

Francis Marion University in Florence, SC, Features Works by Colleen Critcher

Francis Marion University in Florence, SC, will present *Colleen Critcher: Consolation Prize*, on view in the Kassab Gallery, Hyman Fine Arts Center, from Jan. 16 through Feb. 22, 2024.

“What is a drawing? For some it is the final step, the end goal. In my personal creative pursuits it is the preliminary step – the first in a series of steps towards physically manifesting a creative idea when it reveals itself,” says Critcher. “When a drawing is merely part of the artist’s process, it is often stowed away out of sight and rarely meets a visitor. While sorting through studio inventory, I recently discovered that sometimes a stack of drawings is all I have left of a series once the paintings have gone out into the world. They are a lovely consolation prize of sorts.”



Work by Colleen Critcher

means that we use to express ourselves,” adds Critcher. “Long before we develop sophisticated spoken language, we can move crayons or watercolors and make marks. With very limited means a drawing can emerge. It requires no special training, fancy materials or tools. This exhibition is the first time I have displayed only drawings for a solo exhibition. They express imperfection, impermanence, and a delightful kinship to the many paintings I have made about consumer culture over the years.”

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the gallery at 843/661-1539 or visit (<https://www.fmarion.edu/finearts/artgalleryseriescurrent/>).



Work by Colleen Critcher

“I find the simplicity and ephemeral qualities of drawings to be most intriguing. Paper and pencil, or paper and simple pigments are generally one of the first

Sunset River Gallery in Calabash, NC, Offers Show Based on the Selfie

Sunset River Gallery in Calabash, NC, will present its first show of 2024 – *Selfie*, a juried group show featuring a range of art works inspired by the concept of “selfie”, on view from Jan. 6 through Feb. 3, 2024. A reception will be held on Jan. 6, from 2-4pm.

Spalti said, “We thought it would be fun and interesting to explore the psychology of selfies, so we’ve invited regional artists to open up and show us their true selves – at a given moment.”

“I think a selfie is ‘in the moment,’ a representation of where the artist is at that moment rather than a formal portrait. I’m finding that people are taking the idea of ‘selfie’ in different directions, and I love that!”

The show features 25+ works in a range of media including photography, mixed media, acrylic, and more. Spalti adds, “Some are straight forward, and others are more contemplative.”



Work by Susan Barnard

A mixed media piece by Susan Barnard began as a traditional selfie. The viewer can see that by the angle of the faces. Titled *Silver Foxes*, the original photo of the art-



Work by Donald Kratt

ist and her husband was taken in front of building graffiti in Michigan. Decoupage and silver ink complete the piece which is installed on wood.

Judi Moore’s acrylic painting is titled *Don’t Let Your Worries*. She says, “I heard the phrase ‘Don’t let your worries make a nest in your head’ years ago. It has been in the back of my mind ever since. Recently I’ve been painting many birds and nests. This *Selfie* painting idea occurred when the two ideas collided.”

The diverse nature of the work in the exhibit reflects the humor, talent, and conceptual excitement of the participating artists. The gallery invites the public to visit the during the *Selfie* show and enjoy the sheer creativity on display.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 910/575-5999 or visit (sunsetrivergallery.com).

UNC-Wilmington in Wilmington, NC, Features Works by Meredith Connelly

UNC-Wilmington in Wilmington, NC, will present *Liminal*, featuring works by Meredith Connelly, on view in the CAB Art Gallery in the Cultural Arts Building, ground floor, corner of Randall Parkway and Reynolds Drive, from Jan. 18 through Feb. 23, 2024. A reception will be held on Jan. 18, from 5:30-7pm.

Meredith Connelly is an award-winning multidisciplinary artist, best known for her grand-scale installations that emphasize the interplay of light, science, and technology. Connelly’s illuminated, site-specific displays – complete with interactive elements – connect and submerge viewers into glow-

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