

Sumter County Gallery of Art

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and Clifton Peacock, a professor of art at the College of Charleston.

Jonathan Brilliant: *Suspension, Tension, and Compression*, creates large-scale installations using wooden coffee stirrers and coffee lids. He is nationally known for these installations. He has created installations in Richmond, VA (2011), Queensland, Australia (2012), NC Museum of Art (2012), and Fresno State, CA (2012). He was also an invited artist at ArtFields (2013), and an invited artist at ArtPrize, Grand Rapids, MI (2017).



Jonathan Brilliant working at Sumter CGA

But it all began in Sumter, SC, in 2007, when Brilliant created the *Sumter Piece* out of 60,000 coffee stirrers in the lobby of Patriot Hall as part of Accessibility. He has a special place in his heart for Sumter and he is looking forward to returning to Sumter to construct a new site-specific installation and exhibition designed to activate and respond to the architecture of the Ackerman Gallery at The Sumter County Gallery of Art.

Brilliant writes, "My construction materials are the to-go coffee cup and all its accoutrements. The resulting work was both ironic and labor intensive with a traditional craft based sensibility. Central to these works are my woven stir stick installations. The "Woven Stick" installations are created entirely on-site using only tension and compression to create a sculptural environment. In my work there is a real enthusiasm for the inherent qualities of a material and the extent to which I can exploit it for making art. Rather than relying solely on intuitive approaches, I have a set of systems I apply to the materials at hand."

Brilliant was on-site – at the gallery – constructing for 9 days. During this time, the gallery was open to the public and we partnered with teachers in the Sumter School District to have kids come in and watch Brilliant work and ask him questions.



Work by Edward Rice

Edward Rice was born in 1953 in Augusta, GA, and raised in North Augusta, SC. He was protégé of Freeman Schoolcraft from 1972-1979 and Director/Artist in Residence at the Gertrude Herbert Institute of Art, Augusta from 1979-1982. The artist is the recipient of a South Carolina Arts Commission Artist Fellowship, a National Endowment for the Arts / Southern Arts Federation Regional Fellowship, and the Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Governor's Award.

Rice grew up with the architecture of the



Work by Clifton Peacock

South running through his veins. Rice sees the history of Southern heritage emulated in the architectural features of its stately homes and architectural forms that he refers to as "our temples." His rich painterly treatment of a cornice, an icehouse, a smoke house, a weaving house and a barn immortalizes this by gone era in our nation's rich history.

Many of his paintings have personality beyond their architectural characteristics. They have a human, in-your-face quality that stares out at the viewer. The recognition of this human quality may serve as a springboard for his current figural work – antique dolls, women from a bygone era or Minoan goddesses. We are excited to include several of these new figural pieces in the Sumter exhibition.

Says Rice of his work, "My goal has always been simple enough: to take ideas rooted in the past and make them relevant to our own time." Collectors of the artist's work include: The Ogden Museum of Southern Art in New Orleans, The Morris Museum of Art in Augusta, GA, and the Columbia Museum of Art, Columbia, SC.

Clifton Peacock has been a professor of Painting and Drawing at College of Charleston since 1993. He received his MFA degree from Boston University in 1977 where he studied with James Weeks, John Wilson and Philip Guston. He has received numerous distinctive awards, including three National Endowment for the Arts grants, three Massachusetts Artist Fellowship awards, a Louis Comfort Tiffany Fellowship and a Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship.

Peacock has exhibited his paintings nationally at the Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, the Greenville Museum of Art, Greenville, SC, and the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, Winston-Salem, NC. His work is in the collections of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, The Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and the Hood Museum of Art, among others.

Mark Sloan, Director and chief curator of the Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art notes, "Peacock is a gifted painter with a fresh approach to figuration. His paintings infer rather than describe their subjects."

Of his work and technique, Peacock says, "I paint without reference to photographs or models. My reason for working this way is because of what I find unavailable in painted images that rework traditional means of representation. There is something inextricable in great painting that defies explanation. So, in a way, to find the image I have to forget about it. Otherwise, the image I paint is a disappointment of familiarity. The physician and author Siddhartha Mukherjee observed that we learn to dream to see the world. To paint the world, I can't lose my capacity to dream if I'm to reimagine it."

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Gallery at 803/775-0543 or visit (www.sumtergallery.org).

Arts Council of York County in Rock Hill, SC, Offers Works by Chris Evans

The Arts Council of York County presents *Millscapes*, featuring works by Chris Evans in the Dalton Gallery at the Center for the Arts, in Rock Hill, SC, on view from Sept. 15 through Oct. 29, 2017. A reception will be held on Oct. 12, from 5:30-7:30pm.

Throughout her work in *Millscapes*, Evans explores the gradual decline of mill towns and their transformation into bustling, modern communities that weave the past with the present and future. This project consists of a series of paintings, created as a contemporary, visual reconnaissance of Southern textile culture. The artwork celebrates the era's industrialized urban and rural landscapes, as well as historic cotton fabrics. The paintings serve as a public valuation and tribute to important, creative resources found within the southern region. *Millscapes* provides local and visible evidence of the power of past artisans and artists to inspire today's creative communities.

The exhibition was developed during an exploration of Rock Hill's Cotton Factory. Through the generosity of Springs Creative, Evans was given the opportunity to study the 350,000 cotton swatches housed in their archives. Having such intimate, hands-on access to these vivid 19th century fabrics was a moving experience for her. She recognized the invaluable legacy the mill workers had provided to us by their timeless designs and craftsmanship. This discovery resulted in her decision to celebrate and revive their legacy with this series.

Evans is currently working towards a Masters of Fine Art at Winthrop University. Her work, *Rock Hill Nights* was selected as a winner of the Charlotte Art and Science Council's "ArtPop 2016" public billboard competition. Additionally, *Town and County Nights* was exhibited at 2016's ArtFields in



Work by Chris Evans

Lake City, SC.

On Oct. 13, the Arts Council hosts an Arts Talk Luncheon with artist, Chris Evans, and historian, Wade Fairey at the Center for the Arts, from 11am-2pm. The Arts Council will provide box lunches for participants. After lunch, Evans will take an in-depth look at her works of art. Immediately following, Wade Fairey, founding partner of Roots & Recall and former Executive Director of Historic Rock Hill and Historic Brattonsville, will explore the history of our old mill town with a presentation at the Center for the Arts, followed by a walk through Old Town Rock Hill. Tickets to the Arts Talk Luncheon are \$15, and must be purchased by 5pm on Oct. 11.

The Center for the Arts is located on East Main Street, in Old Town Rock Hill. Exhibits at the Center for the Arts are sponsored by O'Darby's - a Retailer of Fine Wines, Craft Beers, and Spirits. The Arts Council is headquartered in downtown Rock Hill, a state-recognized cultural district.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Council at 803/328-2787 or visit (www.yorkcount-yarts.org).

Jerald Melberg Gallery in Charlotte Offers Work by Christopher Clamp

Jerald Melberg Gallery in Charlotte, NC, will present *Stories In Stillness*, featuring new paintings by Christopher Clamp, on view from Sept. 16 through Oct. 28, 2017. A reception will be held on Sept. 15, from 6-8pm.

This body of work continues the artist's previous explorations of realism and object portraiture, and marks Clamp's third solo exhibition with the gallery.

Clamp has a singular and poignant vision, which stems from his love of family, sense of inquisitiveness, and keen interest in sometimes quirky, sometimes whimsical, but always personal objects. The clarity of light and pureness of color that Clamp achieves in his paintings give them a surface that is both beautifully crafted and uniquely his own. Though his work appears subdued at first, it does not take long for the viewer to discover and revel in its complexity of surface, composition, and layers of nuanced meaning.

Clamp is a native of Leesville, SC, and received his BFA with a concentration in painting from Winthrop University in 2001. Earlier this year, Clamp was honored with a solo exhibition at the Hoyt Center for the Arts in Newcastle, PA. The institution subsequently acquired one of his paintings. His work is also included in the permanent collections of the Morris Museum of Art in Augusta, GA; the Museum of York County in Rock Hill, SC and Winthrop University in Rock Hill, SC. Clamp was also recently selected to show work in the exhibition *80x80*, which took place at the Mint Mu-



Work by Christopher Clamp

seum in the summer of 2016, as well as the prestigious biennial *Re-Presenting Representation* at the Arnot Museum in Elmira, New York. In 2001, his work was included in the *South Carolina Triennial* at the South Carolina State Museum.

Jerald Melberg Gallery has published a full color catalogue to document the show entitled *Stories In Stillness*, which will be available to visitors. There will also be a Coffee and Conversation artist lecture led by Christopher Clamp at the gallery on Sept. 16, at 11am.

The gallery will concurrently host a group exhibition with new works by gallery artists.

Jerald Melberg Gallery is located on South Sharon Amity Road near the intersection with Providence Road.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listing, call the gallery at 704/365-3000 or visit (www.jeraldmelberg.com).

Lark & Key Gallery in Charlotte, NC, Features Works by Duy Huynh and Julie Covington

Lark & Key Gallery and Boutique in Charlotte, NC, will present *Confluence*, featuring new paintings by gallery co-owner Duy Huynh with featured potter Julie Covington, on view from Sept. 1 through Oct.

28, 2017.

Duy Huynh's recent artwork celebrates the wandering/wondering mind and the continuous search for new paths of perception.

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The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be September 24th for the October 2017 issue and Oct. 24 for the November 2017 issue.

After that, it's too late unless your exhibit runs into the next month. But don't wait for the last minute - send your info now.

And where do you send that info?
E-mail to (info@carolinaarts.com).