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Corrigan Gallery LLC in Charleston, SC, Features Works by Kristi Ryba

Corrigan Gallery LLC in Charleston, SC, will present the exhibit, *The Art and Science of Memory*, featuring new works by Kristi Ryba, on view from Dec. 1 – 30, 2011. A reception will be held on Dec. 2, from 5-8pm, during the French Quarter Art Gallery Association Artwalk.



Work by Kristi Ryba

The materials used by Ryba demand a great deal of time and preparation. She is using gouache or egg tempera, often on vellum with gold leaf, and creating her own framing. Her subject matter requires much research, decision making and time spent with old family photographs as well as images of Medieval artwork. Studying the altarpiece predellas and illuminated manuscripts and infusing that manner of imagery with the photographs taken by Ryba's father create the results seen in the show *The Art and Science of Memory*.

The photographs used are those that

document Ryba's childhood and family life. The artist questions, "Are these real memories or only memories of being told about these events while looking at the photographs?" This process of repeated, deep study of the images brings a fresh perspective and a new vision of the family of the 1950s. Religion, cultural messages, myths and iconography are combined with the imagery from the photographic collection to produce new works of art in the manner of the Medieval and Renaissance illuminations.

Ryba says, "I reconstruct a reality from a borrowed memory and combine personal memory with family history. It seems to me a special gift to use these photographs in this way. It is an honor to my parent's memory and more importantly a way to examine and question the culture and ideals of that period of our collective history in which many of us were shaped."

Exhibiting since 1990 in both solo and group shows, Ryba's work has toured through the Southeast in painting and printmaking exhibitions. She has won various awards and scholarships including two South Carolina Arts Commission Project Grants. A magna cum laude graduate of the College of Charleston, Ryba also studied at Vermont Studio School and Studio Camnitzer in Valdovavvo, Lucca, Italy, and has her MFA from Union Institute and University, Vermont College in Montpelier, Vermont.

A founding organizer of Print Studio South, Inc., Ryba served as president and on the Board of Directors, and has taught locally. Ryba was included in the 2002 Piccolo Spoleto exhibit, *Larger Than Life: A Second Story Show*, *Contemporary Charleston 2004*, and in *Helping Hands: an artist's debut among friends*, in 2005. Ryba exhibited at Silo, in New York City specifically in the show entitled *Hibernation* which was featured in the *New York Times*

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and in the SoHo 20 Gallery show *Adam's Rib, Eve's Air in Her Hair*. Ryba's paintings for her solo show of 2007, *Keeping House*, continued her theme of women's work and home. This current exhibition continues the family theme.

In its seventh year, Corrigan Gallery is the culmination of 23 years of experience in the Charleston art market. Representing more than a dozen artists in an intimate space, the gallery presents a new show almost every month and invites visiting artists to join in. Other gallery artists include

Manning Williams, Duke Hagerty, Lynne Riding, Sue Simons Wallace, Gordon Nicholson, John Moore, William Meisburger, Mary Walker, Lese Corrigan, Paul Mardikian and John Hull. These artists are locals.

A gallery of contemporary works exploring the depth and intellect behind the drive to create, Corrigan Gallery provides a depth to the historic city's traditional bent.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 843/722-9868 or visit (www.corrigangallery.com).

Nina Liu and Friends in Charleston, SC, Features Works by Aggie Zed

Nina Liu and Friends in Charleston, SC, rings in the holiday season with an exhibition of work by Aggie Zed. Entitled *From A to Z*, the exhibition will be on view from Dec. 2, 2011, through January 20, 2012. An opening reception will take place from 5 - 7pm on Friday, Dec. 2, 2011.

From A to Z anticipates Zed's solo exhibition, *Keeper's Keep*, that the Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art at the College of Charleston School of the Arts will present in Jan. 2012.

Zed combines pastel and ink in her works on paper to produce haunting, dreamlike images. She sprays the surfaces of the images with water to produce drips and runs of color that form webs across the drawings' surfaces. The words and phrases that often appear in her drawings can illuminate their meaning, but just as often they can have the opposite effect.

Working with clay, copper wire and found objects, Zed creates "scrap floats" that attract the viewer's attention through their interesting juxtapositions of elements. Like the drawings, these small sculptures often seem to arise from the realm of sleep.

Zed's smaller sculptures of animals, humans and hybrid beings feature delicate details in fingers and facial expressions and bring to mind ancient stories of metamorphosis.

Zed, who grew up on Sullivan's Island, SC, earned her undergraduate degree at the University of South Carolina. A few years after graduating Zed moved to Virginia, where she continues to work on her drawings and sculptures.

The Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts have awarded fellowships to Zed. Her work has appeared in exhibitions at both the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and the Anderson Gallery at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA; the Sawtooth Center for the Visual Arts in Winston-Salem, NC; the Mint Museum of Art in Charlotte, NC; and the Spruill Center Gallery in Atlanta, GA.

From A to Z is the last scheduled exhibition for Nina Liu and Friends. (Liu soon will move to Mexico.)

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings or call the gallery at 843/722-2724.

The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be Dec. 24th for the January 2011 issue and Jan. 24 for the February 2012 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.

E-mail to (info@carolinaarts.com) or mail to: Carolina Arts, P.O. Drawer 427, Bonneau, SC 29431