

About Kate Schärf

Kate Schärf (b. 1993, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa) is a Cape Town-based visual artist. She received a Bachelor's degree in Fine Art from the University of Stellenbosch (SU) in 2018. She attained a Master's degree in Visual Art from the same institution in 2021.

During her time as a student, she worked as an intern for SMAC Gallery and then as a teaching assistant in the printmaking department at SU.

Kate is known for her organic, plant-inspired paintings and drawings, influenced by her love of nature and peaceful surroundings. Her 'foliagescapes' reflect her fascination with botanical art while also functioning as an expression of the uplifting, calming, and reassuring qualities inherent within nature.

Kate's art seeks to bring contentment and tranquillity to the viewer. By utilising soothing colours and constructing harmonious, balanced compositions, she aims to create artworks that invite the viewer inward into a mindset of quiet contemplation. More recently, her work explores the theme of the forest: a space, both real and imagined, that forms the backdrop of many stories in literary fiction. Kate is concerned with the play of mark-making, colour, illusion, and depth, and the perception that this creates in the eye of the viewer.



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Kate Schärf. *Surburbia*, 2023