About Kay-Leigh Fisher

Kay-Leigh Fisher (b. 1998) is a visual artist, curator, and publisher based in Johannesburg, South Africa.

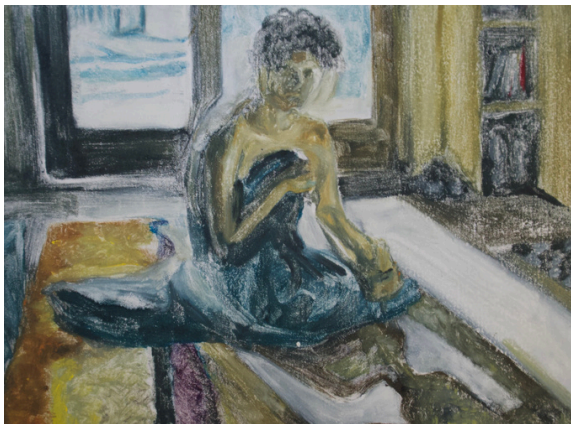
Fisher's practice investigates the nuances of belonging, intimacy, and care through a multidisciplinary approach. Working primarily with monotype prints, her work explores the reciprocal nature of human connection how offering warmth is essential to receiving it. She delves into the emotional atmospheres of domestic and intimate spaces, using texture, layered color, and intentional absences to evoke states of suffusion, distance, longing, and protection. Her prints function as speculative spaces that question how identities and histories shape our capacity to feel at home with others and ourselves.

Her work resists symbolic representation, instead using colour as an unreliable and subjective narrator, shifting between internal emotional landscapes. Fisher's research and creative practice also engage with themes of becoming, familial relationships, and the intersections of racial and gendered identity.

Fisher holds an Honours degree in Curatorship from the Michaelis School of Fine Art, University of Cape Town (2020) and a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts from the University of the Witwatersrand (2019). She was co-recipient of the Bag Factory Artist Studios Young Womxn Studio Bursary (2022 - 2023) and completed an artist residency at Forster Gallery, Zanzibar in 2024. She currently works full-time as a Programme Associate for the Joburg Contemporary Art Foundation (JCAF).

Fisher has participated in solo and various group exhibitions. Her recent solo exhibition include 'Kay-Leigh's Exhale: Parthenon in the Secret Garden' at the FEDE Arthouse, 'RMB Latitudes Art Fair', Johannesburg (2025) and 'Getting the Spirit' at the Forster Gallery in Zanzibar (2024). Her recent group exhibitions include 'Either Way, With You' with the BKhz gallery in Johannesburg (2025), 'The un-turning wheel' with Latitudes Center for the Arts and Kalashnikovv Gallery in Johannesburg and '30 Years of Democracy through the Art of Women Artists' with the Bag Factory Artist Studios and Constitution Hill in Johannesburg. Looking ahead, Fisher will; be participating in a group show taking place in December at the THK Gallery in Cape Town.





Kay-Leigh Fisher. Speculations on Belonging I, 2025

CV

Education
BA Fine Arts (4th Year / Honours), Wits School of Arts, University of the Witwatersrand (2019)
Honours in Curatorship, Michaelis School of Fine Art and the Centre for Curating the Archive (CCA), University of Cape Town (2020)
Intersectional Feminisms in Art and Curatorial Practice, Node Center for Curatorial Studies Online (2022)
Graphic Design Short Course, University of Cape Town Online (2025)

Solo Exhibitions

2025
Kay-Leigh's Exhale: Parthenon in the Secret Garden, FEDE Arthouse, RMB Latitudes Art Fair, Johannesburg

2024
Getting the Spirit, Forster Gallery, Zanzibar, Tanzania

Group Exhibitions

2025
Either Way, With You, BKhz, Johannesburg

2024
The un-turning wheel, Latitudes Center for the Arts and Kalashnikovv Gallery, Johannesburg
30 Years of Democracy through the Art of Women Artists, Bag Factory Artist Studios and Constitution Hill, Johannesburg
RMB Latitudes Art Fair
Laboratório de Crítica e Curadoria, Johannesburg
Inter-Opsia, Kalashnikovv Gallery, Johannesburg
Boundless, Kalashnikovv Gallery, Johannesburg
Unbound, MOVART Gallery, Investec Cape Town Art Fair, Cape Town
What is this place? Notions on site, Bag Factory Artist Studios, Johannesburg

2023
I*t's a Mixtape*, Bag Factory Artist Studios, Johannesburg
Reverb: Abstract Resonances / Contemporary Voices, Latitudes Online, virtual exhibition
B*ag Factory Reflections*, Bag Factory Artist Studios, Johannesburg
Embodied & Embedded, Bag Factory Artist Studios, Johannesburg

2022
Reshape 22: Future Art Histories, Latitudes Online, virtual exhibition
2019
New Work 19, Wits Art Museum, Johannesburg

2024
P. Mabandu. Young and Vital Artists List and Cover Artist, Wanted Magazine

2023
L. Masuku. *Finding Inspiration in Liminal Spaces: Kay-Leigh Fisher's Artistic Journey*, Joburg Post
V. Japhtas. *Die poetics in nie paintings van Kay-Leigh Fisher*, Klyntji
E. Tsumele. *Artists Nadia Myburgh and Kay-Leigh Fisher's Collaborative Exhibition at Bag Factory after Residency*, City Life Arts

Residencies
2022–2023
Young Womxn Studio Bursary, Bag Factory Artist Studios, Johannesburg

2024
Blvck Block Artist-in-Residence, Johannesburg
Forster Gallery Residency, Zanzibar, Tanzania