

American Folk Art in Asheville, NC, Offers Some of Your Favorite Things

American Folk Art in Asheville, NC, will present *A Few of Our Favorite Things*, on view from Dec. 4 - 30, 2024. A reception will be held on Dec. 4, from 5-8pm.

It's the most wonderful time of the year, folks!

At the close of the year, here at American Folk we celebrate with a little bit of everything we love! Throughout the year, we tuck away the extra special pieces that come along on our artist visits and save them for this exciting show. With new work from 16 of your favorite artists, there's something for everyone on your list in *A Few of Our Favorite Things!*



Work by Michael Banks

this year's show!

In keeping with our yearly tradition, we will have a wide selection of unique tree ornaments to choose from: miniature face jugs from Wayne Hewell, Carl Block, & Tim Whitten; hand-carved & painted 'critter' ornaments from Kentucky sculptors Lonnie & Twyla Money; gorgeous sculpted ceramic baubles from Ben J. North; joyful polka-dot painted adornments from Peter Loose; and seasonal vignette paintings from Liz Sullivan, just the right size to hang from your garlands and greenery.

Stay tuned all December long, as new work will arrive throughout the season! Join us however you are able as we celebrate the spirit of the season and prepare to welcome the coming year with art in our hearts!

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/281-2134 or visit (www.amerfolk.com).



Works by Lonnie & Twyla Money

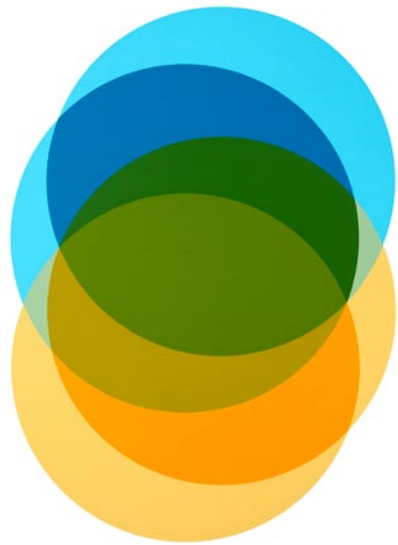
season of light and gift-giving with spirited work from Jack Klippel, Carl Block, Michael Banks, Liz Sullivan, Wayne Hewell, Tim Whitten, Tres Taylor, Winton & Rosa Eugene, Peter Loose, Karl Mullen, Ben J. North, James Buddy Snipe, Lonnie & Twyla Money, Kent Ambler, and more! Whether you are looking to add to your own collection, or giving the gift of art this season, there are so many exciting pieces in

Bender Gallery in Asheville, NC, Features Works by Angela Johal

The Bender Gallery in Asheville, NC, will present works by Angela Johal, on view from Dec. 1 - 22, 2024.

Bender Gallery is pleased to present a solo exhibition of paintings delving into themes of time and light by widely exhibited and prolific artist, Angela Johal. Her work is inspired by growing up in the San Francisco Bay Area in the 1960s and 70s and the California Minimalism Movement.

Johal is a savvy disciple of the hard-edge geometric painters of the 1960s, with her new series of works continuing the work done by the California Minimalists, also known as the Light and Space Movement. The series "Music of the Spheres" and "Portals" are stripped down from her previous work, entering into the territory of Minimalism. The artist who coined the term in 1929, David Burliuk, wrote, 'Minimalism derives its name from the minimum of operating means. Minimalist painting is purely realistic - the subject being the painting itself.'

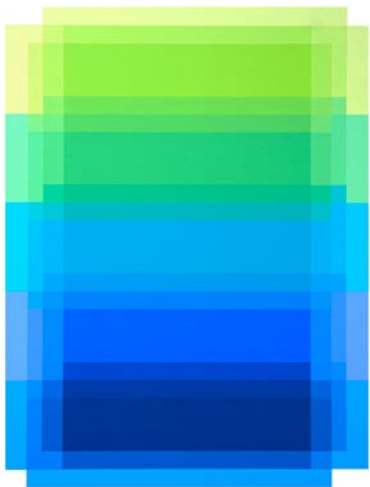


Work by Angela Johal

The fast-paced California lifestyle creates a longing to retreat into the minimal designs of architecture, furniture, and art. My clean lines, strong compositions, attention to light and transparent illusions, soft color gradations, and vibrant colors are influenced by my environment."

Johal's geometric paintings are all done by hand, and she invents tools and uses taping as a method to create the purest lines. The precise lines allow the viewer no distractions to fully take in the color exploration. Her vibrant acrylic paintings are executed on sanded canvas and unframed. Referring back to Burliuk's quote from above, although there aren't any recognizable figures or objects in her paintings, the painting in its physical form is what is real. A frame would interrupt the flow of the ground as it meets the wall that it's hung on. Johal paints in her studio near a large window that looks out onto her garden. The hues of the flowers, leaves, branches, and atmosphere all impact the choice of colors she uses in a particular work. Other events like a California earthquake or the look of a vintage record can inspire her designs, but she really enjoys when her paintings can hold many layers of meaning.

Angela Johal (b. 1962, USA), holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from San Jose continued above on next column to the right



Work by Angela Johal

The "Music of the Spheres" series utilizes circles of gradations of color that overlap in areas, creating portals. Due to the shapes and music inspiration of this series, there's a sense of sound emanating from what could be interpreted as planetary bodies. The artist states: "California Minimalists are influenced by the light quality, climate, water, horizons, spectacular sunsets, and year-round color in the landscape.

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State University in San Jose, CA. Johal has taken part in solo and group exhibitions in prestigious institutes such as de Young Museum, San Francisco; SFMOMA Artist's Gallery, San Francisco; and in art galleries in Los Angeles, Boston, New York City, Montreal, and more.

Bender Gallery is a contemporary fine art gallery exhibiting national and international artists in downtown Asheville, NC.

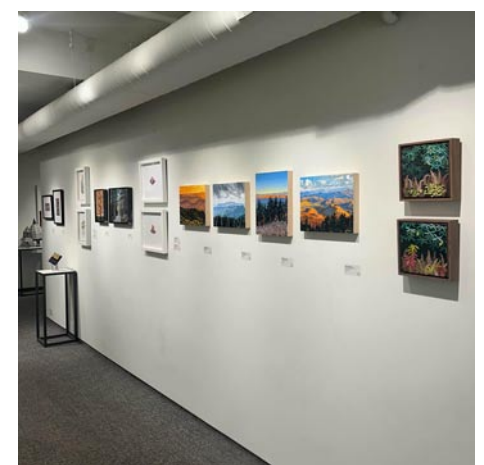
For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/505-8341 or e-mail to (Info@bender-gallery.com).

Momentum Gallery in Asheville, NC, Offers Two New Exhibitions

Momentum Gallery in Asheville, NC, is presenting two new exhibits including a solo exhibition of works by Amber Cowan and its annual *Small Works / Big Impact* show, both on view through Feb. 1, 2025.

Amber Cowan is a contemporary glass sculptor whose practice is based on the use of recycled, upcycled, and second-life American pressed glass. Through processes of frameworking, hot-sculpting, and glassblowing, she creates wall-mounted and freestanding tableaus, rich with texture & ornamentation.

Her recent diorama-style pieces tell stories of self-discovery, escapism, and the power of the feminine by utilizing figurines and animals found in collected antique glass pieces.



View of the "Small Works / Big Impact" exhibit



Work by Amber Cowan

Cowan is a highly accomplished young artist. She is the recipient of the Rakow Commission from the Corning Museum

of Glass (2014), a US Artists Fellowship (2021), and the Delphi Award from the Smithsonian Women's Committee (2023). Last year, Cowan's exhibition at Heller Gallery was reviewed in the *New York Times*. Her work can be found in the permanent collections of over a dozen museums worldwide including the Museum of Art and Design in New York, the Museum of Fine Arts Houston, and the Shanghai Museum of Glass.

Small Work / Big Impact is Momentum Gallery's annual group exhibition which delivers a curated collection of paintings and mixed media works, original prints, and sculptural objects in carved brick, reed, and repurposed materials, etc. Professional experience and visual expression are concentrated in new, intimately scaled pieces by gallery standouts and special guests.

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