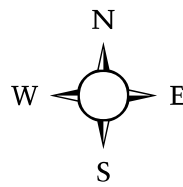
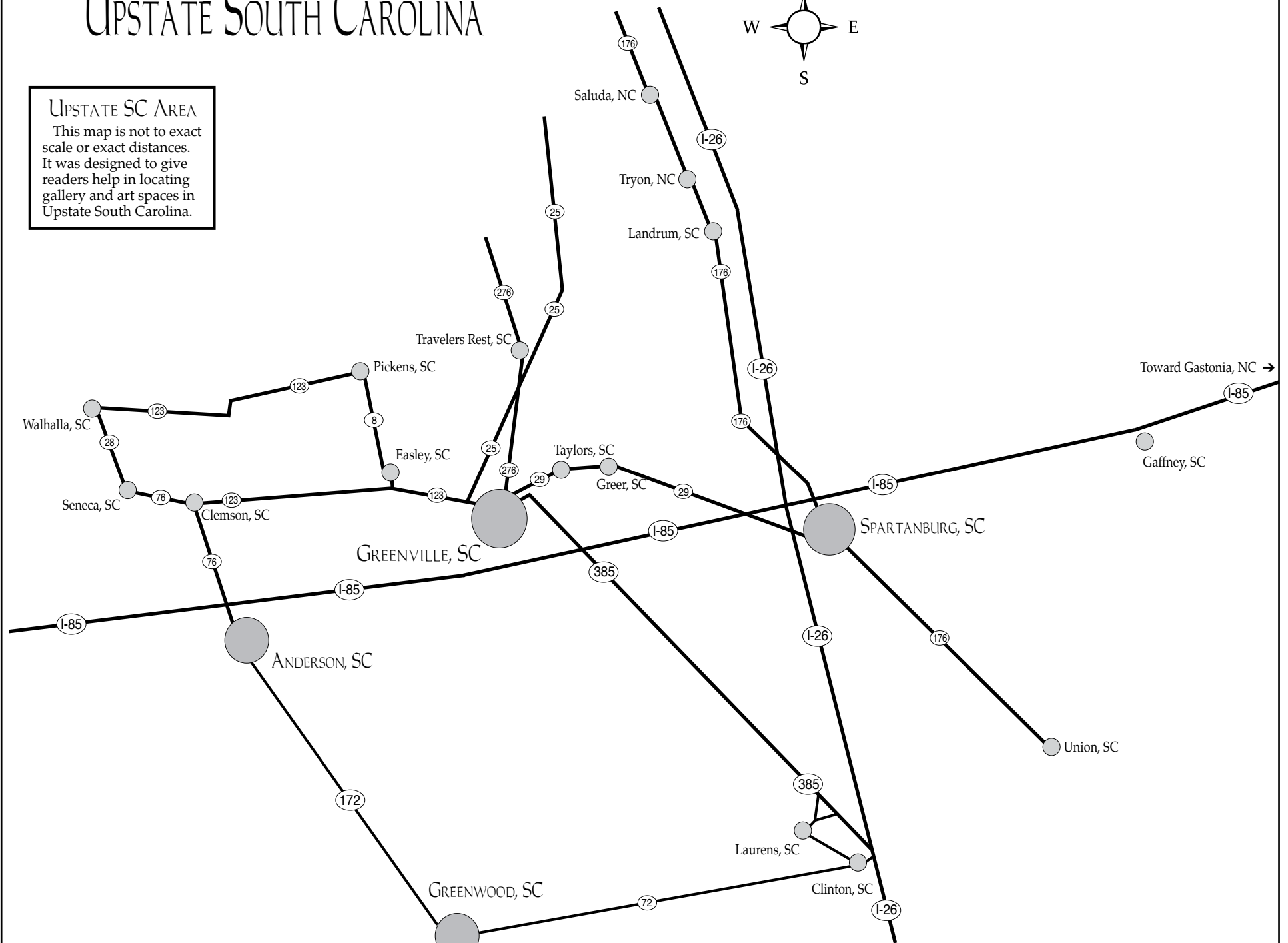


UPSTATE SOUTH CAROLINA



UPSTATE SC AREA

This map is not to exact scale or exact distances. It was designed to give readers help in locating gallery and art spaces in Upstate South Carolina.



Artists Collective | Spartanburg

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people looking at my work to get an appreciation of the real beauty that birds bring into our lives.”

There will be between 20 and 25 photographs and drawings in this exhibition, which took Harding about a year to create. The drawings were made with graphite, soft pastels and colored pencils. The photography is digital. Most of the work will be for sale, ranging in price from \$90 to \$250.

Harding, 65, is a self-taught artist, living on the east side of Spartanburg. He and his wife, Shannon Patrick, an artist and retired art teacher, have three adult sons. He has been a member of the Collective since 2018. “I love being a member of ACS,” he said. “It is a wonderful artist community that provides a sense of place, and a supporting and learning environment for all of the members.”

In the past two years, Harding has been in three art shows: one in Tryon, NC, and two at the Collective. He’s had a solo show at Canon’s Elementary School, and his work has been accepted into juried shows at the Collective and the Blue Ridge Art Center in Seneca, SC.

Born in England, Harding has an academic degree in electrical engineering from Leicester Polytechnic, and he had a 35-year career with a US company. In 1995, he moved to Spartanburg from Canton, OH. After retiring, he returned to his love of nature photography and is a member of the Carolina Nature Photographers Association.

In Harding’s artist’s statement, he said,

“Growing up in England my mother would take me for walks across the local fields and tell me about all of the wild flowers, birds, insects, and wildlife we would chance upon. I marveled at the wonders that might be found on a blade of grass or under a petal or leaf, in a tree top or flying through the blue sky, and as I grew up and began to travel and hike across the UK I fell in love with the majestic landscapes there.

“This is the inspiration for my photography, the desire to bring all the splendor and majesty of nature back from wherever I travel. I aspire to capture nature in unique ways that will lead the viewer into a world of nature that they may not have experienced before. All of my photographs are taken digitally and are minimally edited as I strive to bring nature to the viewer as it really is.”

Artists Collective | Spartanburg is a membership-based and member-focused organization, providing low-cost studio space to more than 30 working artists. Its membership is more than 50. The Collective is housed in what was once a three story Baptist church. Each month, the Collective hosts art exhibitions showcasing its members and guest artists. It has two galleries and the once-sanctuary now serves as a large gallery space, as well as a venue for performance art.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (ArtistsCollectiveSpartanburg.org).

The exhibition presents an extensive collection of 2-D and 3-D works.

“This show covers a myriad of forms of spirituality,” the 31-year-old Wellford, SC, resident said. “My hope is that upon entering the viewer finds a piece that speaks to them on some level. I want a connection to the artwork, hence the title *Resonate*.” The subtitle to this exhibition is “The Beauty and Science of Ritual.”

“The inspiration for this exhibition was a combination of different things,” the artist said. “I had started meditating to get to a healthier place in my life, and I received training and certification in level 2 Reiki (Japanese palm healing). I was fascinated by the many beautiful, diverse illustrations on tarot cards, and I enjoyed learning more about the people in my life by asking about their spirit animals. I hope that people see a story in my work. My intention is for people to ask questions, contemplate, and relate to the various meanings and traits. It’s fun and fascinating to find characteristics of family, co-workers, and friends in things like spirit animals. This exhibit is a collection of meaningful and beautiful symbolism. These are things that speak to me, and I hope that they speak to the viewers.”

This exhibition will have about 80 works of art, including canvases, pendants, and stone sets. Compton’s work is vivid, whimsical, and engaging with intricate detailing and organic patterns. The artist’s media include mixed media, acrylic paint, stones, gourds, mirrors, clay, animal hide, wood, and wax. All of the work will be for sale, ranging in price from \$15 to \$325.

“I think people will find this exhibition very much on the side of spiritualism,” Collective Vice Chair Nancy Williamson said. “It seeks to enlighten, to expose a side of life that some of us find hard to see. The images make you wonder, think, and reflect. There’s so much energy in it, so much creativity. This show touches what we cannot touch. You won’t have to understand it to enjoy it, but in that enjoyment, you’ll probably see some things about yourself and the world around you



Work by Amanda Compton

that you didn’t know were there. The work is deep and beautiful.”

Compton has a bachelor’s degree in art studio with emphasis in graphic design from the University of South Carolina Upstate. She minored in art history. She also has an associate degree in commercial graphics with a minor in computer technology from Spartanburg Community College.

In Compton’s artist’s statement, she said, “I have attended art classes for most of my educational life. Even before school I would draw and doodle things I saw in fantasy and reality. I love exploring colors, textures, techniques, and viewpoints. I believe as artists our greatest assets are expanding our knowledge, defying our boundaries, and reaching out to our fellow artists. I have developed myself and my work thus far through formal education, self-taught education, and simple trial and error. I have learned many things, and ruined many carpets, clothes, and flooring. As an artist, my experience is never complete, only evolving.”

“I currently work with mixed media layering paint, pencil, found items, anything that will complete my piece,” she continued. “I enjoy photography, and the functional use of digital media and

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The Artists Collective | Spartanburg in Spartanburg, SC, will present *Resonate*, featuring works by Upstate visual artist Amanda Compton, from Dec. 1 - 26, 2020. A reception will be held on Dec.

3, beginning at 5:30pm. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, patrons are required to wear face masks and to stay six feet away from each other.

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