

Crimson Laurel Gallery

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to around 1250 degrees Centigrade. The bisque work absorbed the carbon of the charcoal as well as any other fumes created – all depending on the ingredients she added to the firing, to create a varied and dramatic texture and color combination to her pieces.

The naked raku process is where the work is coated with a glaze that, when heated, will not adhere to the clay. After the pot has been heated to 900 Celsius it is placed in a container of sawdust. One can hear the glaze cracking after the sawdust catches fire. A number of minutes later the pot is placed on the ground where the glaze comes off in chunks. The white pot is marked by smoke where the cracked glaze allowed it to enter. The stark white pot with the highly contrasting smoky black lines is the look this process achieves.

Conrad Weiser will be showing typical raku work. Raku is traditionally a low fire technique where the work is taken from the kiln while it's red hot, quickly quenched and allowed to cool down in a can full of combustibles. This carbon filled atmosphere allows the glazes to crackle, have metallic sheens, blacken the clay body, creating different textures and effects depending on the glazes applied, heat, and quenching processes.

Weiser says "I've recently started to add waxes to the surfaces after the firings as well as silver and gold powders, mixing them into the wax paste. I'm constantly experimenting and don't stop with the firing process. My newest pieces are where I put the pot through the regular Raku process; then sandblasted the masked areas down to the white clay itself to create different patterns and designs."

Edge Barnes has perfected his horsehair and pit firing work through years of experimentation and steady production. For his pit-fired vessels he'll wrap a pot in seaweed, steel wool, or cotton before adding an acidic solution. A layer of aluminum foil goes around that. The



Work by Conrad Weiser

wrapped pot and a layer of wood chips go into the saggar, which is fired in his home kiln at almost 1,700 degrees. Very similar to baking a cake; everything goes into the heat and, if your recipe is good and your technique solid, you've got a winner.

Saggar firing isn't Barnes' only trick. He also works with horsehair painting, which involves brushing hair across the surface of searing hot pots just as they come out of the kiln. Where the saggar firing creates fluid patches of color, the horsehair leaves spidery carbon marks.

"It's almost like painting with a brush that's burning up on you," Barnes says.

"It takes no more than three minutes – that's all I've got." Barnes will also use feathers, or sprinkle on sugar or orange zest to create spots and streaks. His latest experiment involves firing pots wrapped in acrylic paints, to create bold marbled patterns of color in shades as bright as bubble gum and cotton candy.

"I'm excited about the possibilities," he says. "It keeps you fresh." So, please stop in and see some truly unique and inspirational work. We're open Tuesday – Saturday 10am-6pm and Sunday 12-5.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/688-3599 or visit (www.crimsonlaurelgallery.com).

Asheville Gallery of Art in Asheville, NC, Offers Works by Joyce Schlapkohl

The Asheville Gallery of Art in Asheville, NC, will present *Reflections of Summer*, featuring works by Joyce Schlapkohl, on view from Aug. 1 - 31, 2014. A reception will be held on Aug. 1, from 5-8pm.

"For many years, I studied, taught and painted in watercolor," says Schlapkohl, who is a past president of the Blue Ridge Watermedia Society and a signature member of the Watercolor Society of North Carolina. "After a while, I felt a strong desire to switch to oils and have been painting almost exclusively in oils for the past nine years."

Reflections of Summer will feature a range of subject matter, including landscapes, flowers, still lifes, and animals.

"I try to transform ordinary images into reflections of color and light," says Schlapkohl. "A wonderful thing about painting is that you never stop learning, never stop developing your eye. I've come to enjoy and appreciate the process. Often, clear value patterns of light and shade draw me to a particular subject. Then I strive for strong design and color harmony. The changing mountain landscape, animals grazing, and flowers blooming are generally my subjects, as well as my inspiration. Painting is a solitary, nonverbal form of expressiveness that enriches



Work by Joyce Schlapkohl

my life and brings me joy."

Schlapkohl's studio is in Waynesville, NC, where she continues to teach oil painting.

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

Norris Public Library in Rutherfordton Features Works by Donna M. Sabolovic

The Norris Public Library in Rutherfordton, NC, is presenting an exhibit of works by Donna M. Sabolovic, as part of the Library's ART @ the LIBRARY series, on view through Sept. 31, 2014.

Sponsored by the Rutherford County

Visual Artist Guild, this exhibit features works in a variety of mediums including watercolor, calligraphy, pencil, and pen and ink.

Sabolovic and her husband moved to

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North Carolina in 2012. While a resident of Texas she was member of the calligrapher's guild and exhibited with the Texas Calligraphy Society. She began her professional career in the graphic art department in a Pennsylvania department store. Sabolovic has worked in commercial art and has participated in numerous art shows and exhibits in which she was a frequent award winner. She is an active member of the Rutherford County Visual Artists Guild and serves a docent at the Visual Arts Center.

Sabolovic has taught classes including those in calligraphy and flat brush watercolor floral and illuminated letters and has worked as a commissioned artist. Her commissions include portraits, calligraphy, mixed media and other art genre.

Recognized as an accomplished artist by her peers and those who collect her work, Sabolovic combines various mediums in her art work.

Sabolovic says, "Creating a piece that is as stimulating to the eyes as words are comforting to the spirit is the goal I try to achieve in my calligraphy. In my other works of art, my tools are the paint brush, pen, colors of various mediums and even the handmade papers that I gather. While watercolor can be challenging, it remains fascinating to me whether I am using it to paint a traditional piece, abstracts or a



Work by Donna M. Sabolovic combination of both."

Sabolovic added, "In my commissioned work I enjoy being able to translate a printed piece into a work of art that my client enjoys personally or wants to give as a gift. This is just one of the many rewards of being an artist."

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Rutherford County Visual Arts Center at 828/288-5009 or visit (www.rcvag.com).

Potters in Leicester, NC, Invite You to the "Come to Leicester" Studio Tour - Aug. 16 & 17, 2014

The ninth annual "Come to Leicester" studio tour will be held from 10am to 6pm on Saturday, Aug. 16 and Sunday, Aug. 17, 2014. This year the free self-guided tour will feature the work of twenty potters. Local and invited potters will open their studios located throughout scenic Leicester, NC, (pronounced Les-ter) just outside Asheville, NC, for the two day event showcasing a variety of fine works in clay.

"This year's tour will focus on pottery, a true heritage craft in our state. Styles from traditional wood-fired functional stoneware to whimsical figurative pieces will be represented in the works of prominent potters," says tour chairman Doc Welty.



Work by Amy Goldstein Rice

be displayed at Wildberry Lodge Bed & Breakfast to help you plan your route. The lodge is located between Leicester highway and Newfound road at 135 Potato Branch Road and serves as hospitality host for the tour nine years running.

Save the weekend for a beautiful ride through the scenic countryside just outside Asheville to visit with our artists and pick up a piece of their work, the welcome mat is out, refreshments are on the table and we look forward to seeing you Aug. 16 & 17.

Participating artists include: Linda Boswell, Julie Calhoun-Roepnack, Deering Davis, Karen Dubois, Denise Dvoretz, Amy Goldstein-Rice, Sue Grier, Judi Harwood, Cat Jarosz, Maggie Jones, Matt Jones, John Lawson, Laurey-Faye Long, Ernst Meyer, Sarah Wells Roland, Andrew Stephenson, Lori Theriault, Amy Waller, Anita Walling, and Doc Welty.

Full information about the tour including a detailed map and artist information can be found at (www.cometoleicester.com). For other inf contact Doc Welty by e-mail at (mdwelty@bellsouth.net) or call 828/683-8726.



Work by Doc Welty

The artists will be at five different locations in Leicester, Four studios and the Addison Farms Vinyard, which also displays the work of other area artists. Additionally Doc Welty's studio also carries the work of three other artists from Leicester.

A downloadable map and artist information can be found at (www.ComeToLeicester.com).

Samples of each Artist's work will

Caldwell Arts Council in Lenoir, NC, Offers Exhibit of Figure Studies

The Caldwell Arts Council in Lenoir, NC, will present *Body Works*, featuring figure artwork by Davidson College Assistant Art Professor Hagit Barkai in the main floor galleries. Figure artists featured in the upstairs gallery are: Bobbi Miller

(Moran Wyoming), Dan Smith (Hickory NC), Jean Cauthen (Mint Hill NC), Kate Worm (Taylorsville NC), Kenny Walker (Lawndale NC), and Steve Brooks (Hickory NC). The exhibits will be on

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