



Flood Gallery Fine Arts Center in Asheville, NC, Features Works by James Esber, Jane Fine, and the Asheville Community

Flood Gallery Fine Arts Center in Asheville, NC, will present the exhibit *Three Out of Two*, a collaboration between New York artists James Esber and Jane Fine, and the Asheville Community, on view from Apr. 7 - 30, 2012. A reception will be held on Apr. 7, from 6-9pm.



Work by J. Fiber

For the last several years, New York artist James Esber has been collaborating with broad and diverse audiences to remake his drawings into sprawling installations. In April, Esber brings his talent and vision to Asheville, collaborating with

the local community in remaking a single drawing with brush and colored ink based on a traditional memento mori painting from 17th century artist Pieter Claesz. The goal of this project is to create a group installation that will highlight differences of perspective and sensibility and at the same time constitute a community portrait.

Esber also collaborates with his wife and fellow artist, Jane Fine creating drawings under the pseudonym "J. Fiber". Working section by section, the couple pass their mixed media drawings back and forth, challenging each other at every exchange. The drawings are like small worlds, rife with drama and conflict where ruggedly masculine passages bump against petite strings of flowers and little boys with guns wear bows in their hair. Images of sex and violence are everywhere subverted by feminine decoration. J. Fiber describes the creative process as a curiously potent struggle between two sides of the self, where decision-making can be as fraught as an old married couple's argument over whose turn it is to do the dishes.

Flood Gallery is located in the Phil Mechanic Studios building in Asheville's River Arts District.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 828/255-0066 or visit (www.philmechanicstudios.com).

UNC Asheville in Asheville, NC, Features Works by Jan Yoors

UNC Asheville in Asheville, NC, is presenting *The Heroic Present: The Gypsy Photographs of Jan Yoors*, a new exhibition hosted by UNC Asheville's Center for Diversity Education, on view through Apr. 16, 2012, in the Karpen Hall lobby on the campus. The exhibition features extraordinary photographs taken before and after World War II by an outsider who was welcomed into Roma communities.

Yoors was just twelve years old when he left his home in Belgium in search of a group of Roma (gypsies) known as Lovara, who lived on the outskirts of Antwerp. For the next six years, he traveled widely and was informally adopted by a Lovara family. When World War II began, Yoors joined the British army and recruited his Roma friends to assist Allied intelligence units in smuggling arms to the

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resistance.

Following the war, Yoors moved to the US but remained connected to the few Roma families he knew that survived the Holocaust. The Roma were systematically murdered by the Nazis and an estimated 1 million perished. The exhibit shares the images and witness of Yoors during his youth and in his continued relationships with Roma communities across the world until his death in 1977.

"The experience of the Roma reminds us that 'racial purity' and genocide can be seen as solutions to difference, and that people everywhere are a few angry incidents away from the start of that kind of catastrophe," notes Deborah Miles, director of UNC Asheville's Center for Diversity Education. "By looking at the Roma community, which is unknown to many people here, we have an opportunity to examine our own ideas of 'what makes a culture?' and how to be prepared for democracy in our ever-more diverse



Work by Jan Yoors society."

Some 500 middle school students from Buncombe and Graham counties have scheduled guided tours of the exhibition.

The Heroic Present is a traveling exhibition on loan from the Kennesaw University Museum of History and Holocaust Education.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call Deborah Miles at 828/232-5024 or e-mail to (dmiles@unca.edu).

The Haen Gallery in Asheville, NC, Features Works by Emily Wilson and Larry Gray

The Haen Gallery in Asheville, NC, is presenting the exhibit *The View From Here*, featuring new work by Emily Wilson and Larry Gray, on view through Apr. 30, 2012.



Work by Emily Wilson

Emily Wilson explores the flora and fauna of the natural world in her basswood and steel wall sculptures. Colorful birds, fish, leaves, and flowers swirl together in her expertly constructed compositions, influenced by Wilson's time spent in Florida, New Orleans, Tennessee, and Northern Alabama, where she was born

and currently resides. Her work is featured in many major collections, including the Mayo Clinics in Florida and Minnesota, The Huntsville Museum of Art, as well as numerous hospitals throughout the country.

Larry Gray's oil landscapes are expansive in depth and rich in color, providing magnificent atmospheric studies of time, light, and space. His paintings are windows into the natural world. Each piece depicts the expansive sky with its clouds and shadows, pockets of light, and varying glimpses of blue sky: no two are alike.

Gray resides in Pisgah Forest, NC, and his work has been shown and collected widely from coast to coast, including the collections of MOMA in New York, The Art Institute of Chicago, The Seattle Museum of Art, and the Brooklyn Museum of Art.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/254-8577 or visit (www.thehaengallery.com).

The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be Apr. 24th for the May 2012 issue and May 24 for the June 2012 issue. After that, it's too late unless your exhibit runs into the next month.