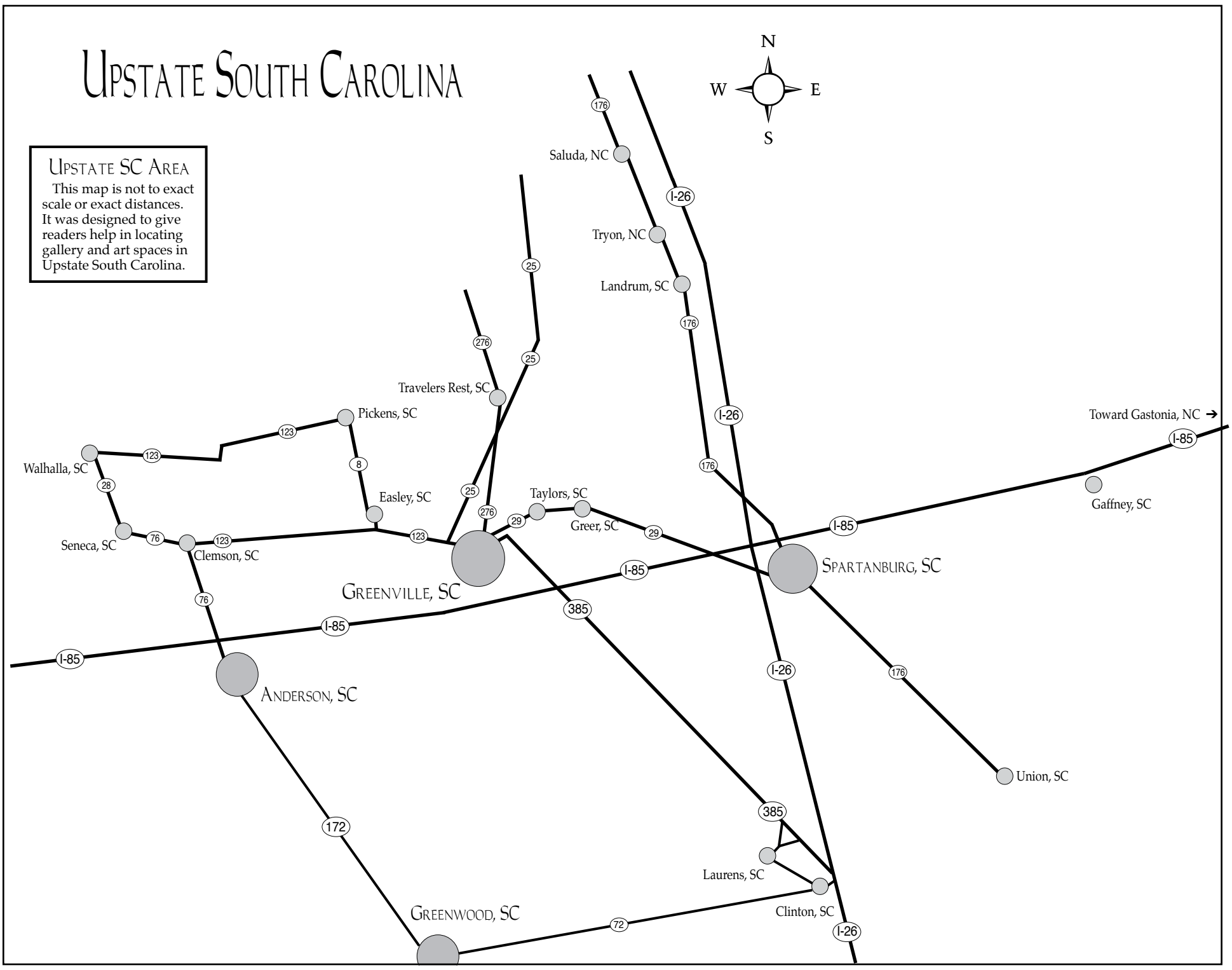

Carolina Gallery in Spartanburg

continued from Page 23 | back to Page 23

art as a freelance illustrator, a career that has spawned over 3,000 illustrations and maps for magazines, books, and advertising for clients including *National Geographic, Smithsonian, The New Yorker, Audubon, Harper's, The New York Times, Los Angeles Times, Washington Post*, and *Wall Street Journal*.

These five artists join Sara Bonk, Julia Burnett, Linda Cancel, Scott Cunningham, Gerard Erley, Jack Farmer, Robert LoGrippo, Guido Migiano, Henry Nguyen, Rich Nicoloff, Michelle Petty, Boyd Saunders, Sylvia Spears, Keith Spencer, Stephen Stinson, Staci Swider, Kate Thayer, Carey Watson, and David Zacharias.

Work by Robert Urban

Carolina Gallery is located on the edge of downtown Spartanburg on West Main Street across from the West Main Artist Coop.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 864/585-3335 or visit (www.carolinagalleryart.com).

USC Upstate in Spartanburg, SC, Features Works by Jim Arendt

USC Upstate in Spartanburg, SC, will present *Frayed*, a selection of denim drawings by prominent multidisciplinary artist, Jim Arendt, on view in the UPSTATE Gallery on Main, from Nov. 8 through Dec. 30, 2016. A reception will be held on Nov. 17, from 5-8pm. The exhibition features approximately a dozen of Arendt's recent works.

Inspired by his childhood growing up just outside the industrial city of Flint, MI, Arendt explores the effects of the changing industrial landscape on the working class while shattering romanticized ideals and stereotypes. In his work, Arendt portrays both individual struggles and larger economic and sociological issues through a variety of materials, but perhaps most strikingly with the ubiquitous fabric of denim. For the works included in *Frayed*, Arendt cut, sewed, and glued pieces of reclaimed denim, often donated by his subjects, into strongly emotive, life-sized portraits of his friends and family members.

Work by Jim Arendt

"Art making is a way for me to explore our changing relationship with labor," says Arendt. "My research focuses on transitions in macroeconomic structures through the lens of their effects on individual lives, communities, and

continued above on next column to the right

worker's relationships to the structures of labor itself. Casting the people I know best into the center of my work, I explore how the changing landscape of labor has defined them, not as they were or are, but as I know them to be."

Arendt, originally of Flint, MI, earned his BFA from Kendall College of Art and Design and MFA from University of South Carolina. Currently living in Conway, SC, Arendt is an Assistant Professor and Gallery Director at Coastal Carolina University. Arendt has completed two artist residencies and has been exhibited nationally and internationally in over 70 group and solo shows. Notably, Arendt was awarded the $50,000 top prize at ArtFields 2013, Best in Show at Hub-Bub Gallery's *Emerging Carolina* and at Fantastic Fibers at Reiser Art Center, Paducah, KY, and received the South Carolina Arts Commission Visual Artist Fellowship in 2014.

The Upstate Gallery on Main is the newest addition of the Upstate Carolina University's 3 gallery spaces. Located on E. Main Street in Spartanburg. It is a dedicated art space that houses and displays the university's permanent collection including works by Andy Warhol, Jerry Uelsmann, Jack Tworkov, and Beatrice Riese. Along with permanent collection work the front gallery houses a rotating schedule of regional and national artists' work. The gallery is primarily run by students as part of an on going internship program where they learn how to display, research, and promote the work on exhibit in the gallery.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or call Jane Nodine, Gallery Director at 864/503-5848.

USC-Upstate in Spartanburg, SC, Features Works by Tonya Gregg

USC-Upstate in Spartanburg, SC, will present *A Good Read in the Dynasty*, a selection of paintings and drawings by prominent multi-disciplinary artist, Tonya Gregg, on view in the Curtis R. Harley Art Gallery, from Nov. 4 through Dec. 2, 2016. A reception will be held on Nov. 10, beginning at 4:30pm.

In her imaginative, emotive paintings and drawings, Tonya Gregg explores issues of race, class, sexuality, consumption, and society's pressures and paradoxes regarding women of color. Inspired by pop culture ephemera such as fashion magazines and comic books and African motifs and historical narrative paintings, her works portray the inner worlds of young women striving for harmony among conflicting identities.

"The personal and social narratives depict women navigating the shifting cultural influences and paradoxical worlds of contemporary life in their endeavor to embrace their own personhood," said Gregg. "They are often surrounded by objects of desire that display their eclectic

Work by Tonya Gregg

tastes and interests. These women are on a personal quest to find a balance in life between sensual pleasures and intellectual and spiritual pursuits."

Born and raised in South Carolina, Gregg is a graduate of the Governor's School for the Arts in Greenville, SC. She earned her BFA and MA from Maryland

continued on Page 26