

Society of Bluffton Artists

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“Best in Show” award for her abstract piece “The Queen.” Her work continues to gain recognition in the local art community, with her pieces currently on display at Alexander’s Restaurant on Hilton Head Island and at the SOBA Gallery.

In her artist’s statement, Capraro reflects on the emotional and freeing process of creating abstract art. She shares, “Painting in abstract is an emotional, freeing, and creative force that I use to interpret and express my vision of the world within and around me. I aim to create art that is transcendent, pointing the viewer into different worlds that may be humorous, magical, peaceful, sad, or may speak of an injustice or challenge.”

SOBA is the heart of the flourishing art hub in Old Town Bluffton’s historic district at the corner of Church and Calhoun streets. As a non-profit art organization, SOBA offers regular art classes, featured artist shows, exhibitions, scholarships, outreach programs and more. The gallery is located on Church Street.



Work by Jane Capraro

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call SOBA at 843/757-6586 or visit (www.sobagallery.com).

Pluff Mudd Art Gallery, in Bluffton, SC, Features Works by Blake Shattuck

Pluff Mudd Art Gallery in Bluffton, SC, is thrilled to present works by Blake Shattuck, on view from Oct. 1 - 31, 2024.

Shattuck, a self-taught wood carver, is renowned for his custom hand-carved wall clocks and other decorative pieces under the name “Shattuck Clockworks.” Each of his creations is a unique masterpiece, thoughtfully designed and meticulously crafted without the aid of power tools. Featuring primarily coastal motifs, his clocks and tide clocks can be customized to reflect virtually any theme or design. Each piece takes around two weeks to complete, blending the beauty of handmade artistry with the functionality of a working clock.

Originally from New Hampshire, Shattuck and his wife Lisa moved to Hilton Head Island five years ago. His journey into carving began over 45 years ago with an antique set of gouges and chisels from the 1930s, inherited from his grandfather. What started as a hobby transformed into a full-fledged passion during the COVID pandemic when Shattuck dedicated his time to his craft.

His work has since found a home at Pluff Mudd Art Gallery, a cooperative showcas-



Work by Blake Shattuck

ing the talent of 20 local artists in the heart of the Arts District in Old Town Bluffton, South Carolina. Throughout October, Shattuck, will be available at the gallery on Thursdays (weather permitting) to demonstrate his carving techniques and discuss his art.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 843/757-5590 or visit (pluffmuddart.com).

Greenville Center for Creative Arts in Greenville, SC, Features Works by Brittany M. Watkins

The Greenville Center for Creative Arts in Greenville, SC, will present *Impermanence & Abject Space*, featuring works by Brittany M. Watkins, on view in the Main Gallery, from Oct. 4 through Nov. 27, 2024. A reception will be held on Oct. 4, from 6-9pm. An Arttalk Performance & Q/A with Brittany Watkins will be offered on Nov. 16, from 2-3pm.

Dipped in a lukewarm bath of brightly colored self-awareness, Watkins acknowledges a contemporary world enthralled with the screen just a fingertip’s length away. It’s easier not to question; instead, we deny. *Impermanence & Abject Space* is about facing oneself. From abject space, found and discarded goods, once deemed useless, emerge. Piled, stacked, fragmented, stitched together, overturned, and slathered in layers of paint. This body of work examines the human experience scrutinizing the material world through a laborious analytic process driven by anxiety-fueled curiosity.

For the first time in one space, abstract paintings are placed alongside mixed-media “remnant works” that blur the lines between painting and sculpture. Hand-stitched fibers pushed and pulled within the rectangle frame of the traditionally defined, wall-bound painting, continue to evolve. This new series of remnant works use an expanded list of deconstructed domestic



Work by Brittany M. Watkins

materials mined from past installations (all temporary). As each installation moves from the living present into memory, its physical form returns to waste.

Viewers are challenged to consider the who, what, where, and why of art/life within institutional hierarchies. Teetering back and forth between deconstruction and rebuilding, Watkins’ process underscores alleged binaries such as life - death, rich - poor, and happy - sad offering visual contradictions between worth and worthless. This exhibition highlights the function of art in contemporary society, urging viewers to consider widely accepted value systems that drive a product-based life.

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The Upstate Heritage Quilt Trail

A self-guided tour that invites you to explore the history of quilting in the Upstate Counties of South Carolina



Guided Tour Information or Other General Inquiries,
Contact Us at: 1.864.723.6603 email: info@uhqt.org
uhqt.org Facebook: /Upstate Heritage Quilt Trail

Funded through City of Anderson and Anderson County ATAX Commissions

Brittany M. Watkins (b.1989, Carrollton, GA) is a distinguished multi-disciplinary artist, gallery director, and educator based in Columbia, SC. Renowned for her large-scale installation works, Watkins has earned notable accolades including the South Carolina Arts Commission State Fellowship in 2024, the South Arts State Fellowship in 2022, and the ArtFields’ Juried Panel Prize in 2018.

Watkins holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Fine Art from the University of West Georgia (2012) and a Master’s Degree in Studio Art from Florida State University (2016). Her graduate studies ignited a passion for fostering contemporary art in the Southern United States, leading her to establish artist-run spaces and pop-up exhibitions in Tallahassee. She went on to serve as president and exhibitions coordinator of 621 Gallery from 2018-2019 and was appointed Director of Goodall Gallery at Columbia College in July 2023. Her position as gallery director, curator, and community organizer continues to be shaped by an examination of contemporary society at the center of her artistic practice.

“As daily life becomes more deeply entrenched with the screen just a fingertip’s length away, the rapidly expanding consumer culture infiltrates the collective consciousness,” says Watkins. “My art examines the emotional, physical, and political detritus that overflow in present day America. I examine the relationship between private, psychological space and its counterpart: the public, edited, physical world through a lens of psychoanalysis and social critique. My process begins with collecting (things and information). Cast off materials, discarded or overlooked for

a failure to serve the ‘intended purpose’ - here, a line is drawn between the object and the individual, connecting widespread socio-economic concerns to personal fluctuations in stability. Domestic space (the home) acts as a metaphor for the mind and gateway to the psychological.”

“I arrive equipped with only a color and the edge of an idea, ready to learn from each place, situated in time among history and present day. An immersive installation comes to life in real time as I transform the space in real time. Viewers are invited to enter the artwork as if stepping into a painting. This reality, separate from ordinary life and traditional art viewing, highlights the social psyche linking place to the formation of self/identity.”

“Vibrant colors first appear joyous and light-hearted but upon closer inspection, formal arrangements of charged marks highlight the underlying damage masked by layers of paint. Emotional tendencies such as insecurity and dependence emerge alongside a compulsive process, exerting a need for control like posturing the self for public display. This work acknowledges the facade of the mediated image that is further perpetuated by social media. The material excess, self-aware in its presentation, questions narratives that equate wealth and external gratification to happiness. These experiential and abstract painted works focus on the present moment, imploring viewers to consider their relationship to the material world.”

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 864/735-3948 or visit (www.artcenter-greenville.org).

So you’re the Marketing Director of a visual arts organization, art museum, arts center, arts council or artist guild and you’re wondering why you never see the exhibits presented at your facility included here. Maybe you’re the owner of a commercial art gallery and you’ve never seen your exhibits included with others presented in your area. You might even be an individual artist who is having an exhibit in a non-profit space or commercial space and you don’t see your exhibits included. My question to you is - How long will you put up with that before you ask someone, “Why that is the case?” If you’re not included - it’s your fault. Send your info about exhibits to “Carolina Arts” by e-mail to (info@carolinaarts.com). Our deadline is the 24th of the month, at 5pm “prior” to the month your exhibit starts.