

APARTMENT 4

WORDS TO KNOW

Historical Fiction: A story that takes place in the past in a real place, but the characters and events may not have actually happened.

Site-specific Installation: Artwork created for a certain place is site-specific. An installation is a three-dimensional artwork that transforms a space. A site-specific installation is an installation created for a certain place. Not all installations are site-specific; some can be moved to different places.

Studio: The space where an artist creates artwork. Studios can be different sizes and have different equipment and materials depending on the kind of art the artist is making, the size of their artwork, and the methods they use for creating art.

Visit apt4.jmkac.org to see images and video from the exhibition.

EXPLORE APARTMENT 4!

Artist Iris Häussler (House-ler) uses her imagination to create characters and tell stories in her art. Her stories are **historical fiction**, which means that the time and place that the characters live actually happened, but the characters are made up by Häussler.

Apartment 4 is a **site-specific installation** that you can walk through. Using the rooms of the John Michael Kohler home, Häussler created a space that looks like the apartment her fictional character Florence could have lived in from 1927 to 1942 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Häussler is telling you part of Florence's story through this installation, rather than through words in a book or a play.

In Häussler's story, Florence is missing. You are invited to look around her apartment and try to find clues about where she might have gone.

Florence used the back room of the apartment as her **studio**. She felt the most comfortable in her studio and liked to spend a lot of time there.

Florence used ink and dye to change the color of fabric and add color to her artwork. When Florence was a nurse in World War I, she saw things that were scary and sad. Florence used her artwork to express her feelings.

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As you explore *Apartment 4*, can you find clues that tell you:

- What Florence knows how to do?
- That Florence was a nurse?
- Which objects are important to Florence?