

Cabarrus County Arts Council in Concord, NC, Offers 2 New Exhibits

An exhibition featuring works by local artists and the annual Seagrove pottery show and sale will be on display through Dec. 18, 2014, at The Galleries of the Cabarrus County Arts Council in Concord, NC.

"Cabarrus County is bursting with talented artists," said Rebecca Collins, curator for exhibition and visual arts director of the Cabarrus Council which operates The Galleries. "When I began working for the arts council I was introduced to an abundance of wonderfully creative and accomplished local artists. Some of these artists worked just a few blocks away at the Clearwater Artist Studios. Others supported the council in one way or another - some volunteered, some served on our board, and some served on a committee. I immediately knew that I wanted to celebrate these artists and mount an exhibition dedicated to their work. The exhibition would provide an opportunity for the community to support local artists and nurture an appreciation for visual art within Cabarrus County."

Discover Local showcases artists working in a variety of media:

Regina Calton Burchett is a resident artist at Clearwater Artist Studios in Concord who works primarily in pastels. Her current paintings focus on nature and sky. She was a finalist in *The Artist Magazine's 29th Annual Art Competition*.

Robert Alvin Crum is an oil painter, sculptor, mosaic and mural artist who works out of his studio in Concord. He has received both an Emerging Artist Grant from the NC Arts Council and a Regional Artist Project Grant.



Work by Robert Alvin Crum

John Dunlap of Concord creates artwork from hand-manipulated Polaroids that reflect his love of French Impressionist art. His subjects range from landscapes and architecture to sports. He has been taking photographs, many of which have appeared in prominent publications, for more than 25 years in his role as a journalist and public relations professional.

Louise Farley is a resident artist at Clearwater Artist Studios in Concord who works primarily in oils and acrylics in the figurative genre with a free and expressive style. She has taught at the John C. Campbell Folk School and Knoxville Arts and Crafts Center.

Rachel Goldstein is an award-winning Charlotte, NC, photographer who specializes in documentary photography, visual narratives and digital collage and compositing. She teaches at Rowan-Cabarrus Community College and Central Piedmont Community College.

Allison McGowan Hermans creates her functional handbuilt highly textured porcelain pieces in her Concord home studio. Her forms are inspired by art nouveau architecture, patterns found in nature and the tailoring of sewn objects. She has taught and presented workshops nationally and internationally.

Patricia N. Jay is a Concord artist who finds joy and satisfaction in a variety of media especially clay, metals/jewelry, photography and canvas. She is profoundly influenced by the artists at Penland School of Crafts where she has worked, studied and volunteered.

Paul Keysar is an award-winning plein air painter and studio artist who works out of Clearwater Artist Studios in Concord. He is known for his classical, representational oil paintings of landscapes, still lifes and portraits. He was a finalist in *The*



Work by Allison McGowan Hermans

Artist Magazine's 31st Annual Art Competition in 2014.

Jerry Measimer of Richfield, NC, is an award-winning artist and woodturner specializing in wooden hats, bowls, vessels and other pieces. President of Southern Piedmont Woodturners for four years, he has conducted many workshops and classes in the art of woodturning.



Work by Walter Stanford

Jeff Pender of Mooresville, NC, is a ceramic artist who creates both functional and sculptural works. A former Affiliate artist at the McColl Center for Visual Art, he has received two Regional Artist Project Grants. He has taught at Wingate University and Central Piedmont Community College.

Jennie Martin Tomlin of Concord brings more than 50 years of passion and experience to her award-winning artwork. Most of her work is subjective with impressionistic style in watercolors or pastels, but she also explores abstracts in acrylics and alcohol inks. She has taught classes locally for many years.

Walter Stanford of Kannapolis, NC, is an award-winning fine artist who works in oils, acrylics, pastels and digital applications who is a resident artist at Clearwater Artist Studios in Concord. His works include landscapes and fantasy paintings. He has received a Regional Artist Project Grant and won first place in the Statewide Pastel Exhibition, *On Common Ground: Pastel Painting from the Mountains to the Sea*.

Shop Seagrove includes works from some of the leading artisans in the area: Crystal King Pottery, hand-building and colorful glazes on owls, pumpkins and vases; Dirtworks, contemporary functional pots in various colors and copper lustre Raku; Eck McCanless, spiral-patterned agaware and crystalline pottery; Joseph Sand Pottery, functional and sculptural clay pieces that blend the styles and traditions of England, East Asia and North Carolina; Kings Pottery, traditional salt-glazed pottery, functional stoneware and hand-formed folk art face jugs and animals; and Pottery by Frank Neef, crystalline glazed and pierced pieces influenced by the classic porcelains of the Song Dynasty in China and the Koryo Dynasty in Korea.

The Galleries are located in the Historic Cabarrus County Courthouse, in downtown Concord. The Galleries will be closed Nov. 11 and Nov. 22-Dec. 1, 2014. There are activities for children, including the "I Spy" scavenger hunt and "Art Boxes" in conjunction with the exhibition. Admission and activities are free.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Council at 704/920-2787 or visit (www.CabarrusArtsCouncil.org).

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Latin American Contemporary Art in Charlotte Offers Works by Cristina Toro

Latin American Contemporary Art Projects (LaCa) Gallery in Charlotte, NC, will present *Cristina Toro: Casa en el Cielo*, an exhibition that intuitively explores the relationship to nature, inner worlds and unknowable things, on view from Nov. 6 through Dec. 19, 2014.

LaCa Projects proudly presents this new collection of paintings by New York-based painter Cristina Toro. Her vibrant canvases are deeply rooted in her enchanted childhood in Puerto Rico. Her life there was filled with a menagerie of exotic pets and trips with her parents to the island's rain forests and El Morro Castle, a picturesque 16th century fort on the San Juan coast. When Toro was ten years old, her family moved to Florida where she would spend the remainder of her youth exploring the humid, swampy landscape.

The exhibition title *Casa en el Cielo* translates to House in the Sky. It is a lyric from the song *Tiempo y Silencio/Time and Silence* by the Cape Verdean singer Cesária Évora (1941-2010). Like the song, these paintings illustrate a mortal journey through time and space - a journey rite with discovery and loss, laughter and grief, love and longing. The radiant worlds conjured by Toro pulsate with exuberance and ravenous curiosity that sets their inhabitants soaring through the heavens and plunging into hallucinatory



Work by Cristina Toro

underwater realms.

Toro has been featured in solo and group exhibitions in Japan, Mexico, and the United States. She received her BA in painting from the University of South Florida in 2005. In 2007, she received a Strategic Opportunity Stipend from the New York Council for the Arts and a New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA) Painting Fellowship in 2010. Her work may be found in numerous private collections as well as the United States Embassy in Mexico, the Dana Farber Institute in Boston, Massachusetts, HPFRANCE in Tokyo, Japan, and Charlotte's own Mint Museum.

For more info check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call 704/837-1688 or e-mail to (info@lacaprojects.com).

The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be Nov. 24th for the December 2014 issue and Dec. 24 for the January 2015 issue. After that, it's too late unless your exhibit runs into the next month. But don't wait for the last minute - send your info now. And where do you send that info? E-mail to (info@carolinaarts.com).