



Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center in Asheville, NC, Features Works by Jo Sandman

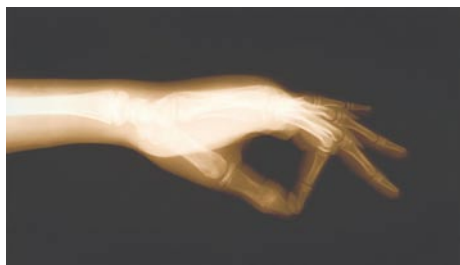
Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center in Asheville, NC, will present *Jo Sandman / TRACES*, on view from June 3 through Sept. 3, 2022. A reception will be held on June 3, from 5:30 - 8pm, featuring a Gallery Talk with Katherine French, Curator of the Jo Sandman Legacy Project.

After a life-changing summer studying at Black Mountain College, Boston-based artist Jo Sandman decided to devote her life to art. At BMC during that pivotal summer of 1951, she studied painting and drawing with Robert Motherwell and Ben Shawn and photography with Harry Callahan and Aaron Siskind, took classes in anthropology and French, and was exposed to the ideas of faculty artist Joe Fiore as well.

It was this “galvanizing experience” at BMC that prompted Jo Sandman to decide to follow the path of an artist. She went on to develop and maintain a studio practice exploring painting, drawing, experimental sculpture, installation, and photography for more than sixty years, always with an acute awareness of the lingering traces of history, memory, purpose, and meaning embedded in her wide-ranging choice of materials, imagery, and processes. Sandman’s restless curiosity has always led the way forward.

After her summer at Black Mountain College, Sandman earned her BFA in fine art from Brandeis University in 1952, and then reconnected with Abstract Expressionist painter Robert Motherwell at Hunter College in New York. She also studied with Hans Hofmann at the Hans Hofmann School of Painting in Provincetown, MA, and again in New York City, where she served as registrar to help pay tuition expenses.

During this time in New York, Sandman became a member of the legendary artists’



Jo Sandman, “Light Memory #4”, 2006. Toned gelatin silver print. Collection of BMCM+AC.

group The Club and frequented The Cedar Tavern where the Abstract Expressionists and avant-garde poets gathered to drink, talk, and argue about art. Sandman also studied at The Art Institute of Chicago and, in addition to maintaining a robust studio practice, she taught at Wellesley College, The Art Institute of Chicago, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, and many other visiting artist posts.

Sandman’s work is included in the permanent collections of the Addison Gallery of American Art, Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center, Dallas Museum of Fine Arts, Huntington Museum, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and the Seattle Museum of Art, as well as college art museums at Bates, Bowdoin, Brandeis, Amherst, MIT, Mt Holyoke College, NYU, Rhode Island School of Design, Smith, UNC-Greensboro, and Wellesley. Sandman has received grants from the NEA and the Rockefeller Foundation as well as multiple fellowships and awards for her work.

This exhibition was curated by Alice Sebrell, Director of Preservation (BMCM+AC)

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (www.blackmountaincollege.org).

Asheville Gallery of Art in Asheville, NC, Features Works by Cynthia Llanes

The Asheville Gallery of Art in Asheville, NC, will present *Nature’s Mirrors*, featuring works by oil painter Cynthia Llanes, on view from June 1 - 30, 2022. A reception will be held on June 3, from 5-8pm.

Llanes will feature the ever-changing

phenomena of nature. She says, “Nature speaks to us so eloquently about love, beauty, design, harmony of colors, and so much more. Every day nature tells us a story and I feel compelled to share its story through my new collection of oil paintings.”

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I like to sit in front of my easel and paint these feelings of wonder, hoping to capture what the natural world brings us to experience and enjoy.”

Llanes uses pure, bright colors with palette knife and bold brush strokes. Painting en plein aire allows her to paint a moment in time capturing the vista before her and its beautiful stories. Her photos and outdoor sketches provide references when creating larger studio works. Painting on location gives her a lift and an emotional connection to the landscape. She says, “This is an exciting phase of my journey as an artist.”

After completing her Bachelor’s degree in Fine Arts, Llanes pursued a career in fashion as a textile designer in the Los Angeles fashion district for many years. Inspired by the endless possibilities in visual art, she then devoted more of her time to painting. Her vision for her art was transformed after moving from California to Western North Carolina.

Llanes has travelled extensively in Asia and parts of Europe. “The many sights and scenes from all cultures have helped me in my growth as an artist. My paintings are not reproductions of what I see but I try to capture the magic in a scene and share my personal experience to connect with the viewer. I believe that art’s purpose is to up-



Work by Cynthia Llanes

lift, inspire, communicate, and sometimes, even provoke a conversation.”

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/251-5796 or visit (www.ashevillegallery-of-art.com).

American Folk Art in Asheville, NC, Features Works by Tres Taylor

American Folk Art in Asheville, NC, will present *Birdsong: Mystic Paintings* by Tres Taylor, on view from June 7 - 24, 2022.

Have you ever been gently awakened by the singing of birds? Do you know that thin space in your awareness between dreamland and homeland? A space where the possibilities of the day are endless? Tres Taylor’s paintings live in that space.

A native son of Alabama, Taylor is a self-taught artist and has been painting for a living for more than twenty years. Once upon a time, he was biochemist, but he has found much more satisfaction in surrendering to the mysteries of nature, rather than trying to solve them. His work revolves around the idea of basking in your surroundings and remaining present in the moment.

When experiencing Taylor’s work, you can sense the feeling of pure joy that surrounds the paintings like an aura. It flows free and envelops the viewer. The rich, bright colors are uplifting. The subjects, be they animals, landscapes, or figures, appear caught in a moment of sweet commune



Work by Tres Taylor

with their surroundings.

A devotee of poetry and music as well as nature, the paintings Taylor has created for this show have been inspired by the words

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