

**TANYA KIROUAC**  
*Toronto, ON/Illinois, US*

## **BIOGRAPHY**

Tanya Kirouac was born and raised in Montreal, Canada and spent the early part of her career in art direction and graphic design in Toronto. In 2002, she shifted to the full-time production of fine art. Her focus is abstract landscapes that emerge from lingering memories, and impressions of places experienced or imagined.

Kirouac's work can be found in collections throughout the world and in the U.S. and Canada.

## **ARTIST STATEMENT**

My inspiration is experiential, derived from my love of the simple beauty that I encounter in everyday life. Collecting images in silence to store in my archives and draw upon during the physical exploration of my work in oil & cold wax. The painting process involves building up layers, then removing it again, over and over, finally scraping or carving areas of color to reveal the underlying story. The moody, simple landscapes or serene abstracts that emerge expose my connection to my environment and history and invite viewers to reflect on their own experiences.

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## HORIZONS – CURATORIAL STATEMENT

Wall Space Gallery invites you to join us for the presentation of new paintings by four renowned landscape artists; [Tanya Kirouac](#), [Peter Rotter](#), [Dan Ryan](#) and [Boyd Waites](#). Through their unique approaches, each of these artists explore the use of the horizon line, whether through its stark presence or its abstract denial, to tether us to reality or allow us to drift into psychological spaces of reverie.

A horizon line in painting is often considered the most basic descriptor of space, grounding abstract environment into 'land' and 'sky' - "up" and "down". For Tanya Kirouac it is a marker of space and the distance from a destination - at times expanding endlessly or encroaching on enclosure.

Kirouac accumulates impasto streaks of colour to break her landscapes into vibrant patchworks. She leans into deep space or denies it in favour of playful relationships between texture and colour, often in thick cold wax that she then carves back into. Kirouac loosens or amplifies the grip of gravity and space to allow painting to connect with the sensorial experience of place. The power in Kirouac's approach to disorientation or grounding through the horizon lies in her ability to shake us loose from our everyday experience of the world.

Tiffany April  
Curator

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