

**Erik Sandgren**

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**Erik Sandgren** probes the Northwest landscape with sensitivity to myth and origins. He was born in Corvallis, Oregon and grew up there in the environs of Oregon State University. His father, Nelson Sandgren, was a noted painter and OSU art professor and the household was saturated with a culture that fostered his early interests and education as a painter. Erik went east to study at Yale (BA.1975) and Cornell (MFA, 1977) where on the broad path of Ivy League liberal arts he furthered his practice and theory of visual art under the mentorship of Erwin Hauer, Benard Chaet and Gretna Campbell.

Like a homing salmon, Sandgren returned to the headwaters of his art and of his early life in the Pacific Northwest, drawn by a vivid landscape where raw nature is close-at-hand and the history of industrialization is little more than a century old. In 1989 he landed in Aberdeen, Washington where he served through 2017 as the one-person art department at Grays Harbor College. Sabbaticals enabled artist residencies in England and France from where Sandgren explored that more settled landscape by on-site painting and expanded his firsthand knowledge of the history of Western art and architecture.

He has exhibited broadly in many solo, two-person, group, and juried shows. His work is held in numerous private and public collections including The Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, Maryhill Museum, Hallie Ford Museum of Art, the Franklin Furnace Gallery of the Museum of Modern Art, Yale University Art Gallery and the China National Academy of Fine Art in Hangzhou.

A number of public art projects include a 4,000 square feet mural of NW landscapes he completed with his father in the Eugene/Springfield Airport in 1989. More recent murals are *Nirvana and Aberdeen*, *Chehalis at Tidewater* and a 75-foot mural in the Port of Grays Harbor's Commission Room that commemorates one hundred years of marine commerce in the natural riches of the Grays Harbor estuary.

Gallery Representation: Portland Art Museum Rental Sales Gallery

Karin Clarke Gallery, Eugene OR    Art Adventure Gallery, Madras OR

Riversea Gallery, Astoria OR

## Erik Sandgren

Print Arts Northwest: artist member 1981-present, current Board Member  
Pacific Northwest Artist Archives: Erik Sandgren papers in Special Collections  
Mark O. Hatfield Library, Willamette University, Salem, OR  
Artist in Residence: Rochefort-en-Terre, Brittany; Maryland Institute College of Art 2003, 2006  
Fulbright Teaching Exchange to Hastings College of Art and Technology, England 1995-96  
Washington Artist Trust grant recipient 1993

Education and Special Study: Dartmouth College 1987 NEH Summer Seminar:  
English Romanticism and the Visual Arts  
Cornell University MFA 1977  
Yale College BA 1975  
Yale at Norfolk Program summer 1974

Workshop Instructor: Sandgren Annual Oregon Coast PaintOut 1987- present  
Oregon Society of Artists, Creative Arts Community at Menucha  
Emerald Art Center, Buffalo Grass Society,  
Plein Aire Painters of Lane County, Vistas and Vineyards

Presenter: MontesanoTimberland Regional Library  
Aberdeen Timberland Regional Library  
Peninsula College, Studium Generale  
Washington Community College Humanities Association

Juror: Clarke County Open Studios, Expressions West, Coos Art Museum  
OSU Art About Agriculture, Maryland State Duck Stamp competition  
Oregon Society of Artists Rose Festival Exhibition, Committees for selection and  
placement of Washington public art projects include  
Gerard Tsutakawa -*Illumination*, Peter Richards -*Sky Sweeps*,  
and Tom Morandi -*The Workers*

### Selected Publications:

Washington Coast Magazine *Harbor Artists...* Erik Sandgren, Summer 2016  
Oregon Stater Magazine - *Celebratory Painting* Fall 2015  
Washington Coast Magazine *The Art of Grit and Grime- Erik Sandgren* Summer 2015  
*100 Artists of the Northwest* by Ashley Rooney, Schiffer Publications 2014  
Port Angeles Fine Art Center, *Ghost Stories by Jake Seniuk 2013*  
*Crosscurrents* Washington Community College Humanities Association  
Northwest Coast Magazine, *Painter of the Rain Coast* Volume 1, Issue 4 2009  
*This Bountiful Place* Oregon Historical Society Press and OSU 2006  
Port Angeles Fine Arts Center, *In Search of a Homeland 2003*  
Artspirit, Linn Benton Arts Council  
*A Retrospective in Watercolors* March 2002  
Journey: AAA Magazine, *Washington Painters* 2001  
Northwest Art and Artists, 1990, *Mahlon Sweet Airport Mural*  
New Art Examiner, March 1988, Vol.15, No.7, p.51,  
Baltimore Sun, Dec. 8, 1987 *Inverse Operations*  
*American Apocalypses* by J. Robinson, Johns Hopkins U. Press  
*The Art of Drawing* by Bernard Chaet, Holt, Rinehart, and Winston 3rd  
ed. 1983  
Newsletter for the Oregon Committee for the Humanities *The Car as  
Lens* 1980