

Karl Kempton

Born: July 1, 1943, Chicago, Illinois, USA
Bachelor of Science, Economic; Minors in Mathematics and History; 1968,
University of Utah, Salt Lake City Utah, USA
Married Ruth Kempton, June 21, 1983

Employment Record

Dish washer, retail furniture deliverer, metal punch operator, steel fabrication, janitor, night watchman, gas station attendant, statistician (for Douglas Aircraft on the Apollo Project), pay clerk (army draftee), labor economist and statistician, substitute teacher, cabinet maker, archaeological technician, house painter, gardener, retail paint sales clerk, paint warehouseman, assistant planner, energy planner, night auditor and since 1994 wheatgrass and sprout grower

Community Service

Founding member of People Against Nuclear Power, 1977
Founding member of Abalone Alliance (California anti-nuclear movement) 1978
Founding member of the anti-nuclear power group Down Wind, 1979
Founding member of the Indian Heritage Center, 1979-1983
Archaeological consultant to Ad Hoc Committee to Save Grover City's Greenbelt, 1981
Member of the Board of Directors of The Ocean Sanctuary Coalition of San Luis Obispo County, 1991 to 1995
Director of Information and research for The Ocean Sanctuary Coalition of San Luis Obispo County, 1992 -1995
Primary Analyst for the Environmental Center of San Luis Obispo against offshore oil, 1991- 2002

Poetry Service

Editor and publisher of Rainbow Resin 1973-1979
Volunteer consultant for Small Press publications and poetry for Sacramento Library System, 1975
Editor and publisher of KALDRON, an International Journal of Visual Poetry, 1976 to 1990
Volunteer consultant for Small Press publications and poetry for San Luis Obispo County Library System, 1977 and 1978
Co-editor, CAFE SOLO, Series 2, Numbers 1/2 & 3/4, 1978 & 9
Co-Founder and Co-Director of Corners of the Mouth, a monthly poetryreading series, San Luis Obispo, 1984-1986
Co-Founder and Co-Director of the San Luis Obispo Poetry Festival, 1984 to 1993
Guest Editor, 10•5155•20, Visual Poetry special issue, Canada, 1983
Founding member of Poetry Committee, San Luis Obispo County Arts Council, 2001-2002
Co-editor of on-line KALDRON, an International Journal of Visual Poetry, 1997 to present

BOOKS by category

Visual poems

typoglifs (typewriter generated poems)

LOST ALFABET FOUND, West Coast Review Press, 1979

RUNE, Bern Porter Books, 1980

RUNE 2: 26 VOICES/JANUARY INTERLUDE, Typewriter/Bird in the Bush, 1980

PRECINCTS OF THE 5TH APOCALYPSE Rainbow Resin, 1980

EON PULSE, Editions Brian Lane, England, 1981

RUNE, (second edition), KALDRON, 1981

POEM, Curvd H&Z, Canada, 1982

CONSTELLATIONS, Rainbow Resin, 1982

FILM STRIP LOJIK TIIPOGLIF ANSIRZ A KWESCHUN, Curvd H&Z, Canada, 1983

TO TASTE, Laughing Bear Press, 1983

BLACK STROKES WHITE SPACES, Xerox Sutra Press, 1984

KO, with Loris Essary, SCORE, 1984

THE ALLAH SERIES (in Moore's THE CHRONICLES OF AKHIRA), Zilzal Press, 1986

DEEP SQUARE WAVE STRUCTURE, ACCESS, 1987

4 PLUS 3, Post Neo Publications, Australia, 1987

an ensemble, Post Neo Publications, Australia, 1987

FIRE + WATER BALANCE THE BOOK with Ruth Kempton, Light and Dust Books, 1990

RUNE: A SURVEY, Light and Dust Books, 1992

RUNE 6: FIGURES OF SPEECH, Runaway Spoon Press, 1993

RUNE 7: POEM, A MAPPING, Runaway Spoon Press, 1993

composed on computer

from MEDITATION ON OM and AMBER SANDS, Hybridenland, Germany, 1998

RUNE 10: ROSE WINDOW, Runaway Spoon Press, 1999

portrait of texture, Runaway Spoon Press, 1999

3³: Mathematical Poems 1976-2003, Runaway Spoon Press, 2003

conceptual books (use of alphabet noodles)

FILM SKRIPT, Rainbow Resin, 1982

TH LETTERZ U ALWAYS WANTED TO RECEEV, Rainbow Resin, 1982

lexical and visual poems

THE LIGHT WE ARE, Konocti Press, 1985

ALIGNMENT, Atticus Press, 1985

FISSION, Runaway Spoon Press, 1988

A/ROUND, Curvd H&Z, Canada, 1988

A POND OF STARS, Runaway Spoon Press, 1989

CHARGED PARTICLES, Runaway Spoon Press, 1991

THE VOICES OF ARDEN, Runaway Spoon Press, 1993

TASSARAJA: WHERE MEAT IS HUNG TO DRY, tel-let, 1994

WATER FROM THE MOUNTAINS OF LIGHT, White Crow Press, 1995

WORKING HIS WAY OUT OF DARKNESS, White Crow Press, 1995

Renderings

BHAKTI RAGA, Divine Life Circle, 2001

DATTATREYA'S ADVAHUTA GITA, Divine Life Circle, 2001

ANTHOLOGIES (Abridged)

oggi poesia domani: rassegna internazionale di poesia visuale e fonetica, tam
tam & dismisura, Italy, 1979

A CRITICAL ASSEMBLING, Assembling Press. Brooklyn NY, 1979

CITTA E POESIA, Zeta. Udine, Italy, 1980

COHERENCE, O.ARS. CAMBRIDGE, MA., 1981

MAIL ART '82, Seoul International Fine Arts Center. Seoul, Korea, 1982

An Exhibit of Visual & Concrete Poetry, Konglomerati. FL, 1983

ALIVE IN THE LIGHT, DREETREE PRESS. Shell Beach, CA, 1983

VISITORS BOOK, David Cole. Brooklyn, NY, 1983

NA ALTER ALLES KLAR?, Bernd Philippi. Saarbrücken, Germany, 1983

THE RUTH & MARVIN SACKNER ARCHIVE OF CONCRETE POETRY AND
VISUAL POETRY. Miami, FL, 1984

FIGURA/SCRITTA/PARTITURA: 55 AMERICAN POETS. Italy, 1984

scripta volant, NEAR THE EDGE EDITIONS. ITALY, 1985

THE SCROLL UNROLLS, Janco-Dada. Israel, 1985

COMMUNICATION, Association Art et Inconscient. Paris, France, 1986

EIMAS '86: Etajima International Mail Art Show, Etajima National Youth
Houses. Japan, 1986

1ST FESTIVAL INTERNACIONAL DE POESIA, Museu Municipal. Portugal, 1987

I MOSTRA INTERNACIONAL DE POESIA VISUAL DE SAO PAULO, Centro
Cultural Sao Paulo. Brazil, 1988

POESIA OUTRA ESCRITA NOVO SUPORTES, Museu De Setubal. Portugal,
1988

1ST FESTIVAL INTERNACIONAL DE POESIA, Part 2, Museu Municipal.
Portugal, 1988

ANTHOLOGY, a scenario press. Canada, 1989

A HALO, Pernecky Geza (editor/publisher). Germany, 1989

A Passage for Dissent: The Best of *Sipapu*, 1970-1988. USA, 1989

anthologie de la Poesia Visuelle en Amerique du Nord, Station Underground.
France, 1990

Innovations 1, Innovations Press. Maple City, MI, 1991

A SHOWING OF SHADOWS KENOSHA 1991, Light and Dust Books. Kenosha
WI, 1991

Co-Lingua, NRG. Portland, OR, 1992

IS POETRY A VISUAL ART?, Indiana State University. IN, 1993

CORE: A Symposium on Contemporary Visual Poetry, John Byrum and Crag
Hill, editors, GENERATORSCORE Press, Cleveland OH, 1993.

VISUELLE POESIE AUS DEN USA. Germany, 1995

O!!ZONE: Vispo 96. O!!ZONE PRESS. Houston, TX, 1996

A POINT OF VIEW. VISUAL POETRY: THE 90S. AN ANTHOLOGY, Dmitry
Bulatov, ed; Simplici, Kaliniingrad, Russia, 1998

WRITING TO BE SEEN, edited by Bob Grumman, Light and Dust Books.
Kenosha WI, 2001

EXHIBITION RECORD

Individual

D.R. WAGNER GALLERIES, Sacramento, CA, 1975
TITLES GALLERY, Pasadena, CA, 1978
GROVER CITY LIBRARY, Grover City, CA, 1978
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY AT SAN JOSE, San Jose CA, 1980
WOFFORD COLLEGE, Spartanburg, SC, 1981
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, Nashville, TN, 1982/83
MEDIA-SPACE, Inglewood, Australia, 1983
NOUVEAUS MIXAGE, Caen, France, 1983
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, San Luis Obispo, CA, 1986
LINNAEA'S CAFE, San Luis Obispo, CA, 1986
SOUTH COUNTY REGIONAL LIBRARY, Arroyo Grande, CA, 1986
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY AT SAN DIEGO, IMPERIAL VALLEY CAMPUS GALLERY, Calexico, CA, 1987
KALDRON WALL, The Excellent Center for Art & Culture, Grover Beach, CA, 1993

Two & three person exhibitions

S:T PETRI GALLERIE, LUND, SWEDEN, 1981
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY, Julian A. McPhee Union Galerie, San Luis Obispo, CA, 1986
ORIGINAL MATTER, Museum of Natural History, Santa Barbara, CA., 1986
SECOND INTERNATIONAL BIENNIAL OF ALTERNATIVE POETRY IN MEXICO (special feature), Mexico City, Mexico, 1987

Visual poetry and associated group exhibitions, (Abridged)

INTERNATIONAL TEXT-SOUND-IMAGE SMALL PRESS FESTIVAL, Antwerp, Belgium, 1977
ARTWORD & BOOKWORKS, Los Angeles Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA, 1978
ART PUBLISHERS CONVENTION, San Jose, CA, 1978
SAN FRANCISCO BOOK FAIR, San Francisco, CA, 1978
VISUALOG: AN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF VISUAL POETRY AND LANGUAGE ART, CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY, Julian A. McPhee Union galerie, San Luis Obispo, CA, 1979*
VISUAL & SOUND POETRY EXHIBIT, Frosinone, Italy, 1979
SECOND INTERNATIONAL TEXT-SOUND-IMAGE SMALL PRESS FESTIVAL, Antwerp, Belgium, 1979
POETRY AND REALITY, WORLD EXHIBITION, San Giorgio, Italy, 1980
VISUAL POETRY SHOW, Mexico City, Mexico, 1981
CONCEPTUAL ART, Conceptual Art Museum, Ottawa, Canada, 1981
30 KOWA SHOW, Sakurayama Zushi, Japan, 1981
ALFABETO INTERNATIONAL EXHIBIT, Finale Ligure, Italy, 1981
VISUAL POETRY EXHIBITION, GALERIE 3, Athens, Greece, 1981
NEW SOUNDS AND NEW VISUAL WAYS, Firenze, Italy, 1982
VISUAL POETRY EXHIBITION, Athens, Greece, 1982
AMERICAN VISUAL & SOUND POETRY EXHIBIT, Alatri, Italy, 1982
VISUAL MESSAGE, Seoul, Korea, 1982

BOOK GATHERINGS, Brooklyn, NY, 1982
 IPOTESI PER UN LINGUAGGIO ARTISTICO UNIVERSALE, San Giorgio, Italy, 1982
 VISUAL POETRY AND LANGUAGE ART EXHIBIT, Hole In The Sky & Central Coast Printing, Grover City, CA, 1982**
 INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF ALTERNATIVE CULTURE, Medellin, Columbia, 1982
 INTERNATIONAL CONCRETE POETRY ARCHIVE EXHIBIT, Oxford, England, 1983
 EXHIBIT OF CONCRETE AND VISUAL POETRY FROM THE RUTH AND MARVIN SACKNER ARCHIVE, Miami, FL, 1983
 VISUAL/CONCRETE/EXPERIMENTAL POETRY EXHIBITION, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, 1983
 VISUALOG 2: AN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF VISUAL POETRY AND LANGUAGE ART, Cuesta Community College, San Luis Obispo, CA., 1984**
 FIGURA/SCRITTA/PARTITURA: 55 AMERICAN POETS, Liceo Artistico Statale, Frosinone, Italy, 1984
 FIGURA/SCRITTA/PARTITURA: 55 AMERICAN POETS, Galleri "il Punto", Rome, Italy, 1984
 THE SCROLL UNROLLS, Janco-Dada Museum, Ein-Hod, Israel, 1985
 KIS '85: KUNSAN INTERNATIONAL SHOW, Institute of Contemporary Arts, Kunsan National University, Kunsan Korea, 1985
 PRIMERA BIENAL INTERNACIONAL DE POESIA VISUAL Y EXPERIMENTAL, Institute Politecnico Nacional, Mexico City, Mexico, 1986
 COMMUNICATION, Grand Palais, Paris, France, 1986
 EIMAS '86, Hiroshima, Japan, 1986
 1ST FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DE POESIA VIVA, Figueira da Foz, Portugal, 1987
 PROPAGANDA, MYTHOLOGY, ART AND ACTION, Trodheim, Bergen and Oslo, Norway, 1987
 II INTERNATIONAL BIENNIAL OF ALTERNATIVE POETRY IN MEXICO, Mexico City and throughout Mexico, 1987-1988
 INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF VISUAL POETRY, Sao Paulo, Brasil, 1988
 FESTIVAL INTERNACIONAL DE POESIA VIVA, Amadora, Portugal, 1988
 POESIA: OUTRAS ESCRITAS, NOVOS SUPORTES, Museum of Setubal, Portugal, 1988
 TYPEWRITTEN ART AND CONCRETE POETRY, Miami-Dade Public Library System, Miami, FL, 1989
 VISUAL POETRY, COMPUTER ART, Nove Zamky, Czechoslovakia, 1989
 THE LAST DECADE — 1980-1990-2000: III INTERNATIONAL BIENNIAL OF VISUAL/EXPERIMENTAL/ALTERNATIVE POETRY IN MEXICO, NORTH AMERICAN SECTION, San Diego State University, Imperial Valley Campus Art Gallery, Calexico, CA, 1989
 THE LAST DECADE — 1980-1990-2000: III INTERNATIONAL BIENNIAL OF VISUAL/EXPERIMENTAL/ALTERNATIVE POETRY IN MEXICO, Mexico City, Mexico, 1989
 THE INTERNATIONAL SHADOWS PROJECT, Milwaukee, WI, 1990
 VISUALOG 3: AN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF VISUAL POETRY AND LANGUAGE ART, Arternatives, San Luis Obispo, CA, 1990/1991**
 VISUALOG 4: AN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF VISUAL POETRY AND LANGUAGE ART, Orange County Community College, Newburgh, NY, 1991
 VISUALOG 4: AN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF VISUAL POETRY AND LANGUAGE ART, Mid-Hudson Arts & Science Center, Poughkeepsie, NY, 1991*

THE 2ND INTERNATIONAL VISUAL POETRY EXHIBITION , Melbourne, Australia, 1991

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF VISUAL POETICS, Museu de Arte Contemporanea de Americana, Avenida, Brazil, 1991

INTERNATIONAL SOUND & VISUAL POETRY EXHIBITION, Hendersfield Contemporary Music Festival, England, 1991

ART Nurnberg 7, Nurnberg , Germany, 1992

1992: SOUTH-HERE (SUD-ACA) Pamplona, Spain, 1992

Visual Poetry Exhibition, William Busta Gallery, Cleveland, Oh, 1992

Is Poetry a Visual Art? Truman Art Gallery, Indiana State University Bloomington IN, 1993

H.E.A.L.: HUMAN EDUCATION AGAINST LIES, The Excellent Center for Art & Culture, Grover Beach, Ca, 1993*

THE INTERNATIONAL SHADOW PROJECT: 1993, The Excellent Center for Art & Culture, Grover Beach, Ca, 1993**

IV INTERNATIONAL BIENNIAL OF VISUAL/EPERIMENTAL POETRY: 1992 SUD-ACA, Mexico City, Mexico, 1993

KALDRON WALL, Excellent Center for Art & Culture, Grover Beach, CA 1992-93**

THE INTERNATIONAL SHADOW PROJECT 1994, Finland 1994

Visual Poetry Show, Hermetic Gallery, Milwaukee, WI, 1995

V BIENNIAL IV INTERNATIONAL BIENNIAL OF VISUAL/EPERIMENTAL POETRY, Mexico City. Mexico, 1995

AMERICAN VISUAL POETRY EXPOSISTION, IV Congress of Brazilian Poetry, 1996

IN MEMORIAM, Guillermo Deisler, Montevideo, Uruguay, 1996

FIRST BUENOS AIRES CONFERENCE ON EXPERIMENTAL POETRY, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 1996

SPAZIOBLOBART, REEL n.14, Corato, Italy, 1997

ECHO TERRITORY, National Centre for Contemporary Art, Kaliningrad Branch, Kaliningrad, Russia 1998)

ECHO TERRITORY IN MOSCOW, Moscow Institute for Contemporary Art, Moscow, Russia 1998)

MELBORNE MALLARME AND THE 20TH CENTURY FESTIVAL: CHANCES ARE, AN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF CONTEMPORARY VISUAL POETRY, Melborne, Australia, 1998

WORLD WIDE VISUAL POETRY, Robarts Library, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada, 1999

POINT OF VIEW; VISUAL POETRY: 90'S, Toronto Music Gallery, Toronto, Canada, 1999

CONTEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL VISUAL POETRY EXHIBITION, A SELCTION BY pete spence, Geelong, Australia, 1999

INTORNO ALLA POESIA VISIVA, G28 gallery, Cagliari, Italy, 1999

THE MUSIC, Imola, Italy, 1999

6 CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN VISUAL POETS, Ocean Grove, Australia, 2000

WRITING TO BE SEEN, The New York Center for Book Arts, 2002.

Homage to Gutenberg and to the Press, Málaga, Spain, 2002

WRITING TO BE SEEN: Book and Related arts by Visual Poets, The Minnesota Center for Book Arts at Open Book, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 2003.

forthcoming

WRITING TO BE SEEN, Minnesota Center for Book Arts at Open Book, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 2003

*Co-organizer

**Organizer