

Society of Bluffton Artists in Bluffton, SC, Offers Works by Joy Lillith Hermann

The Society of Bluffton Artists in Bluffton, SC, will present *The Touchables*, featuring the latest work of Joy Lillith Hermann, on view from Apr. 6 through May 2, 2015. A reception will be held on Apr. 10, from 5-7pm.

This exciting and varied exhibit features Hermann's deliciously textured paintings and unique dichroic glass jewelry.

The theme for this show was inspired by Hermann's rich childhood and her memories of visiting museums and art galleries – and wishing she could touch the textured artwork she saw there. And recently those memories were brought back – when she let a young child gently touch the surface of one of her paintings, the smile on his face was such a reward that she decided then and there to call this exhibit *The Touchables*.

Hermann works in acrylic and mixed media, usually on a large scale. She often uses molding pastes to build up her canvases and creates paintings with layers and layers of glazes and inks. She loves to experiment and is very versatile. Hermann did an intense three month apprenticeship with world-renowned Roy Scallenberg, which enriched her talent in abstracts and



Work by Joy Lillith Hermann

also stimulated her creative expressionistic paintings. Her art is featured in private and public collections locally and all across the country.

In addition to her paintings, Hermann is an accomplished jewelry maker, using dichroic glass in wonderful layers and shapes to create wearable art. She would love to share her knowledge of this unique and colorful material as well as her "touchable" paintings.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Society at 843/757-6586 or visit (www.sobagallery.com).

Art League of Hilton Head, SC, Features Works by Nancy Mitchell

The Art League of Hilton Head on Hilton Head Island, SC, will present *Life is a Carnival*, an exhibit of sculptures by Nancy Mitchell, on view at the Walter Greer Gallery, at Arts Center of Coastal Carolina, from Apr. 7 through May 2, 2015. A reception will be held on Apr. 9, from 5-7pm.

"Bright lights, movement, and the fun of people enjoying it! That's what this show is all about", explains local artist Nancy Mitchell. "My family has attended the carnival in Savannah, GA, for the last 25 years, and I have been planning this show in my head from year one!"

Mitchell has made her living as an artist in the Lowcountry for the last 30 years. Paintings, murals, commissions and some teaching made up her career. In 2012 she returned to sculpting the figures she loved so much in college. The figures were met with great enthusiasm. In 2013 Mitchell received an award for her sculpture "Gullah's Ark" from the national juried show Biennale.

"I enjoy creating an event and then placing my figures within it". Pieces as large as five feet in this show became feats of engineering, and Mitchell received a crash course in electric motors as well. One of the larger pieces, *Country Ferris Wheel*, has an electric motor, battery lights, nine people and two animals. Mitchell likes to work in 1/6 scale, "it just feels right" she says. Once the figures are formed and fired she hand paints them with acrylic.

Always eclectic there are several relief sculptures of the carnival landscape in-



Work by Nancy Mitchell

cluded in this show as well. They are mixed media, heavily textured and finished in oil paint.

The Art League of Hilton Head is the only not-for-profit visual arts organization on Hilton Head Island with a synergistic Art Gallery and Teaching Academy that welcome artists and students at all levels and in all media. The League promotes and supports the visual arts through education, exhibitions and partnerships for the cultural enhancement of the community and its visitors.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the League at 843/681-5060 or visit (www.artleaguehhi.org).

USC-Beaufort Center for the Arts in Beaufort, SC, Offers Works by Eric R. Smith and Dusty Connor

USC-Beaufort Center for the Arts in Beaufort, SC, will present *Pixels to Pigment*, featuring works by photographer Eric R. Smith, and painter Dusty Connor, on view from Apr. 3 through May 31, 2015. A reception will be held on Apr. 3, from 5:30-7:30pm.

These works represent a conceptualized journey that began behind the lens and blossomed into a collaboration between friends, fine art photographer Eric R. Smith, and painter Dusty Connor. Each artist will present fifteen pieces of art that began their gestation in the photography studio and moved outward as each of their visions took greater form.

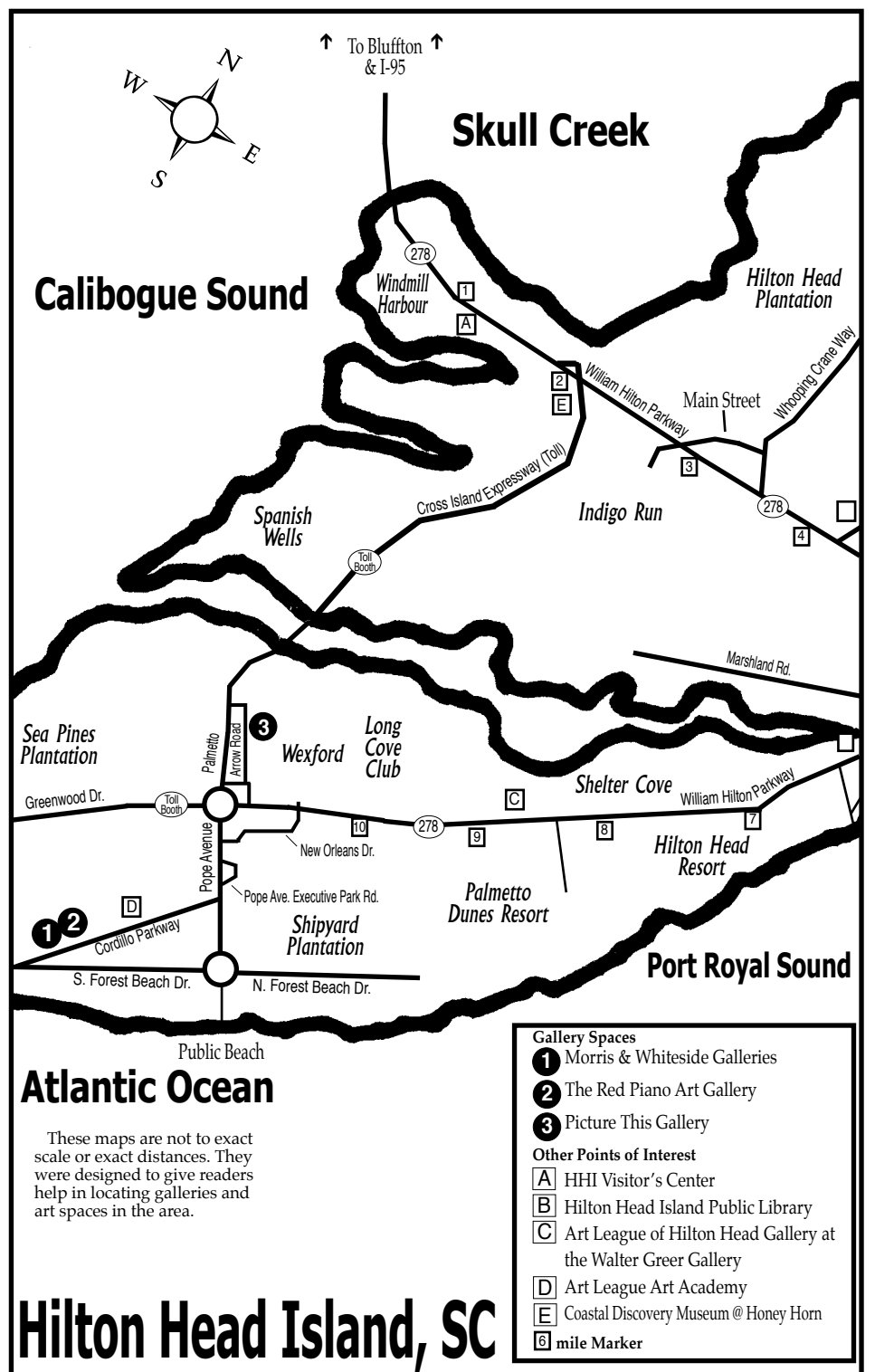
The nucleus separated with a single photograph that took on a double life as



Work by Dusty Connor

Smith enhanced his image digitally, and Connor painted on top of that same image which had been printed on canvas. Same photograph, same subject, but with

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a totally different observance and impact. The collection metamorphosed from there as Smith bathed many of his models with soft and romantic contemplation; Connor's technique was to overlay the forms in paint, each according to his unique and outstanding appreciation of design and color.

Because their intrinsic styles diverge from this collaboration, Smith and Connor have each contributed some of their other original works to this exhibit. Connor is well known for his floral adaptations, some of which will be presented here, as will some strong examples of Smith's far-sighted and inventive portraiture.

Smith and his wife, Susan, have been a team for decades. They came to Beaufort in 2011 from southern Maryland where they operated a home studio for over 25 years and, among other works, photographed 300 - 400 high school seniors each year. Although only Eric is the actual photographer, Susan's great talent lies in enhancing his images on the computer; their photography is found all over Beaufort.

Connor originally hails from Lumberton, NC, where he was raised on a tobacco farm. When he was about eleven years old,



Work by Eric R. Smith

painting captured his fancy and he launched himself into a world of art and beauty. He attended beauty college and has spent his life making his environment, as well as for those around him, a far more beautiful place. Connor came to Beaufort when the Technical College of the Lowcountry offered him a position as a cosmetology instructor. This is his second show at USC Center for the Arts; the previous one, *Friends and Art. Love Made Visible*, was held during Feb. and Mar. of 2013.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 843/521-4145 or visit (<http://www.usc-centerforthearts.com/>).



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