



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Artist Katherine Downey Miller comes home to the coastline that made her a painter.

Katherine Downey Miller: Waterborne

On view September 26 - November 1, 2026

Opening Reception: Saturday, September 26, 4-6pm

Image: Touch of Warmth, 2026, acrylic on yupo on board, 12x16 inches.



Gloucester, MA (August, 2026) – Jane Deering Gallery is pleased to present *Waterborne*, a mid-career retrospective of works by artist Katherine Downey Miller. A renowned New England artist known for her work that moves between landscape and abstraction, this exhibition is a homecoming for the artist. It was at Halibut Point, less than five miles from the gallery's door, that she first absorbed the raw energy of the Atlantic as a child, and it is that coastline, its beauty, its violence, its vast unknowability, that she has spent a career translating into paint. The exhibition brings together works on canvas and paper in oil and acrylic, tracing the arc of a practice rooted in landscape and drawn, inevitably, toward the sea.

Cape Ann has drawn painters to its shores for two centuries, and its artists have long tested what a landscape can hold. Miller extends that lineage into the present. Her paintings begin in the observed world but push toward something more elemental and felt. Every work in the exhibition carries some link to water. In some, water is the subject; in others, it is the medium itself, as in her paintings on Yupo paper, where fluid, water-based media pool, bloom, and react on the synthetic surface. Built on gestural movement and the power of the emotive brushstroke, these are not pictures of the sea so much as records of its force.

This environmental attention runs throughout Miller's practice. In a recent body of work responding to wildfires, she turned her abstracted naturescapes toward a very different elemental force, fire in place of water, testimony to a natural world increasingly defined by extremes. Though distinct in palette and mood, that series shares the same conviction that abstraction can hold what documentation attempts to describe - the changing planet.

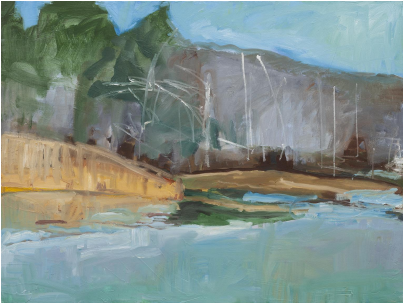
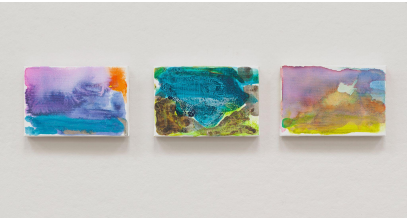
Marking a significant moment in Miller's career, the exhibition offers New England audiences a rare chance to see the evolution of her unique visual language, developed by pushing New England coastlines towards and beyond abstraction. At a moment when the region's relationship to its own coastline is changing, Miller's paintings insist that the ocean is not scenery but energy, and that paying attention to it is an act of both love and reckoning. The show is a culmination of a lifetime of looking, teaching, and painting, and a love letter to nature made in the place where that relationship began.

About the Artist Katherine Downey Miller holds a BS in Studio Art and Art History from Skidmore College and an MFA in Illustration from the School of Visual Arts. A recipient of a teaching scholarship to Studio Arts College International in Florence, Italy, she has taught at the Anderson Ranch Arts Center in Colorado and currently teaches at Concord Art, the New Art Center, and in painting workshops abroad, leading students through landscape to abstraction. She works from Miller Street Artist Studios in Somerville, Massachusetts. More at katherinedmiller.com.

Gallery Address 19 Pleasant Street, Gloucester, MA 01930
Gallery Hours Friday & Saturday 1–5; Sunday 1–4 and by chance or appointment
Gallery Contact 917-902-4359 | info@janedeeringgallery.com

About Jane Deering Gallery Founded in 2002, Jane Deering Gallery presents contemporary art by established and emerging artists, both national and international, with a strong interest in artists living and working on Cape Ann, an area rich in artistic heritage. The gallery is located in downtown Gloucester next door to the Cape Ann Museum.

PRESS IMAGES - [For full-size images, please click here.](#) Photo credit: Will Howcroft

		
<i>Touch of Warmth</i>, 2026, acrylic on yupo on board, 12x16 inches.	<i>Jacob's Pond</i>, 2024, oil on canvas, 36x48 inches.	<i>Endless Horizon 1 and 2</i>, 2026, acrylic on canvas, 4x6 inches.
		
<i>Deep Blue</i>, 2026, acrylic on yupo on board, 12x16 inches.	<i>The Falls</i>, 2026, acrylic on yupo on board, 9x12 inches.	<i>Endless Horizon 3, 4, and 5</i>, 2026, acrylic on canvas, 4x6 inches.