

Art Trail Gallery in Florence, SC, Features Works by Artists Associated with Cotton and Tobacco Trails

The Art Trail Gallery in Florence, SC, will present the exhibit, *A Celebration of Many Talents: Artisans of the Cotton Trail & the Tobacco Trail*, on view through Mar. 4, 2011. The exhibition features works by artists who are working in the areas of two of South Carolina's heritage and cultural trails, whose mission is to bring together artists, artisans and the retailers of their work for the benefits of marketing, tourism, education and shared resources.



work by Gloria Turner

Artists with works included in the exhibition are: Ann Dowling, Pollie Bristow, Jack Clayton, Denny Stevenson, Barbara Mellen, Gloria Turner, Linda Humphries, Suzanne Muldrow, Heidi Bond, Anne Baldwin, Carolyn McCoy Govan, Lori Kaim, Tony Morano, Beth Wicker, Susan A. Allen, Vicky McLain, Bob Feury, Ed & Barbara Streeter, Brenda Hardwick, Patz Fowle, Patrick Showalter, Holly Young Beaumier, Greg Benner, Ina Ingram, MJ Martin, Beth Wicker, John Johnson, Ruth Cox, MJ Martin, Jo Furman, James Fernandes, and Emily Estes.

The majority of these unique artistic creations will be available for purchase.

One special feature of the exhibit will be a reproduction of the hand-blown glass ornament produced by Ed & Barbara Streeter of Conway that decorated the White House Christmas tree this year.

The South Carolina Cotton Trail (<http://www.sccottontrail.org/>), stretch-

ing from I-95 to I-20, traces the influence of cotton on the lives and towns of rural South Carolina. Comprised of the towns of Bennettsville, Bishopville, Chesterfield, Cheraw, Clio, Darlington, Hartsville, and Society Hill, the South Carolina Cotton Trail visits museums, gardens, market towns, cotton fields and homesteads.



work by Tony Morano

The South Carolina Tobacco Trail (<http://www.sctobaccotrail.com/>), was organized to create a regional heritage marketing initiative which will provide a vehicle for neighboring communities to jointly market the historical, cultural and nature-based assets of their respective areas in a combined effort with the end result of preserving, conserving and celebrating the cultural heritage of agriculture and tobacco and its impact on the regional economy. The trail is comprised of the towns of Conway, Darlington, Lake City, Latta, Mullins, and other areas in Florence County.

The Art Trail Gallery is an all-volunteer gallery space located at 135 South Dargan Street in downtown Florence. The Gallery features the work of local artists throughout the Pee Dee Region of South Carolina. Works are available for sale unless noted otherwise. The Art Trail Gallery is also home to the studio of well-known sculptor, Alex Palkovich. The Art Trail Gallery would not be possible without the interest and support of its many daily visitors and the Florence Downtown Development Corporation, the sponsors of the Gallery and the owners of the building.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call Jane Madden at 843/673-0729 or visit (<http://www.art-trail-gallery.com>).

Florence Museum in Florence, SC, Offers Exhibition Dealing with the Area's History

The Florence Museum in Florence, SC, is presenting the exhibit, *Florence Photo Album*, on view through Mar. 13, 2011. This exhibit will give visitors a chance to see snapshots of the city of Florence during its growth years in the first half of the twentieth century. These photographs from the museum's archives will be presented in large scale and will be accented with maps, memorabilia and related objects.

"One highlight of the show will be a converted movie reel that shows about 40 minutes of footage taken in Florence in the mid 1930's," said museum curator, Stephen Motte. "It's interesting to see the video showing how different things are now compared to then, but it also makes

you realize a lot of things haven't really changed at all." Visitors with ties to people and places throughout Florence County are encouraged to call and bring in their stories and family photos to share with museum staff, who have planned to document them for use in the future.

"Working at this museum has made us realize that Florence's history is more dynamic than you might expect, and this project will be an ongoing effort to document, directly, the personal side of our story, something rarely found 'on the record'." These documentaries will also support the planning strategy for a new museum facility, which will be constructed in downtown Florence. Exhibit development and design are the focus of frequent collaborative work sessions between museum staff and project partner firm, Haley Sharpe Design.

Motte boasts, "It's a rewarding experience to be working with Haley Sharpe. Their resumé is incredible; they've designed and built exhibits for prestigious institutions all over the world. I think Florence will be well rewarded."

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 843/662-3351 or visit (www.florencemuseum.org).



moonshine bust in Florence

Francis Marion University

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Master of Fine Arts at Alfred University in New York.

Scotchie exhibits her work extensively throughout the US and abroad, and has received numerous awards including the Sydney Meyer Fund International Ceramics Premiere Award from the Shepparton Museum in Victoria, Australia. She has lectured internationally on her work and been an Artist in Residence in Taiwan, Italy, Australia and the Netherlands. Her clay forms reside in many public and private collections and reviews about her work appear in prestigious ceramic publications.

"In my work I am interested in the quality of the familiar thing we see everyday but really don't see because we see them everyday," says Scotchie. "Then I work at putting the objects I make together. Making objects is a habitual activity. The objects I make are often abstractions from the intimately known things that populate my everyday world. My son's toys, my father's hat or an old kitchen funnel. Sometimes objects I make come into being through the act of making, making, making. It is not always about the objects, it is also about the making. This is what I know and what I am passionate about. Then I begin to understand the what I am seeing."

Scotchie goes on to say, "I have an obsession with spouts, handles and knobs. This probably comes from being a potter when I first worked in clay. I think it is also about wanting my work to be verb-like in its reference to the everyday. Because I work with objects, I think about the arrangement of these objects in space. This is often an intuitive, spontaneous act. I want the space that my work inhabits to serve as a domain that is halfway between the concrete reality of the things I make and that of the meaning objects acquire when they are perceived in the subjective terms of the self."

Larry Schuh is a producing artist and

educator living in Crowley, LA. Currently an associate professor at McNeese State University, he has taught courses in drawing, printmaking, gallery internship, screen printing, photo itaglio and lithogra-



work by Larry Schuh


phy. His work has been featured in dozens of national and international exhibitions, and he is in demand for panels, lectures and workshops around the country.

"I made a decision to work in a variety of processes a long time ago. The evolution of my concepts grew with my increasing ability to draw and conceptualize. Printmaking and drawing, along with painting, were my areas of interest," say Schuh.

"Images and ideas come to me often. So, rather than casting past ideas aside, I find it refreshing to go back in and bring some of those images from my 'image bank,' back to life."

"The computer has been a wonderful tool for me," continues Schuh, adding, "I do not use it exclusively to make art. I do use the technology at times to prepare for an original print. My printmaking experiences have given me an advantage when working digitally. Some people actually will argue with me that some finished digital prints are screen prints when in reality they are digital prints. That is a sign of success for me."

For more info check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call 843/661-1385 or visit (<http://departments.fmarion.edu/finearts/gallery.htm>).



Arts International

A celebration of Art and Culture

FLORENCE, S.C. – Applications from local artists are being sought for the seventh annual Art Show to be held during Arts International on **Saturday, April 9**, on the Francis Marion University campus.

The festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public. This one-day art exhibition sales event is designed to promote the quality of diverse artisans residing in the region. In addition to booths displaying items for sale, several sites will have artisans demonstrating their skills. The art show will be juried, with artisan awards of \$600, \$300 and \$150 awarded to first, second and third places, respectively.

Area artists are invited to participate. There is an application/jury fee of \$75 (\$65 for Florence County residents). The application deadline has been extended to Feb. 1st.

Held for its second year, the new festival, Arts International, features the best from Art's Alive and the Pee Dee International Festival.

For more information contact Kathy Johnson at the FMU Office of Public and Community Affairs at 843-661-1225, or www.fmarion.edu/news/artsinternational.

Francis Marion University