

Charleston Artist Guild

continued from Page 15

are normally done at one sitting, in the "Alla Prima" style.

Phillips is originally from Texas and is delighted to call the Charleston area home. She works from her home studio on Yorges Island where she is surrounded by the ever changing and beautiful lowcountry. Most of her paintings are inspired by her life, loves and pleasures so she almost always has a camera close by and why she

says, "Life is full of inspiration when you open your eyes!"

The Charleston Artist Guild is a non-profit organization serving the community with outreach programs through art sales.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Guild at 843/722-2454 or visit (www.charlestonartistguild.com).

Nina Liu and Friends in Charleston, SC, Features Works by Aggie Zed

Nina Liu and Friends Gallery in Charleston, SC, will present *Rear View Mirror: Selections from the Portfolio*, featuring a retrospective of work by Aggie Zed, on view from May 15 through July 15, 2013.

Zed first exhibited her work at Nina Liu and Friends in 1990. She has produced the drawings in this exhibition over a span of nearly two decades. The drawings range from minimal explorations of line and shape to complex compositions. Her personal imagery reveals a dream-like world that invites elaborate interpretation or simple appreciation of the drawings.

Zed, a native of South Carolina, also builds small sculptures from wire, clay, and found objects. The smaller figures of humans, animals and human/animal hybrids recall stories from childhood and ancient myths. Zed calls her larger works "scrap floats." Like the drawings, these objects that blur lines between man/animal and machine invite the viewer to invest them with broad meanings or to enjoy them for their complexity.

Zed has been the recipient of a Virginia Commission for the Arts Fellowship and a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship, both in sculpture, and her work is in the collection of the South Carolina State Museum. In January and March of 2012



Work by Aggie Zed

the Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art at the College of Charleston School of the Arts presented *Keeper's Keep*, a solo exhibition of Zed's work that will be on view at the Visual Arts Center of Richmond through May 31, 2013.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings or call the gallery at 843/722-2724.

Wells Gallery on Kiawah Island, SC, Offers Works by Curt Butler

The Wells Gallery on Kiawah Island, SC, will present *By the Shore*, featuring new encaustic paintings by Curt Butler, on view from May 10 - 31, 2013. A reception will be held on May 10, from 5-8pm.



Work by Curt Butler

Butler considers himself an artist who teaches and shares his knowledge with other aspiring artists. He has taught at various art schools including Braitman Studio, Gaston Day School, Gaston College, and Gaston School of the Arts. In 2002, he was honored with the Teacher of the Year Award at Gaston Day School for his outstanding teaching abilities.

Butler's current work is a mixture of oil paint and encaustic painting techniques. These techniques have afforded

him the opportunity to experiment within the realm of mixed media. His paintings are often layered with multiple colors combinations that enhance the surface, creating a tactile effect. The textures are rich with both brushstroke and palette knife work. His paintings seem to come together at a distance with his imagery, and yet, work on a purely abstract level as you approach them.

Most of Butler's work is based in landscape yet it is not rooted in a particular place, but instead speaks to a general mood or feeling he has experienced from being surrounded by nature. His style is contemporary focusing on the flat abstract nature of the picture plane versus the illusion of space; and he skillfully balances both of these ideas into a singular piece. He is well known for his encaustic style.

The word encaustic literally means "to burn in" and involves heating wax and mixing in colored pigments or oil paints. This technique was originally developed by the ancient Greeks and experienced a resurgence in the 20th-century.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 843/576-1290 or visit (www.wellsgallery.com).

Corrigan Gallery LLC in Charleston, SC, Features Works by Alan Jackson and Allan Wendt

Corrigan Gallery LLC in Charleston, SC, will present *Semi-Automatic*, featuring the latest works of Alan Jackson and Allan Wendt, on view from May 1 through June 9, 2013. A reception will be held on May 3, from 5-8pm. This is the second time that each of these artists have shown in the gallery.

Semi-Automatic - black and white, continued above on next column to the right

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SCALA

Surrealist Painter

"Plucked"

Selected to participate in the SC Arts Foundation / Verner Sale, part of the SC Arts Gala, in Columbia, SC, May 1, 2013.

Juried into the 2013 Hilton Head Biennale, a Nationally Juried Art Exhibition at the Walter Greer Gallery in Hilton Head, SC, May 4 - June 1, 2013

Exhibiting in the North Charleston Arts Festival May 3 - 11, 2013, Main Event May 4th & 5th.

www.peterscala.com

Studio: 843-225-3313

repetitive, small, large, tight, scattered, mark making mark making marks made, make a mark, do it again - automatic writing, automatic drawing, thought, no thought, control, not controlled - like many things going on in today's world. Straight curved waves nature manmade imitate nature - presentations of human touch on wood or paper illuminated by graphite or ink.

Automatic drawing was considered a form of expression by the subconscious created without consistent, rational control. André Breton, the French artist, defined surrealism as "pure psychic automatism." André Masson, Miro, Dali, Jean Arp all practiced automatic drawing. There was an artistic movement in Canada in the 1940s called "Automatism." One reads more often of automatic writing, although we know that mark making is just that, whether it creates a word or image - representational or not. Many believed the results express something of either the psyche or provided by "spirits" using the "artist" as a medium.

Spontaneity in approach would likely be the word used today and most would shy away from discussions of the psyche taking control or a "spirit" separate from the human making the creation as that intimates mumbo jumbo far from the general viewer's comfort level. Picasso would perhaps discuss getting back to our childhood level of letting go of control. In pure form, automatic writings or drawings are not corrected but the material can be the springboard for work where some control is introduced or the automated work suggests images. But in a world where control seems to be the buzzword and freedom seems protected for the wrong things and not for pure reasons, the simplicity of mark making without complete formal intent is a breath of fresh air.

The lack of color in these works provides a place of relief also. Ink is the substance of choice for Jackson and graphite for Wendt. From large to very small, variety yet similarity provides a resting place for the spirit of the viewer.

Wendt's current thoughts on his work



Work by Alan Jackson

are that, "A particular discipline is practiced here determined by an immediate mental and emotional state allowing an idea to express itself in communication with the hands in a direct way without the interference of pre-determined deliberation resulting in drawings participating in their own making that elude representational or abstract art to the extent that those who look will see something captured that escapes explanation and is comprehended without analysis."

Jackson states, "Borrowing from my training as an architect these non-representational pen and ink compositions include elements of both hard line drafting and freehand sketching. They were initiated as a creative counterpoint to the rigid, representational work required in architectural rendering. The aim of this series of drawings was to examine texture, tone and precision through line work. Each piece is conceived with self-invented constraints while the execution is intended to be a spontaneous and creative process allowing for progression and innovation. Uninterrupted, straight lines are executed with a

continued on Page 17