

West Main Artists Co-op

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Part of the Co-op's mission is to provide exhibition opportunities to emerging artists along with professionals. Lane Brown, a recent USC Upstate graduate, and Christa Roberts, a Converse College studio art major, will be exhibiting their works along with artists with long established careers. This enables the invitational to be unique and offer a variety of

styles and media.

WMAC is funded in part by the Art Partnership and the South Carolina Arts Commission which receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or call the Co-op at 864/804-6501.

Artists Guild Gallery of Greenville, SC, Features Works by Teresa Prater

The Artists Guild Gallery of Greenville in Greenville, SC, will present an exhibit of works by Teresa Prater, on view from Aug. 1 - 31, 2013. A reception will be held on Aug. 2, from 6-9pm.

Prater is the Charles A. Dana Professor of Studio Art and Chair of the Department of Art and Design at Converse College in Spartanburg, SC. She received her BFA from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville and her MA and MFA in painting and drawing from the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque.



Work by Teresa Prater

Prater's drawings, paintings, photographs, and artist books have been shown nationally and in Mexico and Switzerland. She has been a fellow at the artists' residencies Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, The Hambidge Center in Georgia, and Studio Camnitzer in Lucca, Italy.

Prater is a founding member of the West Main Artists Cooperative in Spartanburg. Prater offered the following statement: "I have always enjoyed discovering and exploring new media. Over the past five years I have explored the encaustic wax method of painting and enjoy its ability to create ethereal visual effects through its transparency and layering process. In addition to direct painting I experiment



Work by Teresa Prater

with a variety of photography, collage, and transfer methods. My newest work explores the inclusion of oil sticks and layers of wax. Linear elements are created through incisions and scratches on the soft surface. Visually the new works are meant to be playful dream-like worlds in which birds, boats, ladders, and horses are the methods in which to move from one place to another. A constant journey."

You'll find an eclectic mix of works on view at the Artists Guild Gallery of Greenville by members: Dottie Blair, Laura Buxo, Gerda Bowman, Pat Cato, Dale Cochran, Robert Decker, Kathy DuBose, Pat Grills, Mel Hammonds, Edith McBee Hardaway, Chris Hartwick, Kevin Henderson, Megan Heuse, Russell Jewell, Diarmuid Kelly, John Pendarvis, David Waldrop, Erin Webb and Kathleen Wiley, as well as by consignors; John Auger, Matthew Brophy, Kathryn W. Copley and Jennifer Henderson.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 864/239-3882 or visit (www.artistsguildgalleryofgreenville.com).

RIVERWORKS Gallery in Greenville, SC, Features Works by John Acorn

RIVERWORKS Gallery in Greenville, SC, is presenting *JOHN ACORN: Project Pistols*, on view through Aug. 30, 2013. A reception will be held on Aug. 2, from 6-9pm.

Acorn confesses to being addicted to making things. For the last 5 years he has made hundreds of wooden pistols and assembled them or combined them to create The Pistol Project.



Work by John Acorn

"My interest in using the pistol as a subject or theme for my recent artwork is part of my ongoing search and inquiry into the nature of our species, human beings," Acorn says. The pistol cutouts are a child's benign toy and a timely reminder of death, often too young and always too frequent. Acorn,

with his signature impeccable craftsmanship, has combined brightly colored pistols to configure a "P", like the "P" in "My First Alphabet Book."

Acorn has constructed icons that might be found in the proverbial Sunday School class by framing angel whatnots with pistols. He has tucked pistols into a handmade quilt to insure the safety and warmth of home and hearth. Acorn has used the pistols to touch on many of our American apple pie ideals, childhood, home, church. The Pistol Project is accessible, fun, frightening and sad all at once.

Acorn explains "I do not intend to be a crusader or missionary on issues regarding firearms. I do admit, however, to wondering about the fact that my culture is so enamored with firearms."

Acorn, after completing a MFA at Michigan's Cranbrook Academy of Art began teaching at Clemson University in 1961. He served as chair of the Art Department at Clemson for 21 years, retiring in 1997. Acorn has been an active artist with many commissions in public buildings across South Carolina. His latest commission (2013) is the stunning "Orbital Trio" in NOMA Square outside the Hyatt on Main Street, Greenville.

The South Carolina Arts Commission recognized his efforts as an arts advocate in South Carolina in 1998 with the Elizabeth

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O'Neill Verner Award. Acorn has exhibited widely and his work is included in the collections of the Greenville County Museum of Art, the Asheville Museum of Art and Charlotte's Mint Museum of Art. Acorn received Clemson's 2010 Distinguished Emeriti Award for his continuing commitment to the university and the community after retirement.

RIVERWORKS Gallery is operated by and for the faculty and students of the Department of Visual and Performing Arts at Greenville Technical College. The gallery is located at 300 River Street, Suite 202, along the scenic Reedy River in downtown Greenville.

For further information check our SC



Work by John Acorn

Institutional Gallery listings, call the gallery at 864/271-0679 or visit (www.gvltec.edu/vpa/) and click on RIVERWORKS.

Hickory Museum of Art in Hickory, NC, Features Work by Larry Heath

The Hickory Museum of Art in Hickory, NC, is presenting a new exhibition this summer featuring folk art by former Hickory resident Larry Heath. *Cutting Tin & Cake* will be on view through Oct. 8, 2013, in the Museum's Gifford, Regal and Windows Galleries.

HMA acquired ten major sculptures by Larry Heath in 2012. Added to two pieces previously donated by the artist, the Museum now has the opportunity to showcase and to frame the needed discussion about the work of this little known, but amazing artist. Heath created masterful sculptures from a single piece of flattened metal. He possessed the conceptual ability to visualize complex scenes and, from a two dimensional sheet, cut and fold the metal to achieve the third dimension, using only simple hand tools.

In a 2001 autobiographical article for *VOICES*, the annual newsletter of the North Carolina Folk Art Society, Larry Heath opened his essay with a stunningly simple and shocking statement: "I was born to a woman who did not want me." His birthmother bound her belly to conceal her pregnancy, then turned her son over to her sister to bring up because the sister was



Work by Larry Heath

married and could "explain" his presence. He was nearly an adult before he learned the truth. The consequences of his mother's actions were serious birth defects that required many surgeries and many months of hospitalization, and the emotional upheavals of growing up unloved. Heath's facial deformities had a profound effect on his view of life, but did not hinder his sharp intellect, his energy or ambition, his imagination or unusual grasp of special relations.

In his fifties, after a tumultuous life and difficult relationships, Heath turned

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