

Craven Arts Council in New Bern, NC, Features Two New Exhibitions

The Craven Arts Council in New Bern, NC, will present two new exhibits including: *Juneteenth*, featuring works by local African American artists, on view in the Bank of the Arts, Main Gallery, from June 11 - 30, 2021, and *Lee Hood*, a local artist known for both his paintings, on view in the Bank of the Arts, Director's Gallery, from June 11 - 30, 2021. A reception for both exhibits will be held on June 11, from 5-8pm.

Juneteenth is celebrated on June 19th every year and commemorates the announcement of the Emancipation Proclamation in the state of Texas after the Civil War. In honor of this historic celebration of freedom in the South, local African American artists will present works about the holiday, African American History, their experiences as African Americans, and what freedom means to them.



Work by Lee Hood

Some artists featured in the *Juneteenth* exhibition include Maximillian Mazingo, Crystal Felton, Tyrone Brown and Diamond Campbell. All pieces in the exhibition feature a wide variety of mediums and range in style from afro-futurism to portraiture.

Lee Hood is a local artist known for both his paintings and his process for painting - painting en plein air. Hood grew up



Work by Maximillian Mazingo

in Eastern North Carolina off the Pamlico Sound. From an early age, Hood took art classes and then started his career in the army. Through opportunities in the military, he took art lessons from Dr. Alexander at Central Texas College in 1990's.

Hood returned to downtown New Bern and began en plein air paintings of the streetscapes documenting the architecture. He has not only painted en plein air in New Bern, but also in Haiti. He currently operates a studio on Middle Street on the second floor above Cow Café, where he paints his own works and offers painting instruction and group art parties. Hood also does reproductions of his own work and reproduces other artists paintings as well.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Council at 252/638-2577 or visit (www.cravenarts.org).

Leland Cultural Arts Center in Leland, NC, Features Works by Adrienne Watts and Pam Milat

The Leland Cultural Arts Center in Leland, NC, will present two new exhibits featuring *Large Abstracts* by Adrienne Watts and *Basketry: Heirloom to Art* by Pam Milat, both on view from June 5 through July 1, 2021. In lieu of a reception, the artists are available to meet visitors personally throughout the exhibit. Milat can be contacted by e-mail at (mispam_gs@yahoo.com); and Watts can be contacted by e-mail at (adriennewattsart@gmail.com).

Watts's influence for creating this exhibition was an expressive abstract workshop with South Florida abstract artist, Sally Cooper, in January 2020. Watts, whose typical work is no larger than 20", wanted to challenge herself to create larger works on canvas. Some of the new paintings stand on their own while others were inspired by the artist's smaller work and will be exhibited as a series. The exhibit is partially funded by a grant from the Jerry Goldstein Foundation and Jerry's Artarama.



Work by Adrienne Watts

been drawn to since childhood. Watts's art has been included in local, regional, and national exhibitions. She is a member of the Wilmington Art Association and Art League of Leland and her work is available at Water+Color Gallery, Sunset River Marketplace, online at (adriennewattsart.com), or by appointment at her studio.

Heirloom basketry was not concerned about the esthetics of the design or finished product; the focus was that the basket met an intended purpose. Today basketry is enjoyed as objects of art and they are made with a myriad of materials both natural and man-made. Milat designs and weaves primarily reed, cane, and seagrass, fashioning her pieces with multiple techniques within each basket. Pam Milat has a focus to bring the history and the Art of Basketry to others.

Milat was raised in a culturally rich environment by parents that sang in a city choir as they dated, who provided opportunities for a mesh of country and city

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Work by Pam Milat

Watts grew up in an artistic family and painted for many years but chose a career in business. She devoted herself to painting full time in 2018 and uses the creative process to explore materials and process of abstract expressionism, which she has

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The Boating Life
Group Show
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Swells, Acrylic by Bryan Krpejs
16 x 20 inches

Sunset River Marketplace

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