

# Florence Museum in Florence, SC, Offers Textiles from Van Dam Collection

The Florence Museum in Florence, NC, will present the exhibit, *The Van Dam Collection of Rare Textiles*, on view from June 10 through Aug. 21, 2011. A reception will be held on June 10, from 7-9pm.



Rajasthan Prayer Mat

The Florence Museum is pleased to announce this summer's signature exhibit, *The Van Dam Collection of Rare Textiles*. This will be the first public showing of a recently acquired donation of textiles from the private collection of Andy and Linda Van Dam of Camden, SC.

The Van Dams have been traveling and collecting for over forty years and not just textiles. They are currently planning to renovate their arts and antiques store in downtown Camden and convert it into a museum focusing on paintings.

"We first met the Van Dams last year. We heard about their collection of ethnographic art and took a day trip to go meet them and see the shop," said museum curator Stephen Motte. "We were unprepared for the scope and quality of what we were about to see. It defied all typical expectations of what one would consider

antiques. It was essentially a museum that gave you the option of buying the art." That first meeting transformed into a long term relationship and project to amplify the Florence Museum's pre-existing collection of ethnographic arts.

The exhibit will feature functional, ritual and decorative textiles from West Africa, Central Asia and the Middle East, all of which were donated by the Van Dams from their personal collection. It will also include several rare objects from West Africa, on loan for the duration of the show.



Nigerian Leopard Costume Hood

The Florence Museum has a rich heritage of documenting the history of the Pee Dee & surrounding communities. Our home's history includes various cultures, their influences and contributions to the world. We believe these contributions provide us with a fascinating narrative that many people have yet to hear. Our goal is for this history to be documented and heard so that future generations can continue to benefit just as we have.

The exhibit will be accompanied by a color catalog.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, contact the Museum by calling 843/662-3351 or visit ([www.florencemuseum.org](http://www.florencemuseum.org)).

for herself and has also been recognized with a growing number of awards. At the 2011 North Charleston Arts Festival, she won Best of Show for a mixed media work, First Place for another work in the mixed media category, and First Place in the watercolor category. She also won Best in Show at the 2011 Trenholm Artist Guild Show.



Work by Denise L. Greer

In addition, Greer won the 2010 South Carolina Watermedia Society Guy Lipscomb Memorial Award and thereby

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## June - July, 2011 Event Schedule

### Visualicious!

An exciting show featuring paintings, mixed media, ink drawings, sketches, and a wide range of 2-D creative endeavors from both youths and adults.

Deadline for participation: June 3, 2011  
Exhibit Dates: June 17 - July 29, 2011  
**Exhibit Opening Event:**  
Friday, June 17 - 5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.



Ribbons and prizes will be announced the night of the exhibit opening. The Gallery wishes to thank the Hibachi Grill, with two locations in Florence, for their sponsorship of *Visualicious* and for providing cash art awards for the children's division.



Please join us for the opening and plan to visit *Visualicious* featuring over 100 artists of all ages!

### Affordably Unique!

The Gallery turns into "Affordably Unique!," a mixed-marketplace, in conjunction with the Florence Downtown Development Corporation's *Florence After 5* event happening the last Friday of each month. There is live, big band music outside with food vendors and refreshments. Inside the Gallery, there are fresh produce, unique agricultural products, artistic creations, musical entertainment, demonstrations, and more! No charge to attend! Join us Friday, June 24 and Friday, July 29 from 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. for tons of fun!

### Friday Evenings at the Gallery

Each Friday from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. during our exhibits, visit the Gallery to enjoy the latest offerings and the relaxing sounds of Kitty Walters on the piano.

### Hours of operation:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday - 11:30 - 2:30 p.m.; Friday 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.

A project under the auspices of the Florence Downtown Development Corporation  
Sponsor support from the Florence Convention and Visitors Bureau



135 S. Dargan Street  
Florence, SC

[www.art-trail-gallery.com](http://www.art-trail-gallery.com)

Please check our website for the most current event information.

Find us on Facebook at:  
Art Trail Gallery

Free Admission  
Art available for purchase!



Portrait of Jack Dowis  
*Home to the sculpture studio of Alex Palkovich*

# Florence Regional Arts Alliance in Florence, SC, Features Works by Denise L. Greer and Jim Wade

The Florence Regional Arts Alliance in Florence, SC, will present the exhibit, *The 2-D and 3-D Worlds of Denise L. Greer and Jim Wade*, on view in Gallery 412, from June 2 - 30, 2011. A reception will be held on June 2, from 6-8pm.

The show will feature some 40 works by two-dimensional artist Denise L. Greer and some 20 works by three-dimensional artist Jim Wade. Having moved to South Carolina from her native New Jersey only six years ago, Greer currently resides in Rembert, SC, and is developing quite a distinguished reputation for herself in the art world. Jim Wade is a native North Carolinian who moved to South Carolina to teach art in Sumter, SC, some thirty years ago. He too has carved a distinguished niche for himself in the art world.

Greer indicates that she has been involved in art from an early age. She is experienced as a commercial air brush/restoration artist. From her commercial background, she expanded her artistic involvement to include watercolor, acrylic, pastels, collage, and, her own personal specialty, mixed media.

Greer received numerous awards in her native New Jersey. Since relocating to a new home in southern Kershaw County with her husband Mike and their three cats, she has developed quite a reputation

became part of the 2010 South Carolina Watermedia Society Traveling Show. She received a Merit Award at the 2010 South Carolina State Fair and won First Place in the 2009 and 2010 Miniature Arts Shows of the Florence Museum. Greer also won First Place and Honorable Mention at the 2009 North Charleston Arts Festival. She won First Place at the 2008 Pee Dee Regional Art Competition of the Florence Museum and won one of three Distinguished Merit Awards at the 2008 ArtsFest Juried Art Competition of the Florence Regional Arts Alliance.

Jim Wade grew up in Eastern North Carolina and graduated from East Carolina University with a BS degree in Arts Education. He relocated to South Carolina to teach art in Sumter, where he has made his home for over thirty years, during which time he also earned his Masters in Art degree from the University of South Carolina.

Being a true Gemini, Wade enjoys creating art in various media and also has a love for travel. He has visited 48 of the 50 states and 5 of the 7 continents, all of which have served as an inspiration for his art. He was chosen as a Fulbright recipient to Belgium and The Netherlands for Arts Education. During his career, he has had several one-man shows and has participated in many group exhibits throughout the Southeast. He has received numerous awards for his efforts, and his art adorns the walls of homes and collections throughout the United States.

Currently operating at 412 South Dargan Street in the emerging Arts and Cultural District in Downtown Florence, the Florence Regional Arts Alliance is a coalition of practicing artists, educators, corporate officials, business leaders, government officials, and citizens from the community organized as a non-profit service organization whose mission it is to address the needs and promote the creative efforts of artists, arts organizations, school arts teachers, and school arts programs in the City of Florence and Florence County. The Arts Alliance is committed to preserving, supporting, and

promoting a vibrant arts community by providing grants to artists, organizations, teachers, and schools; by recognizing students, individuals, and businesses through a focused program of awards and scholarships; by offering periodic community programming that showcases the performing arts, the visual arts, and the literary arts; and by serving as an advocate for the arts to business, civic, and governmental leaders. All initiatives of The Arts Alliance are premised on the basic organizational core value that recognizes the arts are fundamental to quality of life, education, and economic development in today's knowledge-based economy, an economy that will require innovative, imaginative, and creativity to address the critical issues of the 21st Century.



Work by Denise L. Greer

The Arts Alliance is funded in part by funds from the South Carolina Arts Commission, which receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Alliance at 843/665-2787 or visit (<http://www.florencescarts.org/>).