

# BEMIS X CENTER

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## Paula Wilson: Bemis Center's 2024 Ree Kaneko Award Recipient

Wednesday, April 2

5–6 PM: Bemis Member Exclusive Meet + Greet

6–7 PM: In Conversation with Paula Wilson

Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts  
724 S. 12th Street, Omaha, NE 68102

[bemiscenter.org/alumni-program](https://bemiscenter.org/alumni-program)

### ABOUT BEMIS CENTER'S REE KANEKO AWARD

Granted to artists who have participated in Bemis Center's residency program or had a solo exhibition at the organization, this \$25,000 unrestricted annual award supports alumni artists in expanding their practice. It is made possible through the generous contributions of Bemis Center donors.

As part of Bemis Center's 40th anniversary in 2021, the award was increased and renamed in honor of **Ree Kaneko**, Bemis Center co-founder, first Executive Director, and Board Member Emerita. Her vision and passion embody the spirit of this award, which provides transformative support to artists. Funds may be used for any purpose and do not need to be tied to a specific project or body of work. The award is by nomination only and selected by a panel of curators and art historians.

Recent awardees include **Tania Candiani** (2023), **Edra Soto** (2022), and **Raven Chacon** (2021).

### PAULA WILSON @ BEMIS CENTER

Paula Wilson's work often draws from art history, personal experience, and the landscapes of the Southwest, where she lives and works in Carrizozo, New Mexico. Known for her dynamic multimedia practice, she blends painting, printmaking, collage, and sculpture to create lush, layered works that challenge historical narratives and celebrate multiplicity in identity, culture, and storytelling.

Her 2017 solo exhibition at Bemis Center, *The Backward Glance*, transported viewers into a mythical creation story. An acclaimed Bemis Center alum, Wilson is now the 2024 recipient of the \$25,000 Ree Kaneko Award.

Join us on Wednesday, April 2 when Wilson returns to Omaha for a special evening of celebration and conversation.

Current Bemis Center Members may also join us for an exclusive Meet + Greet with the artist directly preceding the talk, from 5 to 6 PM, including libations and light hors d'oeuvres.

#### IMAGE CREDITS

(Above, left): Multidisciplinary artist and Bemis alum Paula Wilson

(Above, right): Paula Wilson, *The Backward Glance* (installation view), on view at Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts February 2, 2017–April 29, 2017. Photo by Colin Conces.

Paula Wilson, *Between Two*, 2010. In collaboration with The Fabric Workshop and Museum. Acrylic, oil, oil-based ink, spray paint, watercolor, marker, colored pencil, felt, paper, canvas, thread. 126 x 174 inches. Photo: Mindy McDaniel. Courtesy of the artist and the Tang Teaching Museum & Art Gallery.

Paula Wilson, *Remodeled*, 2007. Relief woodcut, offset lithography and silkscreen with collaged elements and hand coloring. Produced and editioned at Columbia University's Leroy Neiman Center for Print Studies, New York, NY. 19 1/2 x 25 3/4 inches. Courtesy of the artist.

Paula Wilson in 2017 visiting Omaha's bygone live television morning program *The Morning Blend* on channel KMTV alongside hosts Mary Nelson and Mike DiGiacomo.

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- > Press release

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