



Donna Kessinger is an abstract painter with a love for experimental video, focusing on feminism and LGBTQ+ herstories. She has worked in museums, NYC based as well as rural and urban New Jersey, on many levels and has run artist spaces since the mid-nineties. She has a passion for creating programs around inclusion, social justice and diversity. She has recently engaged in creating art exhibitions programs with adults who are on the autism spectrum.

An advocate for the concept of the museum as a healing space that works to bring community together, she works as curator, visual arts producer, educator and arts advocate. Kessinger was mentored in the 90's by female directors of New York based Museums, Womyn's Artist Colonies and Art Spaces early on in her career including Marsha Tucker, Alanna Heiss, Jenny Dixon and Kate Millett. She has produced several independent curatorial projects in New York and New Jersey since 1999.

Kessinger has functioned as a producer of emerging artist residency programs at the PS1 Contemporary Art Center, the Bronx Museum of the Arts, in New York City, Aljira A Space for Contemporary Art, in Newark and ChaShaMa Space to Present and Create Gallery and Studios in Matawan, New Jersey.

She is a shy painter who loves wax medium and has recorded many hours of short, oral herstories on ancient video tape from the 90's, including Nancy Spero, Carolee Schneemann and Kate Millett. Donna believes that having space to create is crucial to making art happen and has worked in both rural and urban American settings for over 20 years opening doors to artists as she goes.

<https://www.donnakessingerarts.org>