

Asheville Art Museum in Asheville, NC, Offers Black Mountain College Artists

The Asheville Art Museum in Asheville, NC, is excited to present *Geometric Vistas: Landscapes by Artists of Black Mountain College*, a new exhibition on view through Sept. 30, 2016.

This exhibition provides visitors with the opportunity to explore abstract landscapes and cityscapes created by artists who studied and taught at Black Mountain College between 1933 and 1957. Black Mountain College was situated in the mountains of Western North Carolina, surrounding its students and faculty with beautiful scenery from which to take inspiration. Because of its remarkable setting, many students and faculty painted, drew and photographed the school and its nearby surroundings, making landscape an integral part of the learning process. Using the skills they acquired at the College, each artist moved beyond a realist interpretation of the landscape to create abstract forms rooted in nature and geometry.

Featuring a wide variety of approaches to abstraction in landscapes, including Cubist fragmentation, gridded compositions, and pure geometric abstraction, the artists in this exhibition explore landscapes both near and far. Depictions of Paris, Chicago and Florence appear along with views of mountains and sea from across the United States. Some works, such as Ronald Robertson's Studies Building at Black Mountain College, were created while the artist attended the College. Others, such as Gerald van de Wiele's Magic Mountain, were painted at a later



Ronald Robertson, "Studies Building at Black Mountain College", 1951, oil on Masonite, 17.9 x 18.6 inches, Black Mountain College Collection, Gift of the Artist, 2013.19.04.21

date, but hearken back to the artist's time in the Appalachian Mountains.

Several works provide a window into the teachings of professors, such as Josef Albers and Joseph Fiore, who continued to reference nature despite their bold moves into abstraction. Two works by John Urbain combine landscape imagery with poetry, embodying the rounded liberal arts education that characterized the College's curriculum. Uniting the artists in the exhibition is an underlying interest in how geometric shapes, planes and compositions can push representations of land and city into a world beyond reality. For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (www.ashevilleart.org).

workshop here and there, but besides that he is completely self-taught.

Relocating to the Appalachian Mountains in late 2007, Keeler has been inspired by Asheville's unique, artistic community. As he continues to deepen his understanding of the complexity of glass, he has begun to explore the relationship glass can have with other materials. The business has now become family run with the help of his wife. They live in Asheville, North Carolina, with their two young children, lively dog, and four chickens.

Rob Travis is a professional photographer based in Transylvania County, NC. His beautiful nature and landscape images have won awards in local, regional and national photography contests, and *continued on Page 28*





Woolworth Walk in Asheville Features Works by Kyle Keeler and Rob Travis

Woolworth Walk in Asheville, NC, will present *Kyle Keeler* + *Rob Travis*, featuring glass works by Kyle Keeler and photography by Rob Travis, on view in the FW Front Gallery, from Sept. 1 - 29, 2016. A reception will be held on Sept. 2, from 5-7pm.

Growing up on the plains of Colorado, Kyle Keeler learned about hard work and the dedication needed to be an artist. In 2001 he moved to Fort Collins, CO, where he started working with some local glass blowers. He immediately became enamored with the beauty and complexity of



Work by Rob Travis

glass. Through the years, he has taken a continued above on next column to the right

Artist Diane Falkenhagen's Texas studio — destroyed by flooding during Hurricane Ike, 2008

What would you do if you lost your work, your tools, your images, and a lot more to a flood? Metalsmith Diane Falkenhagen knows

what five feet of contaminated saltwater

can do to a jewelry studio. CERF+ can help you learn how to protect your career from crossing that fine line.



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