

GreenHill in Greensboro, NC

continued from Page 25

culinary television shows devoted to desserts speaks to our ongoing fascination with extravagant cakes and sweets. For Pierce this is no surprise, and has, “nothing to do with sustenance and everything to do with how we feel or want to feel. We bake them to express love; we buy them to indulge. They soothe our broken hearts, even as they invite guilt and glut.”

The paintings of Rachel Campbell suggest celebrations in which cakes and desserts play a starring role. Inspired by a recent trip to Germany, Campbell’s paintings of rows of cakes are deployed like a corps de ballet – each element unique yet complimentary. Elegant tiered pastry servers and titles such as *Afternoon Tea* evoke old-world traditions.

Delicate forms of ice-cream cones and pie slices by contemporary fiber artist Ed Bing Lee are made from woven fibers. Lee’s knotting process stems from his attraction to the work of George Seurat and the technical aspects of pointillism - the placement of individual and differing dots of hues, values, and intensity to create a field of color and imagery. Lee’s works will be seen in North Carolina for the first time in *SWEET*.

Artists Jillian Ohl, Stacy Crabill, Robin Frohardt and Paul Rousso are all inspired by the colorful packaging of candy, cereal, and other treats. Ohl contrasts the experience of eating cereal to the heroic figures that are featured on cereal boxes. Crabill combines fortune cookie texts, labels, and vintage photos in collage-like works that suggest the hidden messages sweet foods can project. Frohardt fabricates trompe l’oeil cakes and other foods out of plastic bags to heighten our awareness of the impact of mass-produced food. Rousso’s monumental wall reliefs based on candy wrappers function both as abstractions and as odes to the history of candy, contrasting contemporary designs with older two-color candy wrappers.

SWEET is accompanied by a host of family-friendly associated programs designed to educate the public about nutrition and healthy eating habits through art-making activities. Two community conversations will be hosted at GreenHill addressing food marketing and consumer choice as well as “designer foods” that are fabricated to make us always want more. A multi-generational food and art party for sweet-lovers of all ages, “Play With Your Food,” will be held on July 13 and feature drop-in art workshops, cake decorating demonstrations, cupcake contests and more to savor the summer.

On May 29, from 5:30-6:30pm, Rachel Campbell and Bethany Pierce will offer Artist Talks. Join two of North Carolina’s accomplished still life painters as they discuss their inspiration, painting process and works in *SWEET*.

On June 7, from 5:30-8:30pm, Kristen Baumlier-Faber will offer a First Friday walk-through tour of *SWEET*, with live music by Stephanie Arcos.

GreenHill, located in Downtown Greensboro, is a nonprofit visual art center with the vital mission to support and advocate for the art and artists of our home state, North Carolina. At GreenHill professional artists have meaningful opportunities throughout their careers to participate in a wide range of exhibitions. We provide economic support to artists through the sale of their art in our world-class galleries. Novice artists, from toddlers and young students to lifelong learners, can learn and stretch their creative muscles through our studio-based educational programs. Tap into your creative side by making art, purchasing original works of art and viewing exhibitions that inspire and pique your imagination. At GreenHill there is something for everyone.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listing or visit (www.GreenHillNC.org).

University of North Carolina Greensboro in Greensboro, NC, Features Exhibition Focused on Geometric Abstraction

The University of North Carolina Greensboro in Greensboro, NC, will present *Double Edged: Geometric Abstraction Then and Now*, on view at the Weatherspoon Art Museum, from May 25 through Aug. 18, 2019.

Carefully defined expanses of color and precisely calculated lines—the characteristic elements of geometric abstractions are often defined as rational, measured, and simple. Indeed, one can describe these artworks with a common vocabulary of shapes, colors, and sizes. Their meaning, however, is rarely so singular or straightforward. As painter Jo Baer noted, the challenge in making such work is to create “poetic objects” that are “discrete yet coherent, legible yet dense.” She called these efforts “double-dealing, double-edged.”

Geometric abstraction has long been a vital tradition in American art. Its heyday is often considered the 1960s and 1970s, a moment in which many artists turned their attention to themes of visual perception and

physical construction. Frequently called minimal or cool, their work focused on the formal properties of shape, line, and color in ways that were literal rather than symbolic, and with a focus on the objective rather than the personal.

Today, this bold and graphic style is re-deployed by 21st-century artists. However, in contrast to the neutrality of their earlier counterparts, many of these younger artists embed their work with personal content and use it as a way to consider current social issues. Presenting the two generations of work side by side, this exhibition consists of historic examples drawn from the Weatherspoon’s collection and contemporary counterpoints generously lent by artists and their galleries.

This exhibition is organized by Dr. Emily Stamey, Curator of Exhibitions.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call 336/334-5770 or e-mail to (weatherspoon@uncg.edu).

The O’Brien Art Gallery in Greensboro, NC, Offers Works by Cheyenne Trunnell & Molly Courcelle

The O’Brien Art Gallery in Greensboro, NC, will present *Abounding With Grace*, featuring new works by Asheville artists Cheyenne Trunnell and Molly Courcelle, on view from May 10 through June 30, 2019. A Lunch & Learn demo by this dynamic duo will be offered at 11:30am and a reception will follow from 6-8pm.

Cheyenne Trunnell has aspired to be an artist since she was 12 years old. She graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts from East Tennessee State University. Her concentration was in oil painting with a minor in psychology. After graduating, she attended The George Washington University in Washington, DC, where she attained her Masters in Art Therapy.

Her work has always had a spiritual undercurrent. No matter the subject of choice, she looks for the breath of the spirit and seeks to depict the ever present indwelling of truth. After graduating with a Masters in Art Therapy, her work began to focus on the

continued above on next column to the right

Carolina Arts is now on Twitter!

Sign up to follow Tom’s Tweets, click below!



twitter.com/carolinaarts

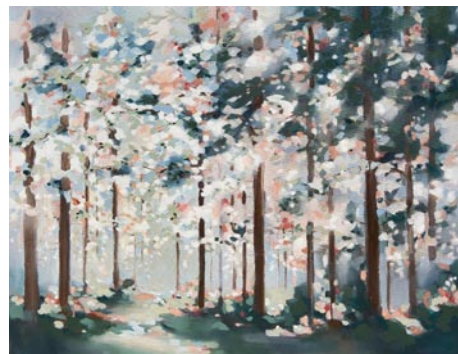
Visit Carolina Arts on Facebook

Go to this [link](#) and “like” us!



correlation between the healing aspect of art and nature. Trunnell’s paintings have many layers of paint rich with texture and meaning. In 2008, upon her grandfather’s passing, she found a renewed desire to create art that soothes the worn and tattered soul.

“As I’ve grown older, I have realized that our culture is always in such a hurry,” says Trunnell. “We never stop to wonder at the small, un-intrusive ways God speaks to us on a daily basis. If we do not stop and be still, we will miss all the little gifts of joy given each day. Painting has always been a spiritual journey for me - a space to explore the essence of peace. For me, pushing paint around a canvas allows me to explore and express the small ways God speaks to us each day. We must stay awake to wonder and give thanks for the many ways He reveals himself to us. Each painting seeks to capture the intricate design of God’s creation and the deeper meaning of life through elements of nature, by exploring the relationship between light, form and gestural line. My purpose is to capture the mystery of His divine being. The fleeting ethereal light that we are all too distracted and too busy to see. I seek those eternal moments when the spirit speaks to the depths of my soul - surrounded by the silence of nature...enveloped in the ethereal light...in those moments I know He is with me... if only I can be still and listen.”



Work by Cheyenne Trunnell

Molly Courcelle’s lush oils are more than just abstract paintings. One cannot help but try to imagine what the lovely organic forms are referencing but also to look deeper. The pieces are rich with layered paint and raw



Work by Molly Courcelle

yet elegant graphic line and somehow manage to feel soft, peaceful, and fluid. “Painting is a celebration for me—of the wonder of the visual world and the emotion and meaning of the spiritual.”

Courcelle’s Christian faith plays an important role in her artwork and most pieces relate to specific verses in Scripture. “Bringing my faith into the work gives purpose and excitement to the act of painting. While my visual vocabulary is directly linked to nature, the subject of my work is mainly scriptural. Not only do my pieces become about what the Lord is teaching me but they can communicate something meaningful and personal to the viewer. I just love that!”

Art was always a part of Courcelle’s life. Her mother, beloved artist Bee Sieburg, encouraged her from an early age to view the world with an artist’s eye. They spent time drawing and painting and loved to visit museums where she gained a love art as well as art history at an early age.

Courcelle attended Wake Forest University, receiving Bachelor of Arts with a focus in painting. Upon graduating she became involved in floral design while living in Cambridge, MA, and Providence, RI. After moving to Asheville in 1997, Courcelle and her mother opened The Gardener’s Cottage, a floral and antiques shop in Asheville’s Biltmore Village which they have since sold. She and her husband Brian live in Candler, NC, and have two sons, William

continued on Page 27