

Caldwell Arts Council

continued from Page 23

The engravings on display, except for the Audubon, are original editions which are called pulls or strikes. A pull or strike is the original printing of the engraving. Most of the ones on display were printed between 1775 and 1845. One engraving is a re-strike. A re-strike is when an original plate has been reprinted at a later date. The engravings on display, in many cases, are in their original frames and in their original condition, as many of them

cannot be removed without complete destruction of the paper. Others have been carefully restored and reframed in museum-grade mountings.

This project is supported by the NC Arts Council, a division of the Department of Cultural Resources.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Council at 828/754-2486 or visit (www.caldwellarts.com).

Haywood County Arts Council in Waynesville, NC, Features Exhibit of Watermedia Works

The Haywood County Arts Council in Waynesville, NC, will present an exhibit of works by members of the Blue Ridge Watermedia Society, on view in Gallery 86, from Apr. 10 - 27, 2013. A reception will be held on Apr. 12, from 6-8pm.

The exhibit features work by members of the Blue Ridge Watermedia Society, a group with more than 100 members. Participating artists include: Wendy Cordwell, Nick DePaolo, Tracy Palmer, Carolyn Taylor, Joseph Honings, Lolly Krieder, Mary Reida, and Lynne Wortmann, Peggy Duncan, Mary Decker.

The Blue Ridge Watermedia Society group has grown steadily since it was organized in the early 1990s. Meetings of the Blue Ridge Watermedia Society take place at 6:45pm on the second Tuesday of the month at the Haywood Community College's Continuing Art & Education Building. Members paint in a variety of media, not just watercolor as the name suggests. Members share tips and experiences, and can take advantage of demonstrations and workshops taught by local



Work by Mary Decker

artists.

The mission of the Haywood County Arts Council is to build partnerships that promote art and artists, explore new cultural opportunities, and preserve mountain artistic heritage. This project was supported by the NC Arts Council, a division of the Department of Cultural Resources.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Council at 828/452-0593 or visit (www.haywoodarts.org).

Upstairs Artspace in Tryon, NC, Offers New Exhibits & Annual Art Trek Tryon

The Upstairs Artspace in Tryon, NC, is presenting three exhibits on view through Apr. 30, 2013, including: *Here, After*, featuring works by Asheville artists Moni Hill, Alicia Armstrong, and Spencer Herr, on view in the Main Gallery; *Southern Comfort*, featuring works by photographer Ben Nixon, on view in the Small Works Gallery; and *Older Than Dirt*, featuring works by potters Jim Cullen, Jim Cornell, Gary Huntoon, David Zacharias, Doug Dacey, John Turner, and Claude Graves, on view in the Downstairs Gallery. The gallery will also present the *Art Trek Tryon Exhibit*, featuring works by artists participating in the tour, on view from Apr. 26 through May 25, 2013. A reception will be held on Apr. 26, from 5-8pm.

Here, After, was conceived in the wake of the tragic December killings at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, CT.

"These artists are all parents of young children, so they shared the gut reaction that millions of Americans felt when they heard about what happened in Newtown - from the fear to the sense that any of us could be faced with such sudden and heartbreaking loss," says Margaret Curtis, chair of the Upstairs Exhibits Committee.

"The artists have responded in such different and thoughtful ways. Spencer Herr explores the myth of redemptive violence. Moni Hill contemplates the many twists and turns along life's meandering path and the shape of absence or loss. Alicia Armstrong challenges western notions of dualism in works that acknowledge the coexistence of good and evil, and the possibility of renewal and rebirth after tragedy."

In *Southern Comfort*, photographer Ben Nixon documents the Southern landscape in a haunting series of photographs.

In *Older Than Dirt*, potters Jim Cullen, Jim Cornell, Gary Huntoon, David Zacharias, Doug Dacey, John Turner, and



Work by Ben Nixon

Claude Graves update an age-old medium in an exhibit of ceramic work.

The Upstairs Artspace is preparing for Art Trek Tryon, an annual tour of artists' studios in Polk County, NC, and Upstate SC, held this year on Apr. 27 & 28, 2013. The event begins with a preview party on Apr. 26, from 5-8pm.

The gallery will be featuring an exhibit of works by participating artists at the Upstairs, from Apr. 26 through May 25, 2013.

The tour takes place from 10am-5pm on Apr. 27 and from noon-5pm on Apr. 28.

This year, more than 30 of the area's most prominent artists will open their studios to the public during Art Trek. The works on display include paintings, sculpture, photographs, turned wood, and works in other mediums.

Visitors will be able to pick up a map and brochure at the gallery (\$5), and select studios to visit. The 2013 tour includes studios in Saluda, Tryon, Columbus, Green Creek, and other parts of Polk County, NC, as well as Landrum, SC, and the surrounding area. Much of the art is for sale. You may start your tour at Upstairs Artspace, or at any artist's studio.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call Upstairs Artspace at 828/859-2828 or visit (www.upstairsartspace.org).

Tryon Fine Arts Center in Tryon, NC, Offers Equestrian Art Exhibit

In honor of Tryon, NC's 67th Block House Steeplechase Race, Skyuka Fine Art in collaboration with TR&HC Events, Inc., is proud to present *Block House Equestrian Art Exhibit*, on view in the lower level gallery from Apr. 13 - 26, 2013. A reception will be held on Apr. 13, from 5-8pm. The reception will take place during the Tryon Riding & Hunt Club's kickoff community gathering one week before the famed race.

Numerous equestrian artists from around the state and nation have been invited to participate in this unprecedented show. These artists will be featuring their equine art in a variety of techniques and media. Several of the artists such as Joan MacIntyre, Sarah Holmberg (sculptor), and Richard Christian Nelson are local. Other artists from around the state and nation include Jan Lukens, Tucker Bailey (sculptor), Debi Fitzgerald, Booth Malone, Valerie Hinz, Mary Neely, Linda Luster, Michael McNamara, Bill Jameson and Gary Cooley. The show will focus on original artwork, however some giclees and framed prints will also be available.



Work by Booth Malone

Many local collectors will also be sharing their prized equestrian art for this special exhibit, including a bronze sculpture from retired equine sculptor Phyllis Eifert and numerous commissioned portraits from various artists.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call Kim Nelson at 828/817-3783 or e-mail to (info@skyukafineart.com) or call the Center at 828/859-8322 x 212 or visit (www.tryonpaintersandsculptors.com).

Skyuka Fine Art in Tryon, NC, Offers an Exhibit of Travel Works

Skyuka Fine Art in Tryon, NC, will present *Paintings from Afar*, featuring works from a variety of artists on view from Apr. 13 through May 10, 2013. A reception will be held on Apr. 13, from 5-8pm, during the Tryon Gallery Trot.

We all love to travel, and this show will take you to places familiar to you, places you could only dream of, and to places you wish to return. This will be a group showing including the works of: Richard Christian Nelson, Michael McNamara, Bonnie Bardos, Jim Carson, Mary Neely, William and Anne Jameson, Gary Cooley, Richard Oversmith, Linda Cheek, Dawn Whitelaw and Bill Lovett.

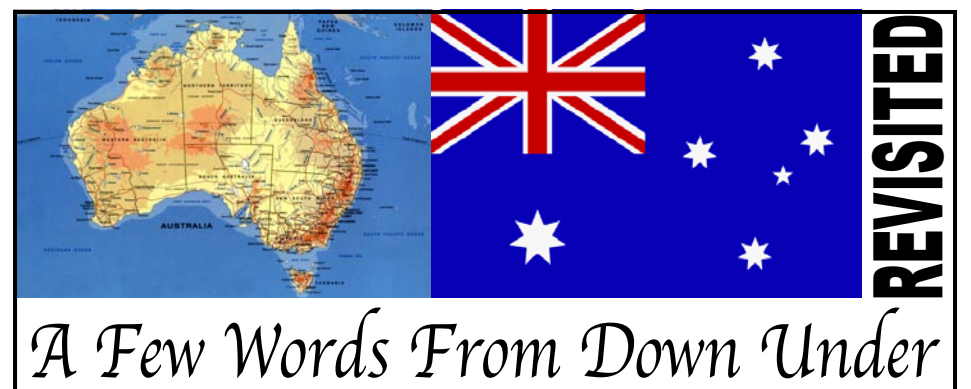
The exhibition will also be featuring historical pieces from a noted local art dealer of Foothills Fine Art. Some historic artists of note are: Andre Michel,



Work by Dawn Whitelaw

AR Waurd, Felix Von Schiller, and James Greig.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/817-3783 or visit (www.skyukafineart.com).



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 Big Art Sale - 30% Off All Originals!

by Judith McGrath, first run in our Aug. 2004 issue

Had a frightening epiphany the other day. An article in the weekend press talked about how art dealers, not informed collectors or independent critics, are manipulating the prestige of certain artists and defining the investment value of their work. I know what you're thinking, "Duh" and you're right, I know the facts. What scared me was how readily I accept them, and how easily we all accept how promoting an artist as a celebrity or marketing the art object as the next best must-have new

thing is what visual art has become these days.

Since the first humanoid with opposable thumbs left a handprint on a rock wall, the form and function of art has been dictated by either priests, princes or generous patrons. Through the ages, those with power or prestige defined artistic worth, which was based on how well it reflected their ideology. Artists were observant, developed skills and learned to sit up so they wouldn't have to beg. We saw the raise of art historians who explained the cultural value of art in its time, next came theorists who defined the intellectual value of the concept behind an art practice, then art critics debated the aesthetic value of the object as art. Somewhere along the line, when power and prestige passed to those with a higher credit rating than credibility, the shift began. Now we have the sales department giving us a dollar value. Art no longer serves an ideology, culture, intellect or aesthetic; instead it panders to trend followers who believe they can buy good taste.

A few weeks back I was in a gallery perusing an excellent exhibition when a fresh pressed thirty-something man came bounding through the door looking to buy

continued on Page 25