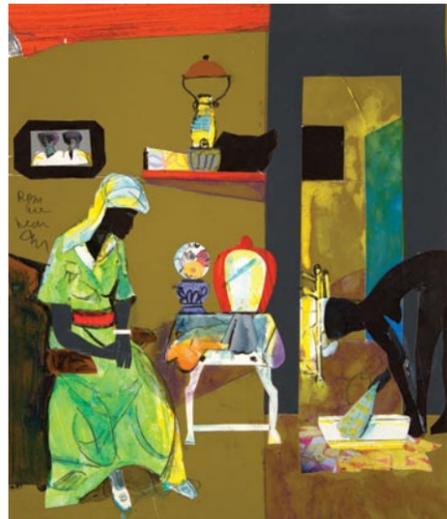


Jerald Melberg Gallery in Charlotte, NC, Offers Works by Romare Bearden

In celebration of the 100th anniversary of Romare Bearden's birth, Jerald Melberg Gallery in Charlotte, NC, will present, *ROMARE BEARDEN: A Centennial Exhibition - An Artist Remembers His Birthplace*, a major exhibition of over forty collages, watercolors and prints featuring the artist's memories of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. The exhibit will be on view from Sept. 10 through Nov. 12, 2011.



Romare Bearden (1911-1988), *EVENING*, 1985, Collage and Watercolor on Board, 14 x 12 inches

Bearden was born in his great-grandfather's house in Charlotte on the morning of Sept. 2, 1911. Although at the time this was the rural south his was a prosperous and respectable middle-class family. At the age of two, Bearden moved with his parents to New York City where they felt there was more opportunity to pursue their interest in journalism and politics.

Bearden's memories of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina were ingrained during summer-long visits until he was 14. These memories were the subject of his art as he wanted to transform his experiences rather than merely describe them. "I am trying to explore the particulars of the life that I know best; those things common to all cultures," he once said. Drawing upon the recollections of his Southern roots for inspiration, he conjured up both his own childhood memories and the shared memo-

ries of his ancestors. Bearden absorbed the traditional rituals of the church, the hymns and gospels, sermons and testimonies; as well as the traditional rituals of the family, the music of the kitchen, the wash place and fire circle, which permeated his upbringing.



Romare Bearden (1911-1988), *MECKLENBURG EVENING*, 1981, Watercolor, Pencil and Paper Collage on Masonite, 14 x 18 inches

At his death on March 12, 1988, he was called the foremost "black artist" of the 20th century, so he was. But the phrase black artist must be understood as a description, not a label. He has also been called America's greatest collage artist. In this medium, he stretched its possibilities raising it "to a mode of expression, so intensely personal, that it is difficult to think of another artist so closely associated with it." His collages reflect optimism. Even works that represent poverty, there is still a sense of affirmation and strength. In the lives of his people—their happiness and pain, their music and ritual—he felt the potential for myth.

Bearden's first retrospective was at the Museum of Modern Art in 1970, subsequent retrospectives have been organized by the Mint Museum, the Detroit Institute, the Studio Museum in Harlem and the National Gallery of Art. A new retrospective titled, *Southern Recollections* will open this September at the Mint Museum of Art in his hometown of Charlotte.

Jerald Melberg Gallery has represented the art of Romare Bearden for twenty-five years.

For further info check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call 704/365-3000 or visit (www.jeraldmelberg.com).

Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, NC, Offers Works by Erika Diamond

Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, NC, will present the exhibit, *Erika Diamond: Enduring Impermanence*, on view in the Elizabeth Ross Gallery from Sept. 21 through Nov. 7, 2011. A reception will be held on Oct. 6, from 5:30-7pm.

Diamond was born in Hamburg, Germany in 1978, the daughter of two ballet dancers. Since receiving a BFA in Sculpture from Rhode Island School of Design in 2000, she has exhibited in New York, Los Angeles, Charlotte (NC), New Jersey, and Germany. She has been an artist in residence at Little Italy Peninsula Arts Center and McColl Center for Visual Art. Recently, she was commissioned by NC Dance Theater to create wearable sculptures of recycled materials to be worn on stage as part of their Innovative Works series. They were exhibited later at Hart Witzen Gallery

and on the runway for Passport for Fashion 2011 in Charlotte.

Often using natural and discarded materials, Diamond's sculpture and drawing focus on the close connection between the self and the surrounding world as well as the human compulsion to control them both. She creates shells of objects, vessels whose forms recall their contents or record an action. Heavily influenced by the body, her new work explores impermanence, fragility, and liminal spaces. Diamond is intrigued by the threshold between the inside and the outside, between holding and letting go, and between emptiness and excess.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, contact Peggy Rivers, Gallery Director by calling 704/330-6211, e-mail at (Peggy.Rivers@cpcc.edu) or visit (www.cpcc.edu/art_gallery).

fourth annual pottery show. For the past three years, the show has attracted pottery enthusiasts from across the state. This year's event includes returning potters as well as first-time participants.

The NCPPG was formed by past and current students from the Montgomery Community College Pottery Program to create a local community of artists who could learn from each other, share ideas

continued above on next column to the right



SHAIN A GALLERY THAT THINKS IT'S A MUSEUM
GALLERY Voted Best of the Best 2011 . . . again

2823 SELWYN AVE CHARLOTTE NC 28209 SHAINGALLERY.COM SHAINART@EARTHLINK.NET



128 E. Park Ave, Ste B, Charlotte NC 28203
704.334.4616 (southend)

www.larkandkey.com

artwork pottery jewelry inspiration

PROVIDENCE
GALLERY

Color Concepts:

Curt Butler & P. Basille Nikitchenko

Opening Reception: Friday, Sept. 16th, 6 - 9 p.m.

www.ProvidenceGallery.net

601-A Providence Road, Charlotte, NC 28207 . (704) 333-4535

and resources, especially after graduation. The group also works to raise awareness in their communities about ceramic arts and local artists. Artists from fourteen potteries are currently active in the guild. Members meet every month, rotating the location of the meetings to visit each other's studios. The potter's guild has become more



Work by Nancy Lipe

involved in the local community in recent years by its support of the "Empty Bowls" event held each year by the Stanly Community Christian Ministries. In January of 2011, the NCPPG held its second annual "Bowlation" sponsored this year by Home Savings Bank. The members descended on the Falling Rivers Gallery with pottery wheels, clay and enthusiasm to produce as many wheel thrown and quality hand built bowls as possible in the 4 hours allotted. When completed, these bowls comprised the majority of bowls available at the April 2011 soup event.

"We are expecting to have a great selection of new work by our current and new members at this year's show. As always, we want to expose the public to innovative new artists as well as bring new collections from their favorite local potters" states Nancy Lipe, President of the North Carolina Potters Guild and Gallery

continued above on next column to the right



Aaron Tucker, *Monolith*, oil on canvas, 34.5 x 27 inches

ON VIEW
Gallery Artists,
Featuring
Aaron Tucker
September - October

HODGES
TAYLOR

art consultancy

Providing expertise to businesses and individuals. Connecting the public with artists in meaningful ways through projects, programming and community partnerships.

401 North Tryon Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28202
704.334.3799
www.hodgestaylor.com

Director of Falling Rivers Gallery.

Unlike traditional pottery shows, this event is able to utilize the resources of the gallery for checkout and wrapping.

"This show is fun for the potters as they can spend their time interacting with customers and each other, and also for the customers as they have a single checkout rather than having to pay each potter individually for purchases. It creates a very laid-back atmosphere in this very beautiful gallery setting" adds Bobbie Listerman from River Road Clayworks.

The Falling Rivers Gallery is the cooperative sales venue of the Stanly Arts Guild and is supported in part by the Albemarle Downtown Improvement LLC and the Stanly County Arts Council, and receives support from the North Carolina Arts Council, an agency of the Department of Cultural Resources, and the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes a great nation deserves great art.

For further info check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call 704/983-4278 or visit (www.fallingriversgallery.com).

Stanly Arts Guild in Albemarle, NC, Offers Works by Pottery Guild

The Stanly Arts Guild in Albemarle, NC, will present the exhibit, *Celebrating our Pottery Harvest*, featuring works by members of the North Carolina Professional Potters Guild, on view at Falling Rivers Gallery Sept. 16 & 17, 2011. The hours for this year's show have been expanded to 10-7 on both days.

Potters from Stanly County and surrounding counties will showcase their work and offer them for sale. This is the