

BIOGRAPHY

Ken Field (kenfield.org) is a saxophonist, flautist, and composer. Since 1988 he has been a member of the internationally acclaimed electronic modern music ensemble Birdsongs of the Mesozoic, with whom he has recorded eight CDs. He leads the Revolutionary Snake Ensemble, an experimental & improvisational brass band, and performs with the community-based Second Line Social Aid & Pleasure Society Brass Band. Since 2015 he has annually led a pick-up band of unaffiliated musicians at the HONK!Oz Festival in Wollongong, NSW, Australia. His solo releases document his work for layered saxophones and his soundtracks for dance and film. Field was named a 2017 Finalist in Music Composition by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Field has performed in the US, Canada, Mexico, France, Germany, Spain, Hungary, Portugal, Sweden, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Australia, New Zealand, & Japan, and has been awarded residency fellowship grants at the MacDowell Colony (NH), the Ucross Foundation (Wyoming), the Fundación Valparaíso (Spain), and the Atlantic Center for the Arts (Florida). His musical projects have been released on the Cuneiform, O.O.Discs, sFz Recordings, Sublingual, and Innova Recordings labels, and have been featured in The New York Times, Saxophone Journal, The Boston Globe, The Los Angeles Times, The Washington Post, Tower Pulse, Billboard, Cadence, The Wire, The Orlando Sentinel, and many other publications. Field composed & produced soundtracks for many of the animated films by his late wife, Karen Aqua. His music is also heard regularly on the children's television program Sesame Street.

Ken Field is an Applied Microphone Technology Endorser and a Vandoren Performing Artist. He hosts The New Edge, a weekly radio program on WMBR in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Field is former Chair of the Cambridge Bicycle Committee, a member of the HONK! Festival Organizing Committee, and is on the Boards of JazzBoston and Tutoring Plus of Cambridge.

Karen Aqua (1954-2011) (karenaqua.com) completed 12 independently-produced animated films and one collaborative animation/live action video since graduating from Rhode Island School of Design in 1976, and before her untimely death at age 57 in 2011. Her award-winning films have screened worldwide, at festivals in Europe, Asia, North/South America, New Zealand, and the Middle East. She was granted fellowships by American Film Institute, the MacDowell Colony, Millay Colony for the Arts, Fundación Valparaíso (Spain), New England Film/Video Fellowship Program, Berkshire Taconic Trust, LEF Foundation, the Puffin Foundation, and, three days before her death, the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Aqua taught animation at Boston College and Emerson College, and at workshops and residencies around the United States. She served as a juror for film festivals in

Japan, Canada, and the US, and presented numerous one-person screenings of her work. In 2005, a special program of Aqua's animated films was presented at the Tehran International Animation Festival, Iran. During the 1990's she directed/animated 22 segments for the acclaimed children's television program "Sesame Street." Aqua's film "Twist of Fate" was screened at Telluride Film Festival, Starz Denver Film Festival, Kos Ippokratis International Health Film Festival (Greece), and international animation festivals in Ottawa, Hiroshima, and Annecy (France). It received awards at Ann Arbor Film Festival, James River Film Festival, and Black Maria Film & Video Festival. Her final film, "Taxonomy," debuted at the ICA/Boston in May 2011.

Aqua's work is included in the permanent collections of the Harvard Film Archive (Cambridge, MA), the Anderson Museum of Contemporary Art (Roswell, NM), and the International Quilt Study Center & Museum (Lincoln, NE).