

Art League of Hilton Head

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nity and its visitors through exhibitions, education and partnerships” is Art League of Hilton Head’s mission.

For further information check our

SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the League at 843/681-5060 or visit (www.artleaguehhi.org).

Spartanburg County Public Headquarters Library in Spartanburg, SC, Features Fiber Works by Cecilia Ho

The Spartanburg County Public Headquarters Library in Spartanburg, SC, is presenting *FELT Expressions*, an exhibition by Greenville SC fiber artist, Cecilia Ho, on view in the Library’s Crutchfield Gallery, through Sept. 9, 2020.

Inspired by geodes, with especially colorful linings of banded agate, this collection of organic wool felt displays one of Nature’s many creative expressions. Unique felt patterns are naturally formed by Merino sheep wool, Mulberry silk and TENCEL™ - cellulosic fibers from wood pulp, via the traditional wet felting, modern needle felting and nuno felting process.

“Felt It. Love it. Treasure It.” Memories are created through the process of felting. Every time you touch it, feel it and look more into it, you will discover more magical moments!

“Felting allows me to manipulate one of the oldest textile techniques; to incorporate contemporary felting applications; and to create decorative yet functional wool felt creations.” says Ho. “Felting allows me to feel the softness of wool from sheep, goats, and sometimes plant fibers. For those who see and touch and sometimes even smell my wool felt collection, try to look beyond the objects and explore the Science of Wool and embrace its sustainable beauty. With natural fibers, felt can be handcrafted in all kinds of formations, shapes, textures and colors. While my designs are surrounded by all natural and organic things, there are endless possibilities through felting.”



View of Cecilia Ho’s exhibit

tion, I hope you will feel Nature’s many expressions. Like a geode, it is a blessing in disguise. Geode comes from the Greek word “γεώδης” (geóides) meaning “earth-like”. From the outside, geodes resemble common rocks, but when they are broken open, they reveal a hollow cavity lined with a layer of agate and often filled with crystals. It’s a mysterious gift from Mother Nature which symbolizes inner beauty.

“Natural felting also depends on environmental conditions (moisture, temperature, pH),” explains Ho. “Wool fibers with natural scales can become felt and create organic patterns. Most exhibits



Work by Cecilia Ho, detail

are transformed from Merino sheep wool, Mulberry silk and TENCEL™ - cellulosic fibers from wood pulp, into wool fabric or sculptures by applying the traditional wet felting technique that requires repeated matting and agitating. Combining wool and silk chiffon fabric with modern Nuno Felting technique, the sheer see-through panel becomes an alternative to opaque solid wool felt. Some exhibits also include needle felting, beading & carving to create additional textures. Felting can express my imagination. This [*FELT Expressions*] collection is one way for me to show my gratitude to Mother Nature!”

Cecilia Ho was born into a family of designers in Hong Kong. She is a self-taught fiber artist who has been experimenting and creating all kinds of wool felt creations since 2010. After her relocation to the Upstate SC, Ho has been teaching felting workshops monthly to all age groups in Spartanburg Art Museum and at the Greenville Center for Creative Arts since 2015, and also at OLLI Furman since 2019. She is also actively running demonstrations at public festivals across the USA. Currently, Ho is a SC Arts Commission Certified Teaching Artist running fiber arts integration (STEAM) units at multiple local, regional and national organizations & schools. FELTasticFashion is a business created to offer felting supplies, hands-on learning DIY kits, private workshop and team building events, as well as customized wool felt commissions. Inquire by e-mail at (FELTasticFashionUS@gmail.com) or visit (www.FELTasticFashion.com).

Links for videos offered in conjunction with this exhibit include: a 12-min Virtual Walk-in Tour (Close up + Music only) at (<https://youtu.be/v621J91n7ko>) and a 23-min Virtual Artist Talk (Details Close up & felting techniques explanation) at (<https://youtu.be/BDcV26FEqvg>).

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Library at 864/596-3500 or visit (www.spartanburglibraries.org).

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like to say - it is what it is.

We’re going to hang in there for the time being, hoping there is an end in sight. Artists will keep making art, it’s in their nature to produce, whether people see what they produce or not, and after 33 years, telling you what there is to see in the Carolinas is in our nature. Besides, we’ve passed the hump of this year already - it’s all downhill towards the end of the year and I want to see what 2021 looks like - Carolina art wise. It’s got to be better than 2020 has been.

We want people to stay safe and stay healthy, but a trip to an art exhibit or art gallery might just be what you need right now after staying at home or if you’ve been one of the health care workers taking care

of people. And, if you get out there and see some art, you just might feel the need to take some home with you - that would make a gallery owner and an artist really happy - just what they need right now. Either way, it can’t hurt, as long as you do it safely.

If you are still cautious about going anywhere inside, there are many outdoor displays of art - public art in park settings, on college & university campuses, and around some cities. You can get some fresh air, some exercise, and give your eyes and mind something to study better than reruns of “MASH” or “Friends”. And, it’s all free for the viewing and you might not have to wear a mask depending on how many other people had the same idea. Go see what’s out there.

Art League of Hilton Head Announces

CALL for ENTRIES

Juried 2D and 3D Fine Art Craft Show

Be a part of **CraftHiltonHead2020**. Art League of Hilton Head is now accepting entries for 2D and 3D fine art craft that encompass exemplary creativity, experimentation and imagination. This is a juried gallery show with up to 90 works and over \$3,000 in cash prizes on beautiful Hilton Head Island, a community that loves art and buys art. Visit ArtLeagueHHL.org/call-for-entries for details and link to entry form. Apply today!

Join us!
Visiting Hilton Head in October? Add this exhibit to your must-see list!



Entry Deadline: August 12, 2020
Exhibit Dates: October 6-31, 2020
Awards Reception: October 7 • 5-7pm
Free and Open to the Public

7TH NATIONAL JURIED FINE ART CRAFT GUILD EXHIBITION
Craft HiltonHead 2020

www.theartistindex.com

connecting

ARTISTS &
ART LOVERS

in the Carolinas...
and beyond

since 2005