



Asheville Art Museum Features Works by Hugh Mangum and Jack Tworikov

The Asheville Art Museum in Asheville, NC, will present two new exhibits including: *Keep All You Wish: The Photographs of Hugh Mangum*, curated by Sarah Stacke, on view from Mar. 13 through July 12, 2015, and *Jack Tworikov: Beyond Black Mountain, Selected Works From 1952-1982*, on view from Mar. 27 through June 14, 2015.

Inside or outside his photo studio, Hugh Mangum (1877-1922) created an atmosphere – respectful and often playful – in which hundreds of men, women and children genuinely revealed themselves. The exhibition features a selection of images of early 20th century Southern society that show personalities as immediate as if they were taken yesterday.

Born and raised in Durham, NC, Mangum began establishing studios and working as an itinerant photographer in the early 1890s, traveling by rail through North Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia. Remarkable for his time, Mangum attracted and cultivated a clientele that drew heavily from both black and white communities. Although the early 20th century American South in which he worked was marked by disenfranchisement, segregation and inequality – between black and white, men and women, rich and poor – Mangum portrayed all of his sitters with candor, humor and spirit. Above all, he showed them as individuals. Each client appears as valuable as the next, no story less significant.

During Mangum's lifetime he likely exposed thousands of glass plate negatives. Sadly, after his death most of these were destroyed through benign neglect or are now lost, as were almost all records of the names and dates associated with them. The images that survived, around 700 glass plate negatives, were salvaged from the tobacco pack house where Mangum built his first dark-room. Today they are in various states of an unfortunate, yet often poetic, deterioration. Some plates are broken and on others the emulsion is peeling away, but the hundreds of vibrant personalities in the photographs prevail, engaging our emotions, intellect and imagination. The contemporary reprints in this exhibition are pigmented inkjet photographs on acid-free paper printed with archival inks.

A century after their making, Mangum's images – preserved within Duke University's David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library – allow us a penetrat-

ing gaze into individual faces of the past. In a larger sense, they offer an unusually revealing glimpse of the early 20th century American South.

This exhibition is organized by the Asheville Art Museum and guest curated by Sarah Stacke.

We thank the Judy Appleton Memorial Fund for their support of this exhibition.

A founding member of the New York School, Jack Tworikov (1900-1982) is regarded as one of the great American artists of the 20th century, along with Willem de Kooning, Philip Guston, Jackson Pollock and Franz Kline. Kline's gestural painting of the 1950s formed the basis for the Abstract Expressionist movement in America.



Jack Tworikov "Barrier #5," oil on canvas, 64.5 x 80 inches. Estate of Jack Tworikov, New York.

By the time Tworikov arrived to teach painting at Black Mountain College in July 1952, his reputation as one of America's premier painters was proven. A noted intellectual, Tworikov believed in being open to all forms of inspiration and expression. His interdisciplinary attitude and commitment to a balanced exchange of ideas made him one of the most inspiring teachers in the history of Black Mountain College. While at the school, he formed lasting relationships with composers John Cage, Morton Feldman, Stephan Wolpe, choreographer Merce Cunningham and the young artist Robert Rauschenberg to name a few.

This exhibition revisits Tworikov's affiliation with Black Mountain College and includes a significant survey of the artist's career including important works spanning three decades from 1952-1982.

This exhibition is organized by the Asheville Art Museum and guest curated by Jason Andrew, Curator and archivist at the Jack Tworikov Estate. Special thanks to the

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Jack Tworikov Estate, New York, NY.

Founded by artists in 1948 in Asheville, NC, the Asheville Art Museum annually presents an exciting, inviting and active schedule of exhibitions and public programs based on its permanent collection of 20th and 21st century American art. Any visit will also include experiences with works of significance to Western North Carolina's cultural heritage including Studio Craft,

Black Mountain College and Cherokee artists. Special exhibitions feature renowned regional and national artists and explore issues of enduring interest. The Museum also offers a wide array of innovative, inspiring and entertaining educational programs for people of all ages.

For more info check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call 828/253-3227 or visit (www.ashevilleart.org).

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The Artist Index

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