

# Woolworth Walk in Asheville, NC

continued from Page 18

world. Now, being able to control the entire process, he has gotten serious about his photography. Over the past seven years he has developed a portfolio of over 800 images with a diverse subject matter but leaning towards nature scenes.

Morrill started printing glossy images that were printed, matted and framed in a somewhat traditional manner but has recently developed a more unique method of printing on canvas and then "floating" the prints against a black background, to enhance the presence of the image and then a frame around everything. No glass means nothing interferes with experiencing the image! And, by coating the canvas, there should be no fading for 85+ years (according to Wilhelm Research).

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings or call the gallery at 828/254-9234.



Work by Rob Morrill

## Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC, Features Works by Edward J Bisese & Holly Hanessian

Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC, will present two new exhibits including: *Edward J Bisese: Good Thoughts Better*, on view in the Permanent Gallery at the Fine Art Museum, located in the Fine & Performing Arts Center, from Jan. 16 through Mar. 31, 2014. An Art Talk will be offered on Jan. 16, at 5pm in BAC 130, followed by a reception in the FAM Star Atrium from 6-7pm. The exhibit, *Touch in Real Time: Holly Hanessian*, will be on view in the Drawing Gallery, from Jan. 27 through Apr. 4, 2014. An Art Talk will be given on Feb. 20, at 5pm in BAC 130, with a reception to follow from 6-7pm in the FAM Star Atrium.

Celebrating beauty, the grotesque, altered realities and real events, Ed Bisese visits us with his oddly vibrant paintings, drawings, and assorted objects. Here you'll find Hawaiian Kings and Hula Dancers, Bunnymen, three-armed migrant workers, dream sequences, and acutely observed portraiture. Bisese paints and draws on unstretched canvas, wood panels of various shapes, paper, vinyl records, and postcards. On occasion, these images will assume a three-dimensional form, full

of exaggerated scale, dream-like expression, and unique sensibilities.

Holly Hanessian collects handshakes from across the country. Each handshake contains a wet piece of clay, imprinting each participant's hand with the artist's. They hold each other for 15-20 seconds, the time it takes for the bonding hormone, oxytocin to be released into our bodies. Hanessian studied the effect of the handshake alongside Dr. Greg Siegle at the University of Pittsburgh TREND (The Transdisciplinary Research in Emotion, Neuroscience, and Development).

The results of Hanessian's ongoing exploration into the intersection of art, emotion and neuroscience culminate in a series of exhibitions that serve as much of a sensory experience as the handshake itself. Her installation, *Touch in Real Time*, incorporates dozens of handshakes from across the country, artifacts of the moment, that leave the viewer in a constellation of shared experience.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 828/227-3591 or visit (<http://www.wcu.edu/museum/>).

## Columbia Museum of Art in Columbia, SC, Offers Collection of Alex & Barbara Kasten

The Columbia Museum of Art in Columbia, SC, will present *Meiji Magic: Imperial Porcelain from Japan from the collection of Alex and Barbara Kasten*, on view in Gallery 15, from Jan. 3 through May 18, 2014.

After years of shogun rule, in 1868 Japan was once again ruled by an Emperor. He took the name Meiji which means "enlightened rule". This period is called the Meiji Restoration and endured until 1912. The government realized that Japanese arts and crafts could be exported to answer the Western curiosity about Japanese culture and to help stabilize the Japanese economy. The province of Satsuma was a particularly important producer of porcelains and stoneware during this rich period of production.

The Satsuma ceramic pieces in this exhibition represent the characteristics that attracted collectors in the West as well as at home in Japan. The artists painted with delicate brushes, applying tiny strokes of enamel on the ceramic surface. Their compositions were intricate and highly detailed scenes of Japanese life. Each piece is unique with designs that tell stories about Japanese customs, the landscape and life at court and in the countryside.

These images captured the imagination of turn of the century collectors just as they do today. The level of detail requires close study to uncover all the nuances of each

piece. Through them the viewer can be transported into a fantasy world of ancient Samurai and festivals under blooming sakura trees in Japan's parks.

What is Meiji magic? Collector Alex Kasten believes that the magic of Meiji is that after so many years living with this collection he still finds new details to amaze him.

The Museum is also showing *Annie Leibovitz: Pilgrimage*, on view through Jan. 5, which charts a new direction for one of America's best-known living artists. Unlike her staged and carefully lit portraits made on assignment for magazines and advertising clients, these photographs were taken simply because Leibovitz was moved by the subject. The CMA is the only exhibition presentation in the Southeast.

The Museum is also showing *Cool and Collected: New Art at the CMA*, on view through Jan. 5, 2014. Over the past few years, a number of brilliant gifts have come to the CMA, and thus to the community we serve. The CMA has also made a select number of purchases designed to chip away at the remaining gaps in its ever-growing collection. In these two galleries, highlights of these gifts and purchases are on view.

Located in the heart of downtown Columbia, the CMA ranks among the

continued on Page 20

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