

Asheville Art Museum in Asheville, NC, Features Works From Atelier 17

The Asheville Art Museum in Asheville, NC, is presenting *American Art in the Atomic Age: 1940–1960*, which explores the groundbreaking contributions of artists who worked at the experimental printmaking studio Atelier 17 in the wake of World War II. Co-curated by Marilyn Laufer and Tom Butler, *American Art in the Atomic Age* which draws from the holdings of Dolan/Maxwell, the Asheville Art Museum Collection, and private collections will be on view through Apr. 29, 2024.

“We are delighted to partner with the Asheville Art Museum to present an exhibition that highlights the brilliance of the Atelier 17 studio and artists during the Atomic Age,” says Ron Rumford, Director of Dolan/Maxwell. “Though challenged by the times, Atelier 17 preserved and pioneered a legacy in printmaking that still inspires.”

Atelier 17 operated in New York for fifteen years, between 1940 and 1955. The studio’s founder, Stanley William Hayter (1901–1988) established the workshop in Paris but relocated to New York just as the Nazi occupation of Paris began in 1940. Hayter’s new studio attracted European emigrants like André Masson, Yves Tanguy, and Joan Miró, as well as American artists like Dorothy Dehner, Judith Rothschild, and Karl Schrag, allowing for an exchange of artistic ideas and processes between European and American artists.



Dorothy Dehner, *Woman #2*, 1954, watercolor and ink on paper, 22 3/4 x 18”, courtesy of Dolan Maxwell.

versation with works by European Surrealists who were working at the studio in the 1940s and 1950s. The exhibition will also feature a selection of domestic mid-century objects that exemplify how the ideas and aesthetics of post-war abstraction became a part of everyday life.

Tom Butler, co-curator, shared, “This exhibition is a testament to the enduring influence of the Atelier 17 studio and the artists’ contributions to modern printmaking. It’s a celebration of the many different ways they used their art to interpret and respond to a conflicted world.”

American Art in the Atomic Age: 1940–1960 is organized by the Asheville Art Museum. Thanks to Dolan/Maxwell and our private collectors for the loan of artworks to this exhibition, and for their support of the Museum.

Established by artists and incorporated in 1948, the Asheville Art Museum is committed to being a vital force in community and individual development and to providing lifelong opportunities for education and enrichment through the visual arts. The Museum’s mission is to engage, enlighten, and inspire individuals and enrich community through dynamic experiences in American art of the 20th and 21st centuries. The Museum is dedicated to advancing diversity, equity, access, and inclusion—now and in the future—and we welcome all visitors without discrimination. The Museum acknowledges that it is situated upon the ancient, southern Appalachian ancestral homeland of the Cherokee Tribe and that this region is still the home of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians today. The Museum is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (ashevillearth.org).



Minna Wright Citron, *Squid Under Pier*, 1948, color etching, soft-ground, and engraving on paper, edition 42/50, 15 x 17 7/8 inches, 2010 Collections Circle purchase, Asheville Art Museum. © Estate of Minna Citron/Licensed by VAGA at ARS, New York.

“American Art in the Atomic Age presents a collection of artworks showcasing the diversity and depth of creativity in response to the hardships of war and social change,” said co-curator Marilyn Laufer. “Visitors will have the opportunity to see work by both Atelier 17 artists and their contemporaries, providing an intriguing aspect of this transformative period in American Art.”

The Asheville Art Museum will present over 100 works that exemplify the cross-cultural exchange and profound social and political impact of Atelier 17 on American art. Prints made at Atelier 17 - including those by Stanley William Hayter, Louise Nevelson, and Perle Fine - will be in con-

Southern Highland Craft Guild in Asheville, NC, Offers New Focus Gallery Exhibition

The Southern Highland Craft Guild in Asheville, NC, is presenting *Creating Textures*, on view in the Focus Gallery, at the Folk Art Center features the work of five Guild Members, on view through Feb. 28, 2024.

This exhibition features the work of five Guild members: Michael Hatch (glass), Valerie Berlage (wood), Joseph Rhodes (jewelry), Barry Rhodes (clay), and Joanna Warren (leather).

The glass face jugs in the exhibit are by glassblower, Michael Hatch, Guild member since 2005. “My Face Jug series is inspired by ceramic vessels made in the Appalachian region for over one hundred years,” states Hatch. “When I first started this series twenty years ago there was no one else making Appalachian style face jugs in glass. Each piece in this series begins by blowing and shaping the vessel. The facial features are made by applying and sculpting bits of molten glass. The textures and colors



Work by Joanna Warren

are created by sifting colored glass powders onto the surface during the blowing process.”

The wooden landscapes on display are made from assembling blocks of painted or natural wood, cut and crafted by Guild

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member Valerie Berlage (member since 2015). When asked about her process, she states, “Sometimes the materials dictate the piece. Especially in the case of the natural landscapes. While wood is a renewable resource, I do try to be as sustainable as possible and I source off-cuts from other woodworkers. Pieces that are too small for furniture makers are great for me, and it saves them from either going in the dump or the fire. That way I’m not creating a need for as much “new” wood. Because color is a big part of my design, what I have access to (in terms of species and coloring) directly influences the end result.”

The jewelry on display is made from sterling silver and features a variety of smooth stones: amethyst cabochon, garnet, aquamarine, and peach moonstones. Artist Joseph Rhodes (member since 2018) began his jewelry-making journey as a dentist with an appreciation for precious metals and fabricating his first piece of jewelry: his wife’s wedding ring. “Most of my time is spent in my studio designing precious metal and gemstone jewelry by metal forming and lost wax casting,” states Rhodes. “With my family’s encouragement, this is a senior’s start to a new career.”

The utilitarian pottery on display glazed with cool tones of blues and grays are by Guild member Barry Rhodes (member since 2021). Creating textures is something this potter always keeps in mind. “The user of my pottery should be able to feel that the pot was made by a person and not stamped out by a machine. A cup should feel organic emanating from the earth and be comforting to hold,” states Barry Rhodes.



Work by Michael Hatch

The Southern Highland Craft Guild is a non-profit, educational organization established in 1930 to cultivate the crafts and makers of the Southern Highlands for the purpose of shared resources, education, marketing and conservation. The Southern Highland Craft Guild is an authorized concessioner of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. The Folk Art Center is located at Milepost 382 of the Blue Ridge Parkway, just north of the Highway 70 entrance in east Asheville, NC.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Guild at 828/298-7928 or visit (www.southernhighlandguild.org).

Pink Dog Creative in Asheville, NC, Offers A Show on the Color Pink

Pink Dog Creative in Asheville, NC, will present *The Colors of Pink*, featuring works by the Pink Dog Creative artists, on view in Pink Dog Gallery, from Dec. 8 through Feb. 3, 2024. A reception will be held on Dec. 9, from 5-7pm.

Pink Dog Creative artists are excited to present *The Colors of Pink*, a collaborative

show about the creative studio’s unusual name. Each artist will present artwork that explores and represents the role of color in their work.

Artists in this exhibit include: Karen Keil Brown, Christie Calaycay, Heather Divoky, Julieta Fumberg, Pam Granger Gale, Aaron *continued on Page 19*