

Jerald Melberg Gallery in Charlotte, NC, Features Works on Paper Exhibit

As our 30th anniversary celebration continues, Jerald Melberg Gallery, in Charlotte, NC, presents a second group exhibition, *WOP - Works on Paper*, that illustrates the long history and modern diversity of works of art on paper, including collages, pastels, watercolors, graphite and charcoal drawings, oil, acrylic, gouache and mixed media on paper, as well as a diverse selection of editioned and unique prints. The exhibit continues through July 5, 2014.



Work by Charles Basham

Spain. Equally diverse as where the artists live are the types and styles of art they create. Among these are artists of such stature as Romare Bearden, the master American collagist of the twentieth century; Wolf Kahn, considered by many to be the premier living American landscape painter; and Robert Motherwell (1915-1991), one of the leaders of the American Abstract Expressionist movement.

Jerald Melberg Gallery is located on South Sharon Amity Road near the intersection with Providence Road.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 704/365-3000 or visit (www.jeraldmelberg.com).



Work by Wolf Kahn

Jerald Melberg Gallery represents artists from all geographic regions throughout the United States, as well as Argentina and

Cabarrus Arts Council in Concord, NC, Features Whimsical Artworks

The Cabarrus Arts Council in Concord, NC, will present *Comic Relief*, a group invitational exhibition of whimsical, fun and colorful artwork will be on display at The Galleries, located in the Historic Cabarrus Courthouse, from June 9 through July 31, 2014. A reception will be held on June 20, from 6-9pm. Exhibiting artists Ráed Al-Rawi and Walter Stanford will demonstrate how they create their artwork during the event, which will include art displays all over downtown Concord.

"Humor has been a theme present in visual art from the beginning of time," said Rebecca Collins, Cabarrus Arts Council Visual Arts Director and curator for the exhibition. "Interpretations of humor are vast and varied. From the fantastical and lighthearted, to the surreal and provocative, *Comic Relief* presents artworks that explore humor and aim to conjure up questions.

"This group invitational features works in a variety of styles and media that have been informed by comics, cartoons, characters and imagination. Ten Southeastern artists present their viewpoints that are in some cases humorous and whimsical while in others flippant, pensive and ironic.

"Storytelling is common throughout the exhibition. Themes are often playful, witty and satiric. Some works lead with comic related imagery but are full of social and historical precedence. Spectators are invited to tap into their imagination, escape reality and delve into the surreal with support from the artworks in the exhibition. *Comic Relief* challenges the misconception that fine art is usually uptight and serious."

The exhibition includes artists working in a variety of media:



Work by Ráed Al-Rawi

Ráed Al-Rawi of Charlotte, NC, is an American-Iraqi who blends acrylic colors to a hazy luminosity to paint his cartoon-like,



Work by Walter Stanford

imaginative depictions of animals.

Cindy Biles of Graham, NC, creates ceramic sculptures of people and animals that tell stories and evoke memories and emotions.

Tammy Leigh Brooks of Hickory, NC, sculpts impeccably detailed roosters and chickens from a combination of wheel-thrown, coil-built and slab-worked clay.

John K. Crum of Hilton Head Island, SC, uses boats as his metaphor to create paintings that reflect emotions, events and life in a whimsical, gentle surrealism.

Justine Dennis of New Haven, KY, takes disparate recycled materials and creates one-of-a-kind hats.

Kathryn B. Phillips of Asheville, NC, paints imaginative contraptions inspired by the intricacies and implications of machinery.

Vincent Sansone of Orlando, FL, crafts fanciful ceramic sculptures incorporating such elements as armored cats, fish with wheels and walking pickles.

Victoria Sexton of Greenville, NC, creates exotic clay sculptures by wrapping slabs of clay around fabric forms and finishing them with paint, colored pencils and colored waxes.

Walter Stanford of Kannapolis, NC, paints humorous pastels of fantasy creatures, animals and scenes from life.

Izel Vargas of Boynton Beach, FL, creates thought-provoking mixed media artworks informed by comics and cartoons that draw from his upbringing along the United States-Mexican border.

The Galleries, which are operated by the Cabarrus Arts Council, are located on Union Street S, in Concord. Four separate spaces are included: the Grant Gallery, the Dusch Gallery, the Lockovitch Gallery and the Jones Gallery.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Council at 704/920-2787 or visit (www.CabarrusArtsCouncil.org).

Ciel Gallery in Charlotte, NC, Features Works by Emily T. Address and Amy Hart

Ciel Gallery, a fine art collective in Charlotte, NC, will present *Time Collectors*, the first in a series of member showings, featuring the art of Emily T. Address and Amy Hart, on view June 6 - 28, 2014. A reception will be held on June 6, from 6-9pm.

Majoring in fine art with concentrations in Painting and Printmaking, Emily Address started her career as a printmaker. Although her style has changed dramatically after a return to oil painting, the subject matter is still portraiture. Address' portraits are not exact representations of the subject, but rather use facial expression and body language to convey personality.

Inspired by innovators of late 19th to early 20th century artists in Paris, Address uses aggressive brushstrokes and a loose style, giving her portraits a timeless quality. Inspiration ranges from antique photos of family (her grandmother lived to be 109), antique flea market photos, and friends and family. The *Time Collectors* series includes paintings of people from the late 1800's through the present, but identifiable personalities shine well beyond any represented era. "My goal is to create a recognizable style in portraiture, much as those long gone trailblazers did so beautifully," says Address.

Amy Hart creates whimsical sculpture from found objects, with a heavy emphasis on well-used metal. As a child in upstate New York, Hart was influenced by her small agricultural town. It wasn't uncommon for neighbors to have old plows in their front yards, or even a few cars that hadn't run in twenty years.

"Rusted objects were as much a part of the landscape as the trees and sky," says Hart. Now she haunts junkyards to find these icons of rural life and transforms them into whimsical ornaments that range from



Work by Emily Address

12" to more than six feet. Flowers and birds are favorite subjects, but serrated alligators, elephants with watering-can trunks, and a common house fly created from mustard-tinted engine parts with metal-strap wings and spoons for google eyes also make their way into her collection.

"I'm drawn to the theme *Time Collectors*, because the found objects I select for art are truly timeless in their function and form," says Hart. "Even if you work in an office tower, everyone recognizes a pitchfork used as a bird's tail. These left-behind objects help us connect the past and present to make the obsolete useful again, and bring a bit of groundedness to fast-paced lives."

Ciel Gallery, a fine art collective of twenty-seven local artists, is located on E. Park Avenue, Southend Charlotte.

For more info check our NC commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 704/496-9417 or visit (www.cielcharlotte.com).

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