

Robert Lange Studios

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Collins uses a type of brush called a mop brush, similar to a women's blush brush, to slowly soften the edges of her work and she often paints water. Collins says, "Painting the ocean feels like home to me. With this body of work, I chose to push myself to experiment with new color palettes, compositions, and perspectives that I haven't painted before. I feel like our best work often stems from the confluence of comfort and the unfamiliar."

The title piece for the show, *Drift* is a painting of a curling wave. The 36-by-36 inch oil on panel piece, although depicting a crashing force is soothing to view. "The painting *Drift* embodies what I am trying to achieve with the theme of the show. We often think of a wave as something that is a constant pattern of the same thing. I see each wave as having a personality and energy that is unique. I find myself watching the ocean, studying the variation in each wave. The positive/negative shapes of the

sea foam, the lines, shadows, and curves. In this specific painting, I found inspiration from standing on a pier looking down at the ocean from a vantage point that felt completely new to me."

This exhibit is a celebration of the peace and mindfulness that exists in the natural world and Collins' desire to bring that feeling into the home. For the first time she decided to work on a round canvas. Collins says, "After I started the larger paintings for the show, I experimented with a small round canvas. I've never been particularly inclined to paint on a round surface, but once I started planning compositions to fit this shape, I couldn't stop. For months after that, I've dedicated my evening hours in the studio to these 8 inch round paintings."

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 843/805-8052 or e-mail to (info@robert-langestudios.com).

Ella Walton Richardson Fine Art in Charleston, SC, Features Works by Donald "Donny" Weber

Ella Walton Richardson Fine Art in Charleston, SC, will present *A New Perspective: Donald Weber*, on view from Mar. 1 through Apr. 3, 2019. A reception will be held on Mar. 1, from 5-8pm.

Donald "Donny" Weber is an oil painter from Louisville, KY. His art education began during his classes for his architecture studies at the University of Kentucky. He now balances being a fine artist and licensed architect. Weber says he's always had an interest in art, "I have always been fascinated with art and started drawing as a kid. I drew the stuff I was interested in... Fire engines, sailing ships, and even battle scenes from movies I had seen."

Weber says his mother bought him his first set of oil pastels when he was 12 years old. He loved the variety that different art mediums could offer him. He began painting and drawing, and after his mother noticed his talent she encouraged him to create more. One of his favorite parts about painting is that it's so immersive for him. "It's the only thing I have ever done that allows me to totally lose track of time and surroundings...or floating as I call it" says Weber.

Weber and his wife split their time between Louisville and Santa Fe where they have both a home and a studio so that he always has access to his paints. It's easy to tell that he draws inspiration from the beautiful landscapes and colors from both home states. He says he doesn't have a favorite subject to paint, but that he loves capturing an expressive moment or focusing on light and color. His subjects have quite a variety, ranging from people to beautiful New Mexican architecture to detailed nature or rural farmhouses. Though he says "My terrible attention span keeps me hopping around!" he certainly creates enchanting colors and light in each of his paintings.



Work by Donald "Donny" Weber

For his new show, Weber drew inspira-



Work by Donald "Donny" Weber

tion for painting from this 'new perspective' from an artist friend in Louisville who had done some aerial paintings of their local area. He decided that the landscape of the Lowcountry would be very compositional from the aerial point of view with its coastline and intricate waterways. Referring to aerial photographs, he then manipulated the layout - adding or deleting elements - to work harmoniously with the overall composition. Finally, he introduced a dramatic color scheme, working with the magnificent sunrises and sunsets which are characteristic of the Lowcountry.

Weber notes that he loves how painting makes people feel good. In fact, he loves that aspect so much that he and his brother helped open the Weber Gallery in Louisville. The Weber Gallery is a showcase for side-by-side art program run by the Council for Developmental Disabilities in Louisville. The Council runs a number of education and advocacy programs for individuals with various forms of disabilities. The side by side art program features artwork by both professional artists from all across the country and local persons with disabilities. Weber has a son with Down's syndrome which is why he holds the organization so close to his heart. Both he and his son have participated in art exhibits at the gallery.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 843/722-3660 or visit (www.ellarichardson.com).

City of North Charleston, SC, Features Works by Dana Kotler and O. Gustavo Plascencia

The City of North Charleston's Cultural Arts Department is pleased to announce that paintings by Dana Kotler of San Diego, CA, as well as archival pigment prints by O. Gustavo Plascencia of Memphis, TN, will be on exhibit at the North Charleston City Gallery from Mar. 2 - 29, 2019. The concurrent solo exhibitions are free and open to the public.

Dana Kotler presents *Excavation Sites*, a series of surreal oil paintings that began as still lifes and developed over time to play with memories, associations, beauties, surprises, and anxieties. Often working in a large scale, Kotler sees her paintings as a space to accumulate actions - artistic decisions and the movement of her hand are recorded by her brush. The time spent with the images is what allows Kotler to develop the emotional qualities of her paintings. "It is an excavation that gradually removes the layers under which we purposefully bury what we cannot easily address," she explains. As the layers of paint build up, Kotler allows unconscious associations to influence her final image.

Kotler was born in Odessa, Ukraine, and grew up in Jerusalem, Israel, after which she relocated to New York with her family. She received her MFA in painting from the New York Academy of Art. Dana instructs a summer study abroad course in Dingle, Ireland, and has taught courses in colleges in Boston, MA, and San Diego, CA. Kotler has displayed her work in a number of group and solo exhibitions, and is a recipient of two Elizabeth Greenshields Foundation Grants, among others. Currently, she lives in Pennsylvania.



Work by Dana Kotler

In the exhibit, *Constellate*, O. Gustavo Plascencia presents selections from two of his archival pigment print series, *Abstracted Data* and *Specimen*. The subjects of the photographs in these series are landscapes and the body. Plascencia considers the landscape as a witness to histories both personal and communal, and the body as the place where histories happen. Using these photographs as material, Plascencia explores the constructive nature of identity, the conflict that individuals face building their identities, and the duality of private and public lives.

"Individuals constantly (re)create and



Work by O. Gustavo Plascencia

(re)define their identity by the passing of time and new experiences and relationships," writes Plascencia. "In similar ways, my prints go through changes with different degrees of molding cutting burning, stretching, sewing, and the application of paint or ink before they become finished pieces." Plascencia uses alternative photography processes, mixed media, photo-constructions, and installation to create narratives and explore symbols of identity.

Plascencia was raised in the northern Mexican state of Coahuila. He attended the Escuela de Artes Plasticas Ruben Herrera in Saltillo, Coahuila, before immigrating to the USA. He received a Master in Fine Arts from the University of Colorado in Boulder in Photography and Media Arts and his Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Texas at Arlington. His work has been shown in both national and international venues including Museo de Las Americas (Denver, Colorado), Instituto de Artes de Medellin (Medellin, Colombia), The International Center of Bethlehem (Bethlehem, Palestine), among others. He has participated in artist-in-residency programs in Colombia, Italy, and Bulgaria, and currently resides in Memphis, TN.

The North Charleston City Gallery is situated in two corridors of the northwest corner of the Charleston Area Convention Center, located on Coliseum Drive in North Charleston. Parking and admission are free. Inquiries regarding the artists or purchase information may be directed to the North Charleston Cultural Arts Department at (843)740-5854.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (www.northcharleston.org).

Every once in a while I feel like just filling one of these spaces with a kind of nothingness.

You know as if nobody reads what's in these spaces anyway.

So if one time I said something like the first person to read this and send me an e-mail to (info@carolinaarts.com) during the month of March, they'll get a free 1/4 ad in our April 2019 issue or the month that is most useful for them.

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The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be Mar. 24th for the April 2019 issue and Apr. 24 for the May 2019 issue. After that, it's too late unless your exhibit runs into the next month. But don't wait for the last minute - send your info now. And where do you send that info? E-mail to (info@carolinaarts.com).