



THERE'S A FINE LINE BETWEEN PRICELESS AND WORTHLESS.



Artist Diane Falkenhagen's Texas studio — destroyed by flooding during Hurricane Ike, 2008

What would you do if you lost your work, your tools, your images, and a lot more to a flood? Metalsmith Diane Falkenhagen knows what five feet of contaminated saltwater can do to a jewelry studio. CERF+ can help you learn how to protect your career from crossing that fine line.



CraftEmergency.org + StudioProtector.org

Elder Gallery in Charlotte, NC, Features Works by Kathleen Craig

Elder Gallery in Charlotte, NC, will present an exhibit of works by Kathleen Craig, featuring a series of new paintings and collages, on view from Apr. 1 through May 28, 2016. A lunch-with-the-artist will be held on Apr. 1, at noon, with a reception being held from 5-8pm. Lunch reservations can be made by contacting the gallery for details.

Virginia artist, Kathleen Craig is the featured artist at Elder Gallery in Charlotte during the months of April and May. Craig joins the ranks of thirty other American artists who are represented by the gallery.

Craig's unique painting style secured her position with the gallery. "Kathy's ability to abstract her subject matter impressed me immediately," says gallery owner Larry Elder. "She is a master colorist and often incorporates whimsy into her work. She is a natural fit for our market which has expanded throughout the southeast."

A graduate of Oberlin College, Craig earned her MFA from Warren Wilson College. Additional studies at Maryland Institute College of Art, New York Studio School, Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art, and the University of Virginia have greatly influenced her painting skills.

When discussing her art, Craig states



Work by Kathleen Craig

"When I work on a figurative painting I have a habit of focusing on one bottle, or rose, or rock, at a time instead of seeing the painting as a whole. I have to correct this habit when painting figuratively. When I paint more abstractly the problem is removed with the subject matter. The whole painting becomes the image, and I can play with color, form and texture, action and stillness, transparency and solidity across and around the entire space."

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 704/370-6337 or visit (www.elderart.com).

Providence Gallery in Charlotte, NC, Offers Works by Isabel Forbes

Providence Gallery in Charlotte, NC, will present a new collection of Lowcountry seascapes and figurative beach paintings by regional artist, Isabel Forbes, on view from Apr. 5 - 30, 2016.

Isabel Forbes grew up in Spartanburg, SC, and from a very early age she knew she wanted to be an artist. Having earned a Scholastic Art Scholarship when she com-
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pleted high school, Forbes began her formal art education at Ringling College of Art & Design in Sarasota, FL. There she earned a Bachelor of Fine Art Degree.

For the past nine years Forbes has dedicated herself to fine oil painting full-time. She is an avid plein air painter. As she is quick to point out, "The real subject of her
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WAXING POETIC

April 1st - May 28th

encaustic artwork by

Janet Eskridge

Judy Klich

Bridgette Guerzon Mills

Mary Alayne Thomas

with pottery from

Colleen Riley

Donovan Palmquist

Lark & Key Gallery

128 E. Park Ave, Ste B

Charlotte, NC 28203

704.334.4616



www.larkandkey.com



colleen riley



judy klich

paintings is composition and contrasting elements of light and dark, complementary colors, and negative space." Creating draft sketches en plein air helps Forbes capture these elements. Work on the finished painting is done primarily in the studio with Forbes using her plein air sketches as reference.

Of her work, Forbes declares, "My paintings are my personal experiences. I hope that my work changes the viewers' perceptions of their surroundings." The artist's ultimate goal is demonstrating through her artwork how important it is to recognize the nuances of life, to look for beauty all around us and appreciate it wherever we find it.

Forbes is a founding member of the Charleston Outdoor Painters Association (COPA), an Associate Member of Oil Paint-



Work by Isabel Forbes

ers of America (OPA), and a board member of the Artists' Guild of Spartanburg.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the gallery at 704/333-4535 or visit (providencegallery.net).

Cabarrus Arts Council in Concord, NC, Offers New Group Exhibition

The Cabarrus Arts Council in Concord, NC, will present *Wanderlust*, an exhibition that explores real and imaginary worlds, on display at The Galleries, from Apr. 4 through May 21, 2016. A reception will be held on Apr. 8, from 6-9pm as part of the downtown Concord Art Walk. Exhibiting artist Susan Edmonson will demonstrate how she creates her wonderful fiber art.

Wanderlust is filled with a wonderful array of realistic and whimsical paintings, giant mixed media works, richly embroidered and embellished fiber art, platinum/palladium photographs and even artwork that is literally alive!

Nine artists are featured in the exhibition include:

Ráed Al-Rawi of Charlotte, NC, is an American-Iraqi who was an illustrator for a national children's magazine and cartoonist before he moved to the United States in 1980. In his acrylic paintings, he blends colors to create a hazy luminosity that gives the impression of the images disappearing into the unknown. His goal is for the images to create an ongoing conversation about life.



Work by Al Rawi

Maureen Collins of Huntersville, NC, began her art career at the age of 12 in her native New York with classes at the Famous Art School, where one of the critics of her oil paintings was Norman Rockwell. After a corporate career, she combined her loves of art and gardening to create Fairy Gardens. She operates an art and design store, The White Azalea, in Huntersville.

Gene Costanza of Eugene, OR, is a contemporary realist painter who rekindled his dormant artistic endeavors to become a full-time artist after a 25-year career in law enforcement. By capturing the light and at-



Work by Jessica Gordon

mosphere, the feel and smell, the wind and wave, he hopes to share places that mean something to him and the moments that evoke common feelings we share.

Susan Edmonson of Concord is a fiber artist known for lavishing her work with beading and embroidery. Her specialties have been folk art, crazy quilted purses and wall quilts, and "flower doodles." More recently she has been using mixed media techniques to make fabric collage books and mini art quilts. She has designed quilt patterns and kits for two national stores as well as her own line.

Jessica Gordon is an Ohio native and former graphic designer who, looking for a creative outlet, taught herself to paint. In her first year of showing art, Gordon received two Best of Show and three First Place awards for her oil paintings. She describes her art as "a way of expression, a way of growth and a way of escape in the most wonderful sense."

Frank Hunter of Santa Fe, NM, is one of America's great platinum/palladium photographers. Platinum/Palladium is a late 19th century process that uses iron salts (rather than silver salts) with the precious metals to create images that have the widest tonal range of any photographic process. He formerly taught at Duke University's Center for Documentary Studies.

Gayle Stott Lowry of Raleigh, NC, relishes any opportunity to leave her familiar surroundings and experience life
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