

Pittsboro Gallery of Arts

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Thomson's works explore cross-currents of color, the pulsing of fibers, and shifts in hue as she positions variegated dyed fibers for tapestries or hydroprints acrylics to silk or rice paper. Dawn Hummer weaves both on and off-loom, using traditional Western and Eastern techniques and patterns showcased in hand-woven basketry, sculpture, and loom-woven wearable art.

Ceramic artists include: Debbie Englund creates both ceramic sculpture and functional pottery, which results in work that is organic in form and often references botanicals. Lee Kazanas is a professional studio potter who works in functional high-fired stoneware and porcelain exploring techniques in clay and glaze. Cely Chicurel hand-builds pottery, her wild imagination is expressed in various creations, castles, dragons, wizards and other fantasy creatures. Judith Maier brings her narratives to life in clay works that are influenced by the ballet, fairy tales, puppetry, the circus and the theater. DeDe Richardson is a huge fan of texture in pottery which she creates using customized clay stamps that she designed and hand-carved herself.

Other more unusual works: Theresa Arico creates mixed media mosaics (stained-glass, tiles, beads, smalti, crockery) and loves to create beauty and

tell an archetypal story through her work. Her primary focus is creating and contributing to an environment that is nourishing and healing. Daniel Stevenson works with wood, using hardwood, pairing woods with strongly contrasting natural color which typically takes the form of segmented inlays. His designs are inspired by abstract mathematical forms, but also patterns found in nature.

Jewelers include: Tamara Buettner creates unique sterling silver jewelry that is inspired by nature and created to highlight the beauty of natural stones. Darcy Szermi has a passion for metalwork that draws inspiration from all aspects of life.... joy, sorrow, nature, beauty, and people and then she translates this into features of her designs. Nadine Zenobi works with stones that suggest placement within geometric and organic forms. She creates jewelry that combines these with mixed metals of silver, white, rose and yellow gold to enhance the beauty of each piece.

The Gallery is located on Hillsboro Street in downtown Pittsboro.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 919/704-8552 or visit (www.pittsboroarts.org).

Charlotte Russell Contemporary Fine Art Gallery in Raleigh, NC, Features Works by Mar Hester & Wiley Johnson

Charlotte Russell Contemporary Fine Art Gallery is pleased to announce the grand opening of our new art gallery located in the Five Points District of Raleigh, NC. The inaugural exhibition, *Color Interactions*, a two-person exhibition featuring photo sculptures by Durham-based artist Mar Hester and abstract paintings by Raleigh-based artist Wiley Johnson, on view through Nov. 4, 2021.

This exhibition focuses on color as the thread between two artists working in different mediums and dimensions.

Mar Hester's photo sculptures challenge the traditional means of viewing photography while commenting on our ever-shifting environment. Her sculptures utilize digitally altered photographs, geometric shapes and repeating patterns to explore the complex world of human perception with a strong basis in nature. As the viewer moves around the work, the work hides and reveals more of itself creating a unique and individualized experience - which elevates the question of what one identifies as reality.

Wiley Johnson's abstract paintings are infused with gestural brushstrokes in vibrant and bold colors that activate the canvas. An artist with autism, Johnson uses painting as a way to express emotion. Johnson's work conveys emotion through the movement of intuitive brushstrokes and unexpected color combinations. Paint-



Work by Mar Hester

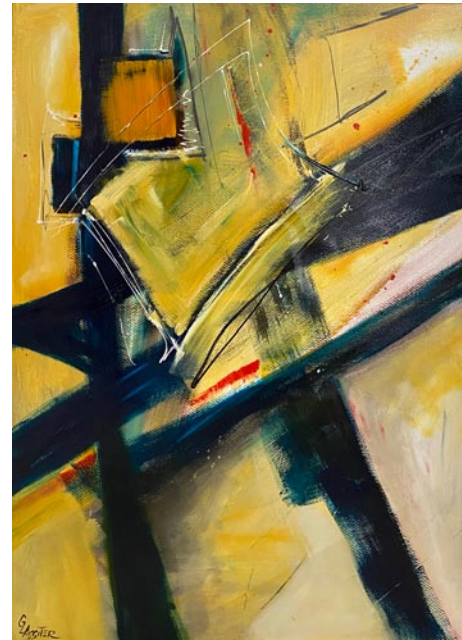
ing for him allows for a place to escape, a place to feel happy, and a way to connect with others.

Charlotte Russell Contemporary Fine Art Gallery offers original artworks by emerging and mid-career artists in our newly opened art gallery in Five Points, Raleigh.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 415/601-0023 or visit (www.charlotterussellcontemporary.com).

Some Exhibits That Are Still On View

Our policy at *Carolina Arts* is to present a press release about an exhibit only once and then go on, but many major exhibits are on view for months. This is our effort to remind you of some of them.



Work by Ginny Lassiter

Sunset River Marketplace in Calabash, NC, is presenting *Ginny Lassiter: Finding My Passion*, featuring abstract works by local artist and gallery owner, Ginny Lassiter, on view through Oct. 16, 2021. Lassiter graduated from East Carolina University, majoring in art with an emphasis in design. Her taste, which is evident in every aspect of the gallery, leans toward the eclectic. Her paintings, often textural and almost always abstract, are primarily expressionist in nature, sometimes influenced by architectural structures, forms and spaces. "I love the process of painting abstracts," she says. "By focusing on shape, color and line I'm able to step outside of the 'real world' and representational imagery, but still generate interest from the viewer. It's my hope that each of my paintings draws the viewer in and brings about an emotional response!" For further information call the gallery at 910/575-5999 or visit (www.sunsetrivermarketplace.com).



Krista Elrick; "Cincinnati Bluffs, OH".

Appalachian State University in Boone, NC, is presenting *Where are the birds? Retracing Audubon: Artwork by Krista Elrick*, an exhibition and book project reexamining John James Audubon's epic life journey and the production of his beloved tome, *The Birds of America*, on view at the Turchin Center for the Visual Arts, in Gallery B, through Nov. 6, 2021.

While the name of Audubon is familiar and the drawings he created are still wildly popular, his eloquent writings are less well known. Where are the birds? *Retracing Audubon* features contemporary photographs made by Krista Elrick of the American landscapes in which Audubon traveled 200 years ago. Also included are quotes from Audubon's journals and entries Elrick made in her own travel notebooks two centuries later. For further information call the Center at 828/262-3017 or visit (www.turchincenter.org).

The Florence County Museum in Florence, SC, is presenting *Chronic Rationalizations*, featuring recent works by artist Roger Halligan, on view in the FCM Waters Gallery, through Dec. 3, 2021. Roger Halligan's sculptures and wall reliefs employ familiar symbols to examine the nature of psychological and physical boundaries. "We have personal boundaries that we may not even know exist until they are being threatened. We realize this when our brain sends warning signals to us," Halligan says. "But what



A view of the Waters Gallery featuring Roger Halligan's works

if those warnings are triggered by false information?" Halligan began his career as an artist after receiving his Masters of Fine Arts from the University of Georgia, working as an exhibit designer at the North Carolina Zoological Park and Gardens. For further information call the Museum at 843/676-1200 or visit (www.flocomuseum.org).



"The Toiler" by Aaron Douglas

The Johnson Collection's annual collaboration with Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC, returns this fall. *Elevation from Within: The Study of Art at Historically Black Colleges and Universities* is on view at Wofford College's Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center through Dec. 15, 2021. Originally presented at TJC Gallery in 2019, *Elevation from Within* pays homage to HBCU alumni and professors whose educational backgrounds chronicle a vital chapter of American history and whose aesthetic achievements have made an indelible mark on this nation's art. Presented by the Johnson Collection and curated by Dr. Leo Twiggs, *Elevation from Within* will be strategically placed at HBCUs with connections to the highlighted artists in 2022. For further information visit (thejohnsoncollection.org).



Pisgah Forest Pottery, Walter B. Stephen, "Covered Wagon teapot, creamer and sugar bowl," 1943, glazed stoneware, 4 3/8 x 9 x 6 1/2 (teapot); 3 1/4 x 5 1/4 x 4 1/2 (creamer); 4 x 6 5/8 x 5 1/2 (sugar bowl) inches. Asheville Art Museum, gift of Andrew Glasgow, 2010.26.03-05.

The Asheville Art Museum in Asheville, NC, is presenting *Walter B. Stephen Pottery: Cameo to Crystalline*, on view in the Museum's Debra McClinton Gallery, through Jan. 17, 2022. Artist Walter B. Stephen (Clinton, IA, 1875-1961 Asheville, NC) contributed to Western North Carolina's identity as a flourishing site for pottery production and craftsmanship in the early 20th century. *Walter B. Stephen Pottery: Cameo to Crystalline* features art pottery and functional vessels from each stage of Stephen's career, from his origins discovering the medium alongside his mother Nellie C. Randall Stephen in Shelby County, TN, from 1901 through 1910 to his multi-decade production just outside of Asheville. In 1926, Stephen founded his third and last pottery studio, Pisgah Forest, in Arden, NC, which he operated until his death in 1961.

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