

Groovewood Gallery Asheville, NC

continued from Page 27

at the Biltmore Estate (both in the nursery and in the house) and in the gardens at Chimney Rock State Park. He also assisted with the renovation and recreation of Kenilworth Gardens in Asheville.

Groovewood Gallery is a family-owned, fine crafts destination located in a beautiful historic setting adjacent to The Omni Grove Park Inn in North Asheville. The gallery showcases traditional and contemporary craft, all handmade by American artisans.

Groovewood is also home to 9 working artist studios, the Estes-Winn Antique

Car Museum, the North Carolina Home-spun Museum, as well as Asheville's new Greek and Mediterranean restaurant, Golden Fleece Slow Earth Kitchen. Free parking is available on site.

Groovewood is housed in the former weaving and woodworking complex of Biltmore Industries (built during 1917-1924), an Arts & Crafts enterprise once renowned for its hand-loomed fabrics.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/253-7651 or visit (www.groovewood.com).

Sculpture Resident Artist Announced at The Bascom in Highlands, NC

On Friday, Apr. 15, 2016, artist John Kenneth Melvin will break ground on a new site-specific sculpture at the entrance of The Bascom art center's campus in Highlands, NC.

2016 is slated to be an exciting year for The Bascom's outreach, education and exhibitions departments. As a result of focusing to extend further into the local communities, The Bascom is now offering artist residencies in a variety of mediums. Melvin is the first ever Sculpture Resident Artist at The Bascom and will be at the visual arts center for one month to install the sculpture.

John Melvin is an international artist whose work is a study of the social implications of ecology. He is reputed for building sculptures with "up-cycled" materials that have passed their traditional use. Generated primarily through commissions and artist residencies, his sculptures and installations can be found around the world both in public displays and private collections.

In addition to his sculpture installation at The Bascom, Melvin will also be travelling to Cullowhee, NC, to give studio visits to Western Carolina University's Master of Fine Arts students. He will be available to meet with school children and community groups visiting The Bascom, as well. A large focus of the Sculpture Residency program is community involvement and The Bascom is inviting community members to schedule time to meet with Melvin or to volunteer to assist with the construction of the sculpture, which is a 16-foot by 20-foot "Mountain" constructed from reclaimed lumber.



Rendering of sculpture by John Kenneth Melvin

The 1,500+ board feet of lumber which will be used for the sculpture was generously contributed and delivered to The Bascom by Antique Reclaimed Lumber, Nebo, NC, owned by Michelle and Phillip Price. Woodturner and Bascom instructor, Don Marks, as well as local woodworker, Alex Bolden, and El Azteca Mexican Restaurant owner, Enrique Gaona, have already committed to volunteer their time and encourage other community members to do so as well. To learn more about this sculpture, or to schedule a time to volunteer, please contact Director of Community Outreach, Will Barclift at 828/787-2897.

The Bascom is a 501(c)3 led by a professional 21 person Board of Directors. The Visual Art Center focuses on providing excellent exhibitions with free admission; a robust education department which features classes and workshops for people of all ages; and an expansive community outreach program.

For more information about The Bascom, please visit (www.thebascom.org).

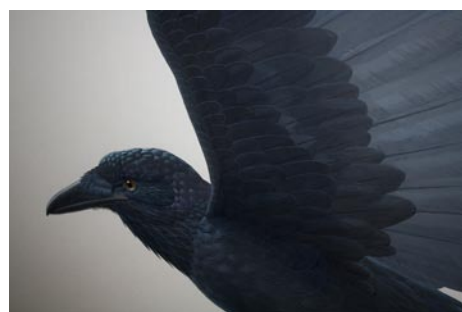
The Bascom in Highlands, NC, Offers Works by Lucien Harris

The Bascom in Highlands, NC, is presenting an exhibit of works by Lucien Harris, on view in The Bascom's Joel Gallery, through May 22, 2016. A reception will be held on Apr. 30, from 5-7pm.

Lucien Harris III was an American painter of natural subjects. He was a self-taught artist best known for his observations of the interactions of plants and animals. Harris worked as a naturalist painter, and was immensely influenced by his father, Lucien Harris Jr., a highly regarded lepidopterist.

Harris was a native of Atlanta, GA, a Navy aviator, and a veteran of World War II. Subsequent to the war, Harris graduated from Emory University Business School. After graduating, he joined the Trust Company of Georgia and later worked for The First National Bank of Orlando. In 1973 he retired as Senior Vice President of Sunbank N.A. An enthusiastic admirer of the beauty in Highlands, he relocated to the area in 1980 to gain continuous inspiration for his work.

As an advocate for encouraging the arts within local communities, he became a founding member of The Art League of Highlands in 1980. Through his various roles as a teacher and supporter of the



Lucien Harris, "Raven" (detail), from the collection of Rosemary and Bill Stiefel

League, he was instrumental in the early development of The Bascom Louise Gallery at The Hudson Library.

In collaboration with the Art League of Highlands, The Bascom is honored to showcase the extraordinary talent of Lucien Harris. "We are fortunate to have this work in our collection and even more so to have borrowed additional paintings from the Harris family and local collectors who knew him and admired his work," said Sallie Taylor, Chief Exhibitions Officer of The Bascom.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call The Bascom at 828/526-4949 or visit (www.thebascom.org).

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Art League of Henderson County in Hendersonville, NC, Features Works by Nancy Smeltzer

The Art League of Henderson County in Hendersonville, NC, is presenting *Visual Textures, Above & Beyond*, featuring the largest collection of mixed media art quilts by Nancy Smeltzer, on view at the Opportunity House, through Apr. 7, 2016.

Smeltzer has always viewed anything with a hole in it fair game to sew on one of her pieces, so they are filled with buttons and beads from her extensive collection. "Why settle for a few dozen beads, when 5 thousand will make a MUCH bigger statement!" is one of oft quoted statements. The piece entitled *Beach Balls and Flowers* which will be seen in her exhibition, is only 9 in (23 cm) square, yet people are always amazed at how heavy it is. (The weight of those little glass beads add up). Besides the weight factor, people are always asking how long does a piece like that take? One inch or 2.5 cm square of the smaller beads is an hour's work. That doesn't count time off to sand her fingers, as Smeltzer has tried every thimble that is on the market and has yet to find one that she can tolerate more than a few minutes. As a result, several fingers on both fingers are pock marked with pricks, and where the needle backs up... perhaps you've heard new seismic recordings since she moved into Hendersonville a year and a half ago. Those needles may be small and thin, but they draw blood!



Work by Nancy Smeltzer

A detailed look at *Lavender Clouds*, another small art quilt that will be in the exhibition, shows much of the extensive work for which Smeltzer is known. Besides her signature hummingbird button that has appeared in all of her work since 2005, you can see one of the large, shiny glass buttons from Czechoslovakia that she uses in many of her pieces. There's quite a story behind them, so ask her when you see her.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the League at 828/692-2078 or visit (www.artleague.net).

Millard & Company in Tryon, NC, Offers Works by Bonnie Joy Bardos

Millard & Company in Tryon, NC, is presenting *Songs of the Earth*, featuring new paintings inspired by spring by Bonnie Joy Bardos, on view in the Millard & Company's Depot Gallery, through May 16, 2016. A reception will be held on Apr. 8, from 5-7pm.

"All winter, I painted large canvases, even on days when paint froze and light was dim. These works are filled with joy, color, delight in the Earth and all her beauty," said Bardos.

"Poppies bloom, branches, vines, fruit, fiddlehead ferns and stalks of flower pods emerge. Lotuses spike from water, circles of life and line float. Bamboo shoots, bees, butterflies, birds, tree frogs, words appear magically. Some works feature Moon Hare and haloed birds. They're all connected: as we are--to Mother Earth. Themes of my long time love of Jungian symbology intertwine," adds Bardos.

"Thanks to a Regional Artist Project grant from the Arts Council of Henderson



Work by Bonnie Joy Bardos

County, in cooperation with the North Carolina Arts Council (a division of the Dept. of Cultural Resources) and the Tryon Fine Arts Center, etc. I was able to purchase several 48" x 60" canvases for the series *Songs of the Earth*. I hope the gratitude I feel for this and life shines through."

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call 828/859-7001 or visit (www.tryondepotroom.com).

The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be Apr. 24th for the May 2016 issue and May 24 for the June 2016 issue.

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And where do you send that info?
E-mail to (info@carolinaarts.com).