

# ChathamArts Gallery in Pittsboro, NC, Features Works by Anne Bigelow, Sharon Blessum and Lynette Russell

ChathamArts Gallery in Pittsboro, NC, will present the exhibit, *Influences from the Wider World*, featuring the work of jewelry artist Anne Bigelow, photographer and poet Sharon Blessum and paper artist Lynette Russell, on view from Feb. 3 through Mar. 27, 2011.

Anne Bigelow has traveled extensively throughout the world. Her designs in stone and silver are shaped by the influences of diverse cultures. "The stones and metals in my hands tell me what to make of them. Some necklaces are delicate and refined. Some are wild and demand to be noticed. All are unique. I never duplicate myself. That is the satisfaction and fun of making distinctive jewelry to enhance a woman's face."

Sharon Blessum grew up under the prairie skies of North Dakota. "The luminous canopy at day and play of Northern Lights at night fed my ethereal nature. My soul joins the sacred conversation through a visual process involving camera and computer, and a verbal process of words flowing from an internal landscape." Her work for this show at the ChathamArts

Gallery is entitled *The Medicine Wheel*.

Lynette Russell, after retiring from her profession as a nurse-midwife has studied paper and book making at Penland School of Crafts for the past nine years. Having lived in other countries for 17 years her understanding of the development of paper and the evolution of book forms has been influenced by many cultures. "I find the process of creating a transforming experience. It is enlightening to use hand tools and skills that are not used much in today's world. The personal interaction with basic materials gives special meaning and value to the creation. It imparts a bit of the soul of the maker. Making books and other paper arts is a wonderful adventure that enhances my life, and hopefully those of others."

ChathamArts Gallery provides a year round home to fifty North Carolina artists with the work of featured artists being displayed for 2 month exhibitions.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the gallery at 919/542-4144 or visit ([www.chathamarts.org](http://www.chathamarts.org)).

staining, unweaving, and reweaving. The resulting binary image/cloth is a record of the making process, and as an inkblot invites further investigation and interpretation.



A Raleigh native, Donnelly received undergraduate degrees in Psychology and Art & Design from North Carolina State University in 2006. As a graduating senior, she was a recipient of the prestigious Windgate Fellowship. She returned to school for her MFA in Fibers, earning her degree from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2010. Recent exhibitions include *Fiberart International 2010*, *Almost*

*Famous*, Reynolds Gallery, Richmond, VA, and *Multiple Personalities*, Craft Alliance, St. Louis, MO. Her work will be included in the *2011 Rijswijk Textile Biennial* in the Netherlands.

Artspace, a thriving visual art center located in downtown Raleigh, brings the creative process to life through inspiring and engaging education and community outreach programming, a dynamic environment of over 30 professional artists studios, and nationally acclaimed exhibitions. Approximately 95 artists hold professional memberships in the Artspace Artists Association. Thirty-five of these artists have studios located at Artspace.

Artspace is supported by the North Carolina Arts Council, the United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County, the Raleigh Arts Commission, individuals, corporations, and private foundations.

For further info check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call 919/821-2787 or visit ([www.artspacecnc.org](http://www.artspacecnc.org)).

# Adam Cave Fine Art in Raleigh, NC, Offers Exhibit Spanning 150 Years

Adam Cave Fine Art in Raleigh, NC, will present the exhibit, *100 Plus Years of the Human Story as Seen Through the Eyes of Artists*, featuring works on paper dating back 150 years and including some of the biggest names in Art History: Mary Cassatt, James McNeil Whistler, Paul Cezanne, Robert Kipness, William Barnett and Romare Bearden to name a few. The exhibit will be on view from Feb. 4 through Mar. 19, 2011.



work by Romare Bearden

The exhibit includes over twenty-five works on display and for sale spanning the decades since the late 19th Century with styles ranging from the Turn of the Century Impressionism and French Belle Époque, 1940's American Realism reminiscent of the WPA, as well as more recent contemporary cubist and pop styles.

Realism dominates this show of mostly

original printmaking full of fashionable ladies, family relationships, work life and leisure time as well as nostalgic images of rural farming and the growth of industry. All of the etchings, drypoints, engravings, wood block prints and lithographs in the exhibit come from private collections and have not been shown publicly before. Although there is a focus on original prints, the show has an immense variety of styles that reflect the changes in art and aesthetics over the 20th Century and might be looked at like a mini Art History survey course.

On one end is the delicate, fluid line work in the drypoint of a mother and child, *Looking in the Hand Mirror* by the ex-patriot American impressionist Mary Cassatt. Although influenced by fellow French Impressionists as well as earlier Japanese woodblock prints, Cassatt's focus on women and children was fresh in 1905. Jump forward 80 years and you find the bold, stylistic lithographs of African American artist Romare Bearden, a North Carolina native. One can clearly see the influences of African art as well as cubist collage by the likes of Picasso in Bearden's lithograph *Firebirds*.

The late 19th Century is well represented with works by Whistler, Somme, Cassatt, Tissot and Cezanne. Highlights from the 30's and 40's include lithographs by Harry Sternberg and Gordon Grant as well as a pin and ink drawing of Rockwell Kent. Later pieces by Romare Bearden, Robert Kipness and William Barnett demonstrate a revival in printmaking that took place in the 1970s and 80s.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 919/272-5958 or visit ([www.adamcavefineart.com](http://www.adamcavefineart.com)).

# Artspace in Raleigh, NC, Features Works by Andrea Donnelly

Artspace in Raleigh, NC, is presenting the exhibit, *Mindbody*, featuring works by Andrea Donnelly, on view in Gallery Two Feb. 4 - Mar. 26, 2011.

In weaving cloth by hand, Andrea Donnelly explores the relationships between her physical body and her mental space. She employs cloth as both a literal and metaphorical record of the body, by drawing on cloth's intimate relationship with each of us, and by the very process of weaving. Building cloth thread by thread, the movements of her body as weaver are recorded within its structure.

Donnelly's large-scale figurative works and her inkblot series come together in the exhibition *Mindbody*. In her figurative pieces, she paints an image of her body onto thread, and then weaves the cloth through the image. These figures and the unique qualities of the handwoven cloths containing them project emotional states and psychological landscapes. Donnelly's inkblot series directly explores the translation of body movement into cloth. The blots are created through a complex yet highly spontaneous process of weaving,

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# 311 West Martin Street Gallery and Studios in Raleigh, NC, Offers Works by Gayle Stott Lowry

311 West Martin Street Gallery and Studios in Raleigh, NC, are presenting the exhibit, *Passing Through: New Paintings by Gayle Stott Lowry*, on view through Feb. 28, 2011.

The exhibition includes richly painted, precarious and provocative terrains from the American west.

Lowry offers the following statement about this exhibit, "We frequently move through our lives traversing easy paths on level ground or sometimes gaining momentum on downhill slopes. At other times we struggle to establish a foothold on rocky, uphill terrain. During the arduous passages, we might stumble, hesitate or retreat. We attempt to gather the strength and resources to move forward. Where we are heading? Why is this path so difficult? What is to be gained from this passage? Will we know the answer once we're further down the path?"

"These transitions between divergent places test us," Lowry continues. "At first, our resistance to change and uncertainty seems ingrained. The future is obscure. All we can hold onto is this current moment in our existence. Acceptance of and engagement with the context of our lives is our starting point. Acknowledgment of the infinitesimal nature of human existence and the relevance of life, no matter how brief, opens the way. We are all part of an ever-moving, ineffable process. Trust that process and know that the only certainty is that we are moving toward what awaits us. We are passing through this life that we call ours."

Lowry's work is collected nationally by individuals and corporations alike and has been acquired by the North Carolina Museum of Art. She studied Art and Primary Education at East Carolina Univer-

sity. Lowry continued her studies of painting with Wolf Kahn and Sidney Goodman and was awarded a Residency at the Vermont Studio Center. Her art has been exhibited in shows at Meredith College, Duke University, the Fayetteville Museum



of Art, the University of Virginia, and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She has also presented lectures at the Lucy Daniels Foundation, the Duke Museum of Art, the Mint Museum of Art, the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, the Asheville Art Museum, and the Los Angeles Psychoanalytic Institute.

311 West Martin Street Galleries and Studios is located in the Warehouse District of Raleigh, including gallery spaces, tenant studios, and a print studio. The exhibition spaces feature the work of tenant artists and alternately, that of emerging artists as well as some of Raleigh's favorite established artists. The Print Studio, established by printmaker Judy Jones is located in the back of the facility. Starting out as a private studio space it has evolved into a common studio for tenant printmakers and a meeting place for The North Carolina Printmakers.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call 919/821-2262 or visit ([www.311galleriesandstudios.org](http://www.311galleriesandstudios.org)).

# Columbia Museum of Art in Columbia, SC, Offer Photography Exhibition

Columbia Museum of Art in Columbia, SC, will present the exhibit, *The Presence of Absence*, an exhibit that celebrates photographers who challenge the audience's perception of the 'reality' depicted in a photograph by capturing what is both present and absent-what is seen and what is not seen. The exhibition on view in Gallery 15 will be on view from Feb. 25 through May 1, 2011.

This exhibition of 31 photographs, drawn from a private collection, is shown in connection with the upcoming major photography exhibition, *Who Shot Rock & Roll*, which also opens Feb. 25.

In *Who Shot Rock and Roll*, the power of the images is in their ability to capture and document the energy, performance, and celebrity of Rock and Roll music. Recognition and immediacy are para-

mount. In *The Presence of Absence*, the familiar is disguised and the image within the photograph is symbolic of a larger unseen narrative.

"We are forced to contemplate and imagine the reality that lies outside the boundaries of the photograph and its image-whether it's Robert Hammersteil's subtle photograph of a soiled tablecloth or the beautiful but unsettling image of a light switch at a Dachau crematorium complex by Andrea Robbins and Max Becher. While these photographs can be dark, weird and strange, they are also beautiful, exciting, and poignant," Museum chief curator Todd Herman said.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 803/799-2810 or visit ([www.columbiamuseum.org](http://www.columbiamuseum.org)).

You can contact us by calling 843/825-3408 or by e-mail at [info@carolinaarts.com](mailto:info@carolinaarts.com)