

**DRAFT UNTIL RELEASED.**

# BIOGRAPHY

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## THE MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION

710 Second Street South  
Suite 400  
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Media Tim Hanrahan  
contacts: Communications Director  
612-333-4220

### KINJI AKAGAWA

#### *2007 McKnight Distinguished Artist Award Recipient*

Born 1940, in Tokyo, Japan.

Resides in Afton, Minnesota, with wife, Nancy Gipple. Daughter Alexis, Minneapolis, is 33; son Gabriel, Chicago, is 30.

#### EDUCATION

1969: MFA, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN  
1968: BFA, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Minneapolis, MN  
1965-66: Tamarind Lithography Workshop, Los Angeles, CA  
1963-65: Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, MI  
1963: Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, Deer Isle, ME  
1959-61: Diploma, Kuwazawa Design School, Tokyo, Japan

#### SELECTED COMMISSIONS

2005-07: Minnesota State Arts Board, Minnesota Department of Transportation, St. Cloud, MN  
2004-07: Minneapolis Park and Recreational Board, Lyndale Park, Peace Garden Project, Minneapolis, MN  
2003-04: Minnesota State Arts Board, Itasca Community College, Grand Rapids, MN  
2001-02: Minnesota State Arts Board, Northland Community and Technical College, Thief River Falls, MN  
2001: Minnesota State Arts Board, Department of Natural Resources, Windom, MN  
1999: Macalaster College, Public Art Master Plan, Campus Center, St. Paul, MN  
1995: Walker Art Center, "Table for Dialogue," Minneapolis, MN  
1991-92: The New Nicollet Mall Project, Public Art, Minneapolis, MN  
1990-93: St. Anthony Park Public Space Design, Public Art, St. Paul, MN  
1987-88: Walker Art Center, "Seating, Reading, Thinking," Minneapolis, MN  
1986: Walker Art Center, Education Department, "Tokyo: Form & Spirit," Minneapolis, MN  
1985: City of Houston, "Bayou Sculpture," The Houston Festival, Houston, TX

#### SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2007: "Eat With Your Eyes," Group Exhibition, Northern Clay Center, Minneapolis, MN  
2006: Faculty Exhibition, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Minneapolis, MN  
2004: "Looking Back, Looking Forward," Group Exhibition, Kate Nash Gallery, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN  
2000: "Content in Context," Concordia College, Moorhead, MN  
1998: "Beyond the Object," Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design, Milwaukee, WI  
1998: "Recognition of Three Events," Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum, Minneapolis, MN  
1997: "Remembering," Public Art Installation, St. John's University Art Center, Collegeville, MN  
1996: "Works from the Walker Art Center," Group Exhibition, Carolyn Ruff Gallery, Minneapolis, MN  
1995: "The Garden Party," Group Exhibition, Carolyn Ruff Gallery, Minneapolis, MN  
1994: "The Garden in the Galleries," Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN

1992: "The Once and Future Park," Walker Art Center and Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Minneapolis, MN  
1991: "A Benefit Art Auction," Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Minneapolis, MN  
1990: "The Archaeology of Form," Kate Nash Gallery, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN  
1989: "Building Dialogue," Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minneapolis, MN  
1988: "Contemporary Functional Art," Thompson Gallery, Minneapolis, MN  
1985: Group Exhibition, Public Art, City of Houston, Houston, TX  
1984: Group Exhibition, Public Art, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC  
1983: Group Exhibition, McKnight Artists, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Minneapolis, MN  
1982: Group Exhibition, Public Art, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

#### **SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2004: Visiting Professor, Bauhaus University, Weimer, Germany  
2002: Juror, "The Ordway Honors Art Exhibit," Minnesota Museum of American Art, St. Paul, MN  
2001: Member, Artist Selection Board, Public Art for Metro Transit, Minneapolis, MN  
2000: Visiting Professor/Artist, School of Architecture, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN  
1998-99: Member, Selection Panel, Minnesota Artist Exhibition Program, Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minneapolis, MN  
1998-01: Co-director, Institute for Public Art and Design, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Minneapolis, MN  
1997: Lecturer, "Cross Cultural Notions of Place and Space" Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN  
1996: Lecturer, Osaka University of Arts, Osaka, Japan  
1995: Speaker, Mayor's Design Forums, Public Art, St. Paul, MN  
1995: Member, Selection Panel, Visual Arts Fellowships, Minnesota State Arts Board, St. Paul, MN  
1995: Member, Building Design Team, Intermedia Arts, Minneapolis, MN  
1994-1995: Guest Curator, "Rivers Merging," Renaissance and the Minnesota Artist's Exhibition Program, Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minneapolis, MN  
1993: Member, Nominating Committee, "Jerome Sculpture Plaza," University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN  
1991-93: Member, Board of Trustees, Minnesota Museum of American Art, St. Paul, MN  
1992: Panelist, "Diversity and Pluralism," Humphrey Institute, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN  
1991: Visiting Artist, "Seating, Reading, Thinking," Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN  
1990: Advisory member, "Public Art Review," Forecast Public Artworks, St. Paul, MN  
1989: Judge, "Winter Carnival Snow Sculpting Competition," St. Paul, MN  
1986: Member, Review Committee, "Twin City Public Art Awards," Minneapolis, MN  
1984: Visiting Artist, Osaka University of Arts and Osaka College of Arts, Osaka, Japan  
1977-79: Acting Chair, Fine Arts Division, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Minneapolis, MN

#### **SELECTED GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

1995: Minnesota State Arts Board, Cultural Collaborations Grant  
1984: Carnegie Mellon Foundation, Faculty Enrichment Grant  
1983: McKnight Foundation, Fellowship  
1982: Bush Foundation, Fellowship  
1965: Ford Foundation, Fellowship

#### **SELECTED CRITICAL REVIEWS AND ARTICLES**

Interview, Flash Art Magazine, October 1998  
"Cherishing the Landscape," Mason Riddle, Public Art Review, fall 1997  
"Stream of Consciousness" Minnesota Daily, University of Minnesota, May 25, 1995  
"Rivers Merging," Arts Magazine, Minneapolis Institute of Art, May, 1995  
"Rivers Merging at the Institute of Arts," Minneapolis Star Tribune, 1995  
"The Once and Future Park," Princeton Architectural Press, 1993  
"Asian American Artists Panel to Discuss Critical Issues in Public Art," Asian American Press, May 14, 1993  
"Arts on 2," Twin Cities Public Television, June 12, 1993  
"Speaking the Language of Objects: Conversation with Kinji Akagawa," Bush Fellows News, Autumn, 1991  
"CJ's Article," Minneapolis Star Tribune, September 24, 1992  
"Art U Show, Sculpture is Splendidly in Shape," Minneapolis Star Tribune, January 18, 1990  
"A Place of One's Own," Architecture Minnesota, May/June, 1989  
"Galleries: Rather than Add Another Art Object He Removed One," Minneapolis Star Tribune, October 26, 1989