

City of Charleston, SC, Offers 19th c. Photography with 21st c. Exhibit

City of Charleston, SC, will present *ALTERED NARRATIVES: 19th Century Techniques merge with 21st Century Visions*, featuring a photographic exhibition which aims to show how contemporary artists use historic photographic processes today, on view at the City Gallery at Joseph P. Riley, Jr. Waterfront Park, from Mar. 19 through May 1, 2016. A reception will be held on Mar. 18, from 5-7pm.

Featured artists include: Christine Eadie, Bill Vaccaro, David N. Hyman, Diana Bloomfield, Doug Ethridge, Heidi Kirkpatrick, Karen A Vournakis, Ken Jackson, Matt Larson, Maureen Delaney, Rebecca Sexton Larson, and Sandy King.

Since the invention of photography, the medium has undergone a series of evolutionary developments in both printing processes and techniques. Today, with digital technology and the Internet, photographs can be made and widely disseminated within seconds. Yet despite the ease of technological advances, a number of contemporary photographic artists have returned to photography's rich and multi-faceted history to reinvigorate the medium in the 21st century.

Employing photographic processes from the past, such as tintype, cyanotype, platinum, and gum bichromate printing, all the artists in this exhibition create unique handmade photographic objects. Relying on 21st century technology and 19th century techniques, these contem-

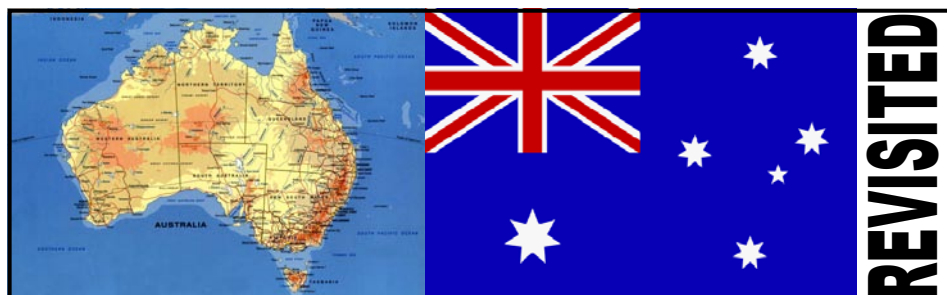


"Metamorphosis" by Christine Eadie

porary artists construct new realities and throw open the doors of perception, suggesting that photography's brilliant future depends on acknowledgment and reinvention of its past.

The City Gallery at Joseph P. Riley, Jr. Waterfront Park, owned by the City of Charleston and operated by the City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs, is a tangible resource and reliable venue for displaying the finest contemporary art from local, regional, national and international artists, stimulating discussion and dialogue among audiences. In the process, in this dynamic visual arts venue, those who visit the City Gallery will be educated, enlightened and inspired by their experiences in this cultural space.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Gallery at 843/958-6484 or visit (<http://citygalleryatwaterfrontpark.com/>).



A Few Words From Down Under

Editor's Note: Judith McGrath contributed her writings about exhibits and events taking place in Western Australia to *Carolina Arts* for about a decade. Although she was writing about events taking place thousands and thousands of miles away, they seemed relevant to what was going on here in the Carolinas. Her contributions were very popular when we first ran them and continue to be popular on our website's archives. We've decided to revisit them from time to time.

A Few Words from Down Under Who'd be an Artist?

by Judith McGrath, first published in May 2007

Who'd be an artist? You pour your passion onto a canvas, sculpt your spirit in bronze, turn your thoughts on the potter's wheel. It takes physical strength and creative energy so when you leave the studio you're exhausted.

Who'd be an artist? Certainly not a woman! Consider Artemisia Gentileschi (born 1598) the daughter of an esteemed artist in Naples, a wife and a mother. She taught in her own art school, had studio apprentices, domestic help, and produced fine works for rich merchants and nobles. She was one of the first women in 'modern' times to pursue a career on an equal footing with men. History also tells us that she was the maligned victim in a rape trial, rejected by her father and abandoned by her husband.

But things have changed a great deal in 400 years and life for the woman artist is different today. She is no longer reviled if she aspires to be equal with her male counterparts, and she has no help in the studio or the home while she attends to her muse.

Today, when a woman artist leaves her studio (more than likely its a spare room in the house) she has to wash her hands and change her mindset because it's time to prepare a meal for a significant other

and/or offspring, throw a load of wash in the machine, and solve someone else's dilemma. However when a male artist vacates his studio (often separate from his living quarters), he can sit down, put his feet up and consider the solution to a particular creative problem, as more than likely there will be someone who will tend to his person and organize his domestic environment. If not, he can go to the pub, be fed and watered and find someone to tell his troubles to.

These thoughts came to mind after dealing with two women artists this month. The first was Janna, who phoned and invited me to her home to provide constructive criticism and help cull exhibits for her first show in over five years. Her name sounded familiar; as a talented young artist, she was picked up by an energetic and well connected gallery in this town and did quite well. A few years back the gallery relocated to Melbourne leaving quite a few Perth artists without representation. Janna was one of them. I assumed the long break between shows was due to this fact. I was wrong.

It seems five years ago Janna's then two year old child was diagnosed with a learning difficulty. Doing extra work with this child, caring for her house, husband and a second baby consumed much of her time. However, Janna continued to practice her art.

Now that her seven year old is progressing well, Janna is ready to return to her professional career. She has a sufficient number of quality works to exhibit but, after such a long break, no gallery will pick her up. Determined to get back into the art scene, Janna secured the lobby of a prestigious city hotel for her exhibition and will do all the dog-work (publicity, catalogue, advertising, hanging, sales, etc) herself.

Then there's Carol who has a husband, four teenage children, and a big house yet somehow finds time to paint. She's had many successful solo shows in the past

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