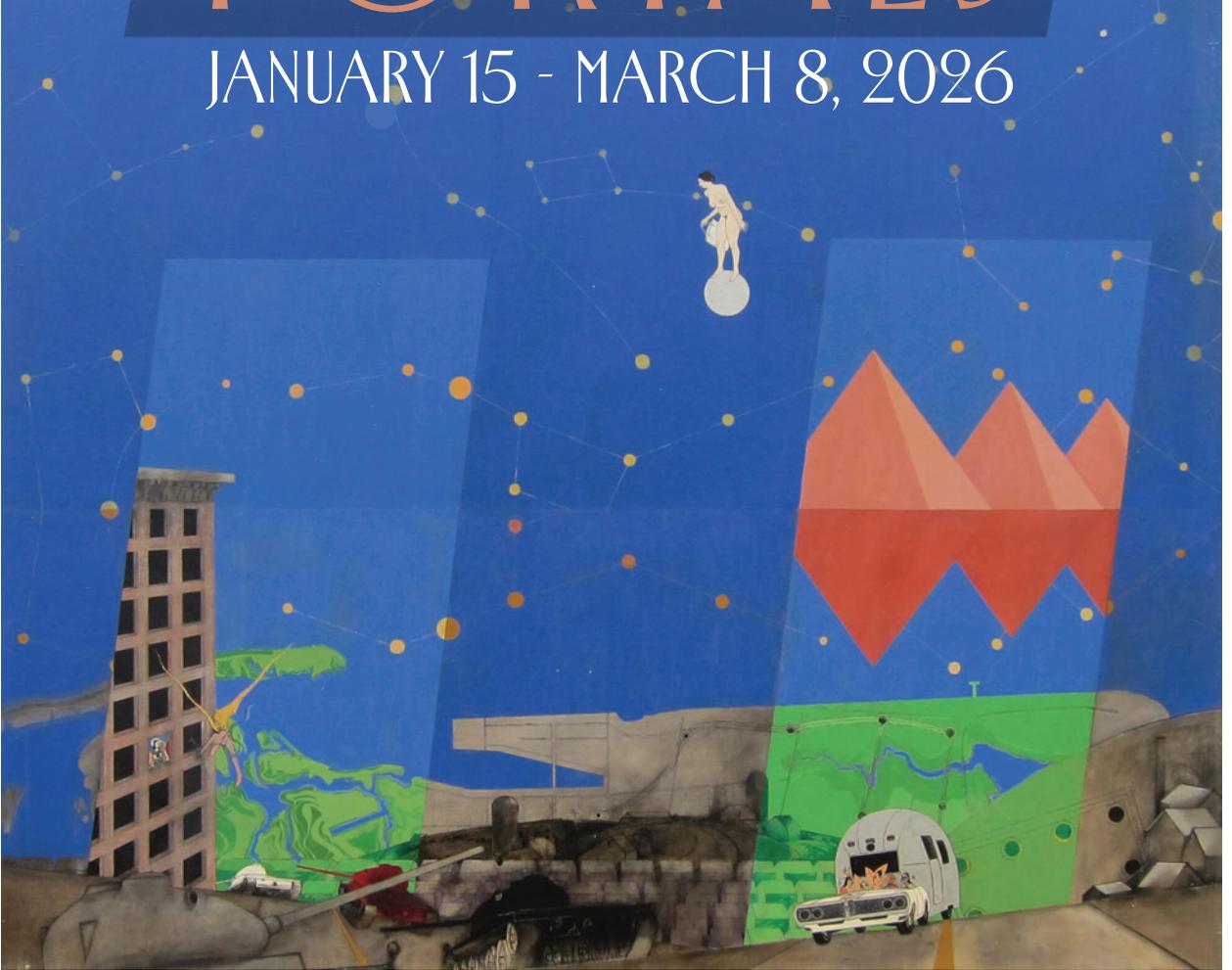


# HAROLD KELLER PORTALS

JANUARY 15 - MARCH 8, 2026



**ALEXANDER GALLERY**

AT  
PORTER  
ART  
WAREHOUSE

THE GALLERY OF



Walton Arts Center

# HAROLD KELLER PORTALS

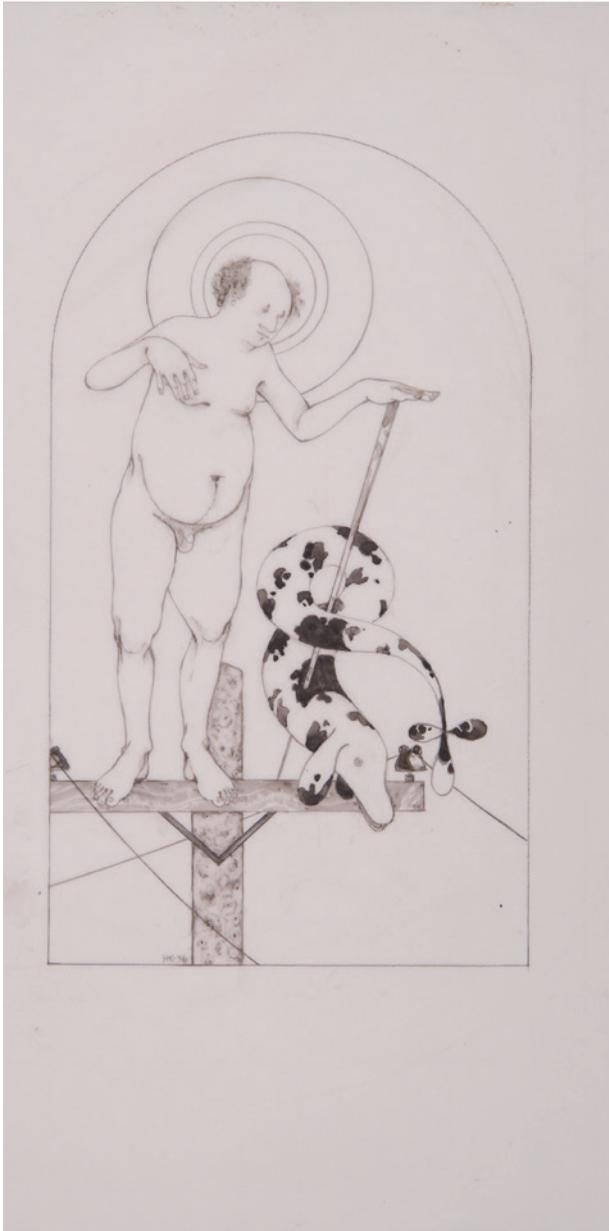
PORTER ART WAREHOUSE - ALEXANDER GALLERY  
JANUARY 15 - MARCH 8, 2026



**Landscape with Abraham and Isaac**  
1983 | Oil on canvas | 40 × 40 in.

This exhibition celebrates the distinct art of Harold Keller (1928-2017) from the collection of the University of Arkansas Fort Smith Gallery of Art and Design, the largest repository of the artist's work and where he taught from 1956-1962. The university's collection is based on an extensive donation made by the artist's family in 2024, including paintings, drawings, ceramics and artist books along with three hundred working drawings and studies the artist used to produce his finished works

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**St. Michael Archangel**

1996

Pencil and ink on mylar

11 × 8 1/2 in.

Keller had a prodigious artistic career of over seventy years and a teaching career of thirty-five. Born in Brooklyn, New York in 1928, he came to the University of Arkansas in 1946 to pursue a degree in medicine. With greater interests in the arts and humanities, he instead concentrated on studio art and philosophy, earning a Bachelor of Arts in 1949. After teaching for several Arkansas high schools, he became professor of art at Fort Smith Junior College (now University of Arkansas - Fort Smith) from 1956 until 1962 when he and his family returned to New York. Earning a Master of Arts in art education from New York University during his time in Fort Smith, he continued to teach in higher education until 1985.



**Untitled (Tall Figure with**

Cat Lid on Back)

1964

Ceramic

20 3/8 × 9 1/2 × 9 3/8 in.



**Demon Bishop**

1956

Oil on canvas

35 3/7 × 26 in.

Situating his uniquely playful and humorous yet thoughtful, earnest work in its art historical context and examining the artist's influences, this exhibition explores his development through several phases of his prodigious and multifaceted career as represented in the UAFS Gallery of Art and Design's permanent collection: his years in Arkansas, his distinct paintings of the 1970s through the 1980s, his working processes, his turn to drawings on mylar in the 1990s and his artist's books made in his later years in collaboration with his wife, June Keller.

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*Harold Keller: Portals* explores the artist's unique fusion of the fantastic with the everyday, a style known as magic realism. His magical realms, however, were also critical reflections and exploration of reality, with imaginative configurations and reinterpretations of art, religion, culture, personal memories and immediate experiences – all a part of the continuum of everyday existence, his paintings suggest. They also demonstrate how his experiences in Arkansas had a lasting impact on his art.

**Birth of Venus near RD2, Greenwich**

1969 | Oil on canvas | 40 × 44 in.



**Our Lady of Bethpage**

1987  
Oil on canvas  
25 1/2 × 25 1/2 in.



**Nemesis and Her Hurricane**

1989  
Oil on canvas  
30 × 30 in.

# WORKS LISTING

Works on loan from the UAFA Gallery of Art and Design Permanent Collection.  
Gift of the Keller family.

## The Arkansas Years

1. *Temple No. 17*  
1950  
Oil on board  
21 × 38 in.
2. *In Preparation for the Siege*  
1951  
Pencil on paper  
8 3/4 × 12 1/2 in.  
(16 1/2 × 19 1/2 in. framed)
3. *Demon Bishop*  
1956  
Oil on canvas  
35 3/7 × 26 in.
4. *Untitled (Figure with Blue Eyes)*  
1957  
Ceramic  
4 7/8 × 2 3/4 × 2 1/2 in.
5. *Untitled (Reclining Figure)*  
1962  
Ceramic  
11 × 19 × 7 in.
6. *Untitled (Seated Woman, Hands on Head)*  
1964  
Ceramic  
6 3/4 × 5 3/4 × 5 1/2 in.
7. *Untitled (Tall Figure with Cat Lid on Back)*  
1964  
Ceramic  
20 3/8 × 9 1/2 × 9 3/8 in.
8. *Untitled (Ceramic Figure)*  
1962  
Ceramic  
8 3/4 × 4 1/2 × 4 1/2 in.
9. *Untitled (Relief)*  
1966  
Ceramic  
11 5/8 × 12 1/2 × 4 1/2 in.
10. *Untitled (Relief)*  
1966  
Ceramic  
12 × 13 1/4 × 3 in.

## 1960s and 70s

11. *Birth of Venus*  
1966  
Oil on canvas  
47 1/2 × 59 in.
12. *Birth of Venus near RD2, Greenwich*  
1969  
Oil on canvas  
40 × 44 in.
13. *Local Showers*  
c. 1972  
Oil on canvas  
48 × 54 in.
14. *Local Showers 8*  
1972  
Oil on canvas  
48 × 54 in.
15. *Landscape with Abraham and Isaac*  
1983  
Oil on canvas  
40 × 40 in.

## The 1980s

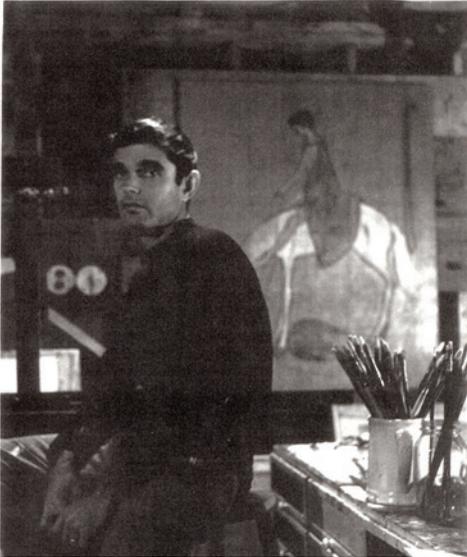
16. *Our Lady of Bethpage*  
1987  
Oil on canvas  
25 1/2 × 25 1/2 in.  
Purchased with funds from the Windgate Foundation
17. *Nemesis and Her Hurricane*  
1989  
Oil on canvas  
30 × 30 in.  
Purchased with funds from the Windgate Foundation

## Working Process

18. *St. Michael Archangel (1)*  
1996  
Pencil and ink on mylar  
11 × 8 1/2 in.
19. *St. Michael Archangel (21)*  
1997  
Pencil and ink on mylar  
11 × 8 1/2 in.
20. *St. Michael Archangel (6)*  
1998  
Pencil and ink on mylar  
8 3/8 × 7 5/8 in.
21. *St. Michael Archangel (41)*  
1998  
Pencil and ink on mylar  
8 1/2 × 5 1/8 in.
22. *St. Michael Archangel (35)*  
1999  
Pencil and ink on mylar  
5 × 5 in.
23. *St. Michael Archangel (49)*  
1999  
Pencil and ink on mylar  
8 1/2 × 5 1/8 in.
24. *St. Michael Archangel (37)*  
2000  
Pencil and ink on mylar  
6 1/2 × 5 in.
25. *St. Michael Archangel (42)*  
2001  
Pencil and ink on mylar  
5 × 4 3/4 in.
26. *Expulsion (1)*  
2001  
Pencil and ink on mylar  
7 3/4 × 4 5/8 in.
27. *Expulsion from the Garden*  
2003  
Pencil and ink on mylar  
8 1/4 × 5 3/4 in.

28. The Angels of the Four  
Directions of the Wind  
2003  
Pencil and ink on mylar  
11 × 8 in.
29. Untitled (Abraham and Isaac)  
2004  
Pencil and ink on mylar  
8 1/4 × 5 1/2 in.
30. St. Michael Archangel and  
Satan  
2005 / 2010  
Pencil and ink on mylar  
17 × 11 in.
31. St. Michael Archangel, Weigher  
of Souls  
2006  
Pencil and ink on mylar  
9 7/8 × 7 1/8 in.
32. Silos, Angels, Bugs and Specks  
of Dirt  
2015  
Pencil and dirt on mylar  
11 1/2 × 8 in.
33. Harold Keller and June Keller  
The Chief Ruling Princes of  
the Nine Celestial Orders  
1994-1995  
Artist book, diazo prints  
Closed: 11 1/2 × 8 1/2 × 7/16 in.  
Opened: 11 1/2 × 16 1/2 in.
34. SERAPHIM Michael  
1994 The Chief Ruling Princes  
of the Nine Celestial Orders  
series  
Pencil and ink on mylar  
11 × 8 1/2 in.
35. CHERUBIM Gabriel 1994 The  
Chief Ruling Princes of the  
Nine Celestial Orders series  
Pencil and ink on mylar  
11 × 8 1/2 in.
36. THRONES Orifiel  
1994  
The Chief Ruling Princes of the  
Nine Celestial Orders series  
Pencil and ink on mylar  
11 × 8 1/2 in.
37. DOMINIONS Zadkiel  
1994  
The Chief Ruling Princes of the  
Nine Celestial Orders series  
Pencil and ink on mylar  
11 × 8 1/2 in.
38. VIRTUES Uzziel  
1994 The Chief Ruling Princes  
of the Nine Celestial Orders  
series  
Pencil and ink on mylar  
11 × 8 1/2 in.
39. POWERS Camael 1994 The  
Chief Ruling Princes of  
the Nine Celestial Orders  
series Pencil and ink on mylar  
11 × 8 1/2 in.
40. PRINCIPALITIES Nisroc  
1994  
The Chief Ruling Princes of the  
Nine Celestial Orders series  
Pencil and ink on mylar  
11 × 8 1/2 in.
41. ARCHANGELS Metatron  
1994  
The Chief Ruling Princes of the  
Nine Celestial Orders series  
Pencil and ink on mylar  
11 × 8 1/2 in.
42. ANGELS Phaleg  
1994  
The Chief Ruling Princes of the  
Nine Celestial Orders series  
Pencil and ink on mylar  
11 × 8 1/2 in.

### Drawings and Books



**Harold Keller**  
in his Fort Smith Studio in the late 1950's

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Matthew Bailey, PhD, Director, Wichita Falls Museum of Art at MSU Texas.

Katie Waugh, Department Head/Associate Professor, Department of Art & Design, University of Arkansas Fort Smith

Alex Dotulong, Gallery Assistant, University of Arkansas Fort Smith Gallery of Art & Design

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