. February 1994. Michael Spano, gallery director.

Group Exhibitions

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- *Asheville Stockyards: Brownfield to Brewery*. Asheville Area Arts Council Gallery, guest curated by Ken Abbott, featuring work by Ken Abbott, Zen Sutherland, Lisa Smith, Elaine Bleakney, and Rod Murphy. January 15 – February 20, 2016.
- *Slow Exposures: Celebrating Photography of the Rural South* – September 18-30, Zebulon, GA
- *Ordinary World: American Landscape Photography and Modern Documentary Style* August 31 – December 15, 2013, Portland Art Museum, Portland, OR.
- *Onward Compe 2013*, Project Basho group exhibition, juried by Mark Steinmetz. Philadelphia, PA
- *The Printed Picture*, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY. October 2008, guest curator Richard Benson.
- *Working Group, Asheville Hatchfest Photography Exhibit*, Blue Spiral Gallery, Asheville, NC. Conference participant exhibitor. April 2009.
- *Appalachian Photographers Project Group show* – Slocumb Galleries, Department of Art and Design, Eastern Tennessee State University. 2010.
- *North Carolina Arts Council Fellowship Group Show*, Rocky Mount Center for the Arts, Rocky Mount, NC. June-September, 2008.
- *Winter Show*, Greenhill Center for the Arts, Greensboro, NC. December 2007.

Collections

- MoMA, New York, NY
- Yale Art Gallery, New Haven, CT
- Portland Art Museum, Portland, OR
- Center for the Study of the American South, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC
- WCU Fine Art Galleries, Cullowhee, NC
- Liston B. Ramsey Center for Regional Studies, Mars Hill University, Mars Hill, NC
- Paine Webber, NY
- Fidelity Investments, Boston, MA
- American Art Resources, Houston, TX
- Colorado Historical Society, Denver, CO
- The Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO
- Mary Duke Biddle Foundation, Durham, NC
- Colorado Springs Fine Art Center, Colorado Springs, CO

Selected Publications and Bibliography:

- *Useful Work: Photographs of Hickory Nut Gap Farm*. A monograph with approximately 100 photographs, and an essay by the artist, and historical essays by Rob Neufeld.
- *Words Without Pictures*, respondent. Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Charlotte Cotton, editor. 2007.
- *Four Landscapes*, essay by Robert Adams, 2006 Yale University Art Gallery Bulletin. Includes a reproduction of one of my pictures as well as the essay about the picture.
- *Rank Strangers: Photographs from Mrs. Hyatt's OpraHouse*, CD booklet of my pictures, Harvest Records and 614 Films, Asheville, NC. 2005.
- *The Ethical Function of Architecture*, by Karsten Harries. MIT Press. 1996.

My commercial photography has been included in numerous annual and special reports, university promotional materials, newspapers including *The New York Times* and *USA Today*, and magazines including *National Geographic*, *Life*, *Time*, and *Scientific American*. I have

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photographed four MacArthur fellows, three Nobel Laureates, and First Lady Hillary Clinton, as well as the Reverend Jesse Jackson, comedian Bob Hope, and singer Neil Diamond.

Employment:

- *Independent artist.* Currently using a helium filled kite/balloon (Helikite) to lift a high-resolution digital camera for Low Elevation Aerial Photographs (LEAP).

- *Photography instructor,* Art & Design Department, Western Carolina University. Part-time. Cullowhee, NC. 2006-2008.

- *Principal Photographer,* Department of Public Relations and Publications. University of Colorado at Boulder. Duties included studio and location photography for University publications and press releases, photography for numerous national and international print media, supervision of two staff positions, student employees, management of facility, overseeing budget, acquisition of employee development opportunities and equipment. 1987-2002.