

Theatre Art Galleries in High Point, NC, Offers Summer Exhibits

Theatre Art Galleries (TAG) of High Point, NC, is presenting new summer exhibitions, on view through Aug. 3, 2018.

HEATH SLANE: *Images Along the Continuum* will be featured in the Main Gallery. High Point native Heath Slane's love of photography began through a course of study as a high school student at The Madeira School in Washington, DC. She continued to follow her passion at the International Center of Photography (ICP) in New York City, where she lived for almost 10 years. Focusing on capturing life in the city through streetscapes, her work was sold in a SOHO gallery. Initially working with 35mm, she eventually switched to medium format. In 1992 she moved to Los Angeles where she lived for 24 years and exhibited her work in an exhibit at the Zipper Gallery.

While in NYC, Slane made annual pilgrimages to New Mexico, where she connected with its unique landscape and through her lens captured the world of Georgia O'Keefe. But it was while she was in LA that Slane, along with her sister Landon, turned her focus to jewelry, founding Slane & Slane, a highly successful line of jewelry which was often inspired by architectural elements. Her love of photography and jewelry merged as she also exhibited and sold her work in their stores in New York and LA.



Work by Heath Slane

When travelling back to New York, Slane began to capture various unique moldings and building details through her photography to use as inspiration for jewelry design. This use of shapes and textures was an "easy marriage" and found expression in a distinctive look for the jewelry that was immediately recognizable as Slane & Slane. Her time spent in factories where the jewelry was produced was reminiscent of her childhood days where she spent time in her father's hosiery mill. This resonated with Slane and led to a series of industrial photographs from the factories.

In addition to images from NYC and New Mexico, the exhibit will feature photography from Africa, whose landscapes



Installation by Susan Lenz

shared many similarities with the American Southwest. Also featured will be images from New Orleans and her mother's childhood farm in Pleasant Garden. Slane now resides in Charleston, SC.

Anonymous Ancestors, an installation will be featured in the Upstairs Gallery. To stand within Columbia, SC, artist Susan Lenz's installation, *Anonymous Ancestors*, is to become immersed in the myriad of family stories handed down through generations. Each snapshot is a frozen moment on life's timeline. Letters and words clipped from vintage print material allow one's mind to wander, envisioning forgotten friends, past holidays, ancient occasions, former cars and hilarious fashion trends. Yet, all the images are anonymous.

The photos come from yard sales, auctions and thrift stores. Who are these people? Who really knows? They are distant aunts and uncles, cousins, grandparents, siblings and in-laws. They are society's family tree, our collective wall of ancestors.

Lowering the Tracks will be featured in the Hallway Gallery. Before 1939, traveling across High Point meant waiting for stopped trains. Tracks crossing the major north and south roads divided the city in half as frequent trains loaded and unloaded. In the late 1930s, the city seized the opportunity provided by the federal New Deal funding to lower the track bed 35 feet below street grade. Costing nearly \$1.5 million and taking over 10 years to complete, the massive project changed the downtown landscape and impacted High Point's development. This exhibit is in collaboration with the High Point Museum.

The Annual Middle School Art Exhibition will be featured in the Kaleidoscope Gallery with art work by many of the students from our area middle schools.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call TAG at 336/887-2137 or visit (www.tagart.org).

UNC-Greensboro in Greensboro, NC, Offers Works by Doug Aitken

UNC-Greensboro in Greensboro, NC, will present *Single-Channel Catalyst III: Doug Aitken's migration (empire) and Selections from the Collection*, on view in the Weatherspoon Art Museum, from June 9 through Sept. 30, 2018.

In his video *migration (empire)*, Los Angeles based artist Doug Aitken intermixes footage of US industrial landscapes with unexpected scenes of indigenous wild animals confined in roadside motel rooms normally reserved for wayfaring people. Removed from their habitats but drawing on their natural instincts, these undomesticated animals interact alone or in like pairs with the room's furnishings, spaces, and environs. Unsurprisingly, droll incidents occur. A horse watches a herd of wild horses running freely across the landscape on a television; a beaver enjoys a bathtub filled with water; an owl stares transfixed as the feathers of a pillow rain down upon it. Aitken links these assorted vignettes together by repeating particular imagery and motifs.

Throughout its 24 minutes, the video considers the effects of America's westward expansion and its impact on the landscape. The sterile habitat of the motels and the animals' displacement from their native environments underscore this

theme and serve as allegories to the lost freedom of a bygone era and the complexity of society today. Although no people are seen, their presence is both implied and felt. Televisions, coffee machines, and lamps have been turned on, doors and refrigerators opened, and bathtubs filled for the animal occupants, who serve as our pseudo-surrogates. The visual splendor of these animals and the formal beauty of the video as a whole are both mesmerizing and affecting.

migration (empire) serves as the catalyst for a concurrent exhibition of artworks drawn from the museum's collection. Each object features elements or images that likewise appear in some form in Aitken's video. The artworks are presented without extended interpretative labels so that visitors can experience their maximum visual impact.

Organized by Elaine D. Gustafson, Curator of Collections.

The *Single-Channel Catalyst* series is supported by a generous gift from Nancy Rubins in honor of her late husband, Chris Burden.

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



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