

Tinka Jordy & Mark Donley's Studio & Gardens in Hillsborough, NC, Offer Sculpture Invitational

Tinka Jordy Studio and Gardens in Hillsborough, NC, will present the 18th Annual Sculpture Invitational, featuring works by a dozen artists, on view May 5, 10am-6pm; May 6, noon-5pm; and May 12, 2012, 10am-6pm.

The Annual Sculpture Invitational is a juried show and sale premiering exciting original new work by both nationally recognized and local artists. All work is available for sale and the artists will be on hand to discuss their work.

This year's participating artists include: Jim Adams (mixed media sculpture), Carmen Elliott (clay sculpture), Virginia Gibbons (mixed media sculpture), Jeff Hackney (mixed media sculpture), Mark Hewitt (clay vessels), Paul Hill (mixed media sculpture), Tinka Jordy (stoneware sculpture), Mike Roig (metal sculpture), Sam Spiczka (metal sculpture), William Moore (marble and clay sculpture), Susan Moffat (marble sculpture), and Wayne Vaughn (metal sculpture).



Works by Wayne Vaughn

Tinka Jordy has been a professional artist for the past 35 years and works in high-fired stoneware clay. She moved here with her husband from New Orleans in 1987. "Growing up in New Orleans I was used to small controllable patio gardens. I had not gardened much. My husband, Mark Donley, whom I met in New Orleans, had grown up in Massachusetts so he had a very different concept of gardening than mine. He also had more experience than I did. As we slowly cleared places for beds we were hit with the gardening bug in a serious way. I soon discovered those spots in the garden that nothing seems to want to grow in."

"Creating sculpture for the spaces was an obvious next step," adds Jordy. "Mark believed in (and still does) developing the 'bones' of the garden first. Bones are the evergreens and plants that form the structure, that are very evident in the winter landscape. While these trees were first starting out they needed room and it was the perfect place, again, for sculpture that could be moved once the space was needed. I was hooked, and my work eventually went from indoor sculptural vessels to full size figures. We started to



Work by Mike Roig

garden with the placement of sculptures in mind. I have been told by our patrons that seeing the work in a natural home setting really helps one envision their own garden with art in it."

They decided to have a joint art and plant sale in 1994 with their neighbors Val Tyson and Richard Erhardt and invited another sculptor William Moore to join them. That was the beginning. Although there is no longer a plant sale, you can still enjoy the sculptures that flow from the more intimate garden beds to the pastures next door.

The studio and gardens are located at 1902 Borland Road in Hillsborough.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call 919/968-2115 or visit (www.garden-art-gallery.com).

Hillsborough Gallery of Arts in Hillsborough, NC, Offers Works by Chris Graebner, Jude Lobe & Mirinda Kossoff

Hillsborough Gallery of Arts in Hillsborough, NC, will present the exhibit, *Mystic Chords*, featuring works by painters Chris Graebner and Jude Lobe and jeweler Mirinda Kossoff, on view from May 21 through June 24, 2012. A reception will be held on May 25, from 6-9pm, during the Hillsborough ArtWalk held on the 4th Friday of the month.

Graebner, Lobe and Kossoff will present two- and three-dimensional works inspired by a quote from Abraham Lincoln's First Inaugural Address, in which he referred to the "mystic chords of memory," which he hoped would bind a fractured nation together.

"For me, the beauty and the landscapes I find in my travels are some of those mystic chords which bind us together,"



Work by Chris Graebner

says Chris Graebner, who paints representational works. "I love to travel by car, because there is so much to see, and I'm always thinking about how I would paint what I see," she says, adding, "thinking that way helps me to see things more

continued above on next column to the right



FINE ART CAROLINA
Gallery

Hours: Mon-Sat, 11-5pm

116 W. Clay St. Mebane, NC
FineArtCarolina.com
919-455-5965

clearly and to enjoy them more. Open space is a recurring theme in my paintings. I often paint farms, barns, and fields or open countryside. When I paint plants, I'm looking closely, taking small things and enlarging them – making them spacious, and I enjoy finding unusual vantage points or perspectives from which to paint."



Work by Jude Lobe

Jude Lobe has been practicing meditation as a way to connect to a deeper part of herself and reflect that connection in her work. "Nature has run like a thread through my life and art and shows up in mostly representative painting," Lobe explains. "But now I feel a pull to reach deeper inside, to translate the vibrations I feel about nature into my art. These vibrations, or 'mystic chords,' I see as the bonds that unite the universe, humanity, and the divine world." Lobe says that having a theme and thinking about it has challenged her to dig deeper, a process she relishes. "One of the things I appreciate about being in this group of artists is being challenged to think in a new way that takes me to an awakening."

Mirinda Kossoff, who will have both jewelry and mixed media work in the

show, says she has always viewed nature as the ultimate artist. "Every time I walk out the door, there is something new to see, something I might not have paid attention to before but that grabs me," Kossoff says.

"For me, the theme 'mystic chords' represents our connection to the earth, its inhabitants, and our creative impulses within. Like my two-dimensional mixed media work, my jewelry is often layered. I recently finished a fine silver pendant that represents my awe at the precise arrangement of layered petals at the center of a sunflower. Of course, I can't approach nature's perfection, but I can put my own spin on it," she says. "Out of respect and care for the earth, I use a high percentage of recycled fine silver, and I frequently upcycle pieces of vintage jewelry into a new design, adding my original metal work to the final product. Giving new life and purpose to an old, sometimes battered, piece of silver is quite satisfying."



Work by Mirinda Kossoff

The Hillsborough Gallery of Arts is owned and operated by 22 local artists. The gallery represents established artists exhibiting contemporary fine art and fine craft. The gallery's offerings include painting, sculpture, ceramics, mosaics, photography, fiber, jewelry, glass, metal, encaustic, enamel, watercolor, and wood.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 919/732-5001 or visit (www.HillsboroughGallery.com).

Carolina Arts, May 2012 - Page 47