

Clemson University in Clemson

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Sam Wang: Centripetal Discovery presents places of immense beauty, some distant and unfamiliar with others as unexpected as the Home Depot parking lot.

Sam Wang was born in Beijing, land of over 5,000 years of uninterrupted culture. He studied art in South Dakota, east of the Bad Lands, and received his MFA in Photography from the University of Iowa. Clemson University called, and there Sam co-initiated the MFA in Digital Production Arts, a program that prepared graduates for the animation industry.

In 2006, Wang received the Alumni Distinguished Professor of Art Award. He was recognized as an Honored Educator by the Society for Photographic Education - Southeast Region in 2007. And in 2012, he received the Elizabeth Verner Award from the South Carolina Arts Commission, presented by Governor Haley for his contributions to the arts in SC. Wang's 40-year legacy as an educator includes hundreds of graduate students in photography.

A film screening of "Centripetal Discovery" with director John Rash, will be

offered on Oct. 20, beginning at 5:30pm, at Lee Hall. Discussion with John Finley Rash, the producer of the film will follow. Rash is the Director of the Southern Documentary and Adjunct Assistant Professor, Center for the study of Southern Culture.

Rash is a filmmaker, photographer, and video artist who earned his MFA in Experimental and Documentary Art from Duke University in 2014. He has worked as a freelance photographer and college instructor for more than 15 years in both the United States and China. His work often explores cultural outsiders and environmental topics through non-traditional narratives and visual storytelling. As Producer/Director at the Southern Documentary Project at the University of Mississippi, Rash explores the modern stories and various histories of the American South through photographs, films, and audio productions.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listing, call Denise Woodward-Detrich, Lee Gallery Director at 864/656-3883 or visit

(www.clemson.edu/centers-institutes/cva/).

Artists Collective | Spartanburg in Spartanburg, SC, Offers Annual Juried Show Results

Artists Collective | Spartanburg in Spartanburg, SC, is presenting its *4th Annual Juried Exhibition*, featuring 70 pieces of artwork from regional artists, on view in the Solomon Gallery, through Oct. 22, 2022.

Artist Michael Mitchell of Florence, SC, won first place in the Artists Collective | Spartanburg's *4th Annual Juried Exhibition* that showcased the diversity of works within a five-state region.

Of the 500 pieces of artwork submitted by artists in South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee and Virginia for consideration, 70 were selected to be included in the exhibition, which remains on view in the 2,000-square-foot Solomon Gallery at Artists Collective | Spartanburg facility.

Mitchell received \$2,500 for his winning mixed media piece titled *The Classroom*.

Other awards presented at the Sept. 17 ceremony were:



Work by Christine Kminek

southeastern region."

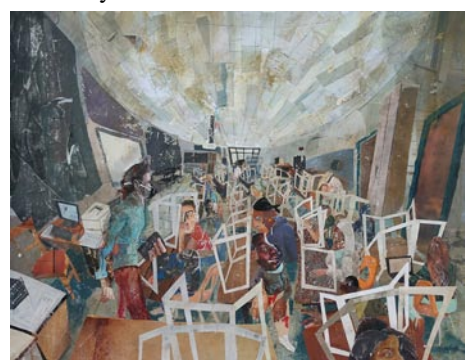
"This exhibit will awe you, make you shake your head and smile," Regula continues. "There is something for every art taste. We encourage everyone to visit the exhibit in person in our Solomon Gallery or to visit our website (www.artistscollectivespartanburg.org) to see the works and watch a video of the jurors speaking about the exhibit. The video gives an insight to what the jurors saw when choosing some of the award winners."

Mitchell describes his piece being inspired by the difficulties of students and teachers returning to the classroom in September, "amid rising COVID cases" with teachers getting "contradictory priorities: to manage a classroom filled with young people who had not been in a classroom for nearly two years and protect the health of the students and community by maintaining social distancing." With distancing - without appropriate space in the room - along with masks, questionable disinfecting practices and plastic shields, "through all of this, teachers were expected to instruct the students, and the students were expected to learn," he adds. "Even in a large room, like the ones I teach in, claustrophobia built on top of anxiety. The space bent in on itself from the density of the clutter and the burdens of teaching a class in the middle of a pandemic."

Christine Kminek says her acrylic and recycled material canvas "explores a neverland world of pressure. Inspired by a child's elevator etiquette conversation and the question 'Where does it go if you don't pass the gas?' This is where. The land of unbroken wind and unfulfilled dreams."

Caitlin Williams describes her piece as "an abstraction of chain link fencing in charcoal, conte, eraser and graphite."

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Work by Michael Mitchell

Second place (\$1,000): Christine Kminek, of Boiling Springs, SC, for *Trapped Gas*, mixed media.

Third place (\$500): Caitlin Williams, of Simpsonville, SC; for *Fencing*, drawing. Merit Award (\$400): Amanda Kelly, of Roanoke, VA; for *Hoarder's Porch*, sculpture. Merit Award (\$250): Nadia Ogunfowora, of Charlotte, NC; for *An Expose on Juxtaposition*, painting.

Merit Award (\$150): Addam Duncan, of Inman, SC; for *Solutions*, painting.

Merit Award (\$100): Shaina Manuel, of West Columbia, SC; for *Juneteenth*, drawing.

Merit Award (\$100): Ariel Adams, of Gray, TN; for *Warm Smoke Through Soft Petals*, photography.

"This year - the fourth for our annual *Juried Exhibition* - we reached a little further and added the state of Virginia to the exhibit," says Beth Regula, chair of the management board of the Artists Collective | Spartanburg, who added that the judges this year were from South Carolina and Virginia. "We look forward every year to meeting artists from beyond our borders of the Artists Collective | Spartanburg. Meeting and talking with other artists broadens our knowledge of the art being made in our



SAM WANG: CENTRIPETAL DISCOVERY

Lee Gallery

FILM SCREENING OF "SAM WANG: CENTRIPETAL PERSISTENCE" BY JOHN RASH

TH, Oct. 20, 5:30 p.m.
Lee Rm. 1-100

Oct. 10–Nov. 9

M–TH, 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

ARTIST TALK & RECEPTION

TH, Oct. 20, 6 p.m.
Lee Gallery

CLEMSON VISUAL ARTS
LEE GALLERY

The Artists Collective | Spartanburg, located on W. Main Street, provides a forum and home for the arts and creative population of Spartanburg, providing facilities and services to artist members for exhibits,

performances and creation.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (artistscollectivespartanburg.org).

Artists Collective | Spartanburg in Spartanburg, SC, Features Works by David Datwyler

Artists Collective | Spartanburg in Spartanburg, SC, will present *Art of the Lathe: Wood Turned, Burned, Carved and Gilded*, featuring works by David Datwyler, on view in Gallery III, from Oct. 6 - 29, 2022. An artists' reception will be held on Oct. 20, until 9pm, in conjunction with ArtWalk Spartanburg.

"Previous notions of turned wood as functional objects will be upended," the Spartanburg artist says. "This exhibit will show exotic and domestic woods turned on a lathe. These pieces have been further embellished by burning, carving, gold leafing or combining different woods. Although wood turning is normally perceived as a craft used to make everyday objects such as railings, chair legs and bowls, it also can be a means of sculpting objects of beauty."

Visitors to the exhibition will have a "sense of wonder and greater appreciation of the beauty and possibilities of lathe-turned wood," says Datwyler, a retired nurse, who has been an artist for 20 years with no formal training.

The display of his original work is a "culmination of years of practice and experimentation. Every piece is developed with an eye for detail. Each piece may take as many as 20 hours to complete."

The exhibit will include photographs and descriptions of the process of creating the pieces. It also will include some hands-on displays "to enhance the understanding of working with wood," Datwyler says. The 20 pieces in the show will be offered for sale with prices ranging from \$200 to \$1,800.

A native of Salt Lake City, UT, Datwyler



Work by David Datwyler

ler says his work is inspired by historical and modern vessels, especially pottery and blown glass. Although often based on utilitarian items such as baskets, vessels and tea pots, his pieces are purely ornamental celebrations of craft as an art form. A lathe, a power tool that spins wood as it is being carved, is used as a basis for his work. He then enhances his pieces by carving, sculpting, deconstructing and reconstructing different components.

His work has been in galleries, exhibits and museums throughout the country. He has won multiple awards including multiple best of show awards.

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