

Shain Gallery in Charlotte, NC, features Works by Mark Kelvin Horton and Chris Groves

Shain Gallery in Charlotte, NC, will present an exhibit of new works by Mark Kelvin Horton and Chris Groves, on view from Apr. 20 - 30, 2012. A reception will be held on Apr. 20, from 6-9pm.



Work by Mark Kelvin Horton

Mark Kelvin Horton was born and raised in rural North Carolina. After graduating from East Carolina University School of Art in 1983, he moved to New York City to begin a career in advertising and design. He carried with him the dream of someday becoming a painter.

Eighteen years of living in New York were spent working as a creative director in various advertising agencies and eventually founding Horton's own design company. Those years also provided an invaluable opportunity for him to view and study firsthand the seemingly endless number of masterworks of art in the city's museums and galleries.

During his years working as an artistic director and designer, Horton continued to nurture his "fine art side", drawing, sketching and painting whenever he had the opportunity. In early 2001 he decided to devote himself to painting. He left New York City and moved to Charleston, SC.

Horton strives to paint beyond a literal interpretation of a landscape. His paintings portray nature in a way that reflects his own ideas and sensibilities while capturing the spirit, color and changing light of a place. Horton is particularly fascinated with

the effects of light and weather upon the landscape.

Chris Groves love of art grew from his early experiences with nature and the introduction of a master sculpture in his youth.

Groves was born in Boulder, CO, but soon moved with his family to Slidell, LA. Those early years in Slidell were spent outside, exploring the woods. It was during those years that Groves learned to love the outdoors and nature.

At the age of ten, Groves' family returned to Boulder where he continued his exploration of nature with countless hikes, mountain climbs and camping trips. His parents gave him a nature-drawing book and Groves latched onto it as a source of awe and inspiration. He would spend countless hours copying the drawings and enhancing them with his own interpretation.

After graduating from the University of Colorado at Boulder with a BFA in Environmental Design, Groves spent the next ten years as an art director for two large companies, all the while continuing to study and hone his fine art skills.



Work by Chris Groves

Groves has studied at the Florence Academy of Art in Italy, the Colorado Academy of Art, the Loveland Art Academy, the Cottonwood Art Academy and the Denver Arts Students League. He also enjoyed a private, two-year mentorship with artist Jay Moore.

Located in beautiful Myers Park, Shain Gallery has been on the forefront of the North Carolina art scene since 1998. The gallery represents many leading national and regional artists. Shain Gallery is again *Charlotte Magazine's* Best of the Best for 2011.

For further info check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 704/334-7744 or visit (www.shaingallery.com).

McColl Center for Visual Art in Charlotte, NC, Features Works by Injoo Whang and Caitlin Masley

The McColl Center for Visual Art in Charlotte, NC, will present the exhibit, *SQUARED*, featuring works by Injoo Whang and Caitlin Masley, on view from Apr. 27 through July 28, 2012. A reception will be held on May 11, from 6-9pm.

Injoo Whang's work examines the interconnectedness between the individual and the collective. She accumulates single pattern, cut-out paper or fabric to create drawings or installations. When these tiny individual pieces are gathered together, they generate a powerful existence as a collective body.

Injoo is interested in creating visual illusion and the energy of the collective. Recently her work has expanded to consider, or adapt, to the space in which it is being presented.

Caitlin Masley is often reconstructing space and architectural situations from ideas of possible worlds suiting the needs of changing landscape and its mobile population. The base of all this work begins with images from political media outlets, mining online archives, or taking from her own photos when she can, from geopolitical and social structural projects around the world. From there, using

various modern architectural materials, Masley begins an obsessive treatment of space, meticulously hand recording every block, passageway, and texture on such a large scale to engulf the viewer and locate ourselves within the newly created space.

Through layering and subtracting fractions of various structures, the works collectively record the invisible history of where; where we go, where we live, how we create, erase or redraw borders and the colors that depict this visual information.

McColl Center for Visual Art is a nationally acclaimed contemporary art center dedicated to connecting art and artists with the community. Located in a historic, neo-Gothic church in Uptown Charlotte, the Center houses nine artist studios and over 5,000 square feet of gallery space. We welcome the public to explore our exhibitions and connect with artists through various programs including open studios, community outreaches, workshops and more.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 704/332-5535 or visit (www.mccollcenter.org).

Lark & Key Gallery in Charlotte, NC, Offers Works by Honora Jacob, Duy Huynh, and Jennifer Mecca

Lark & Key Gallery and Boutique in Charlotte, NC, will present, *Memory & Metaphor: New Works by Honora Jacob, Duy Huynh, & Jennifer Mecca*, on view from Apr. 4 through May 26, 2012.

Each artist is inspired in their own way - by personal memory, collective experience and visual symbolism - there is a common thread in their pieces brought about by a strong use of color and feminine influence.



Work by Honora Jacob

Rich in color, symbols and imagery, Honora Jacob's work references a personal vocabulary of cultural, historical and organic elements that illustrate a narrative of the contemporary female psyche. Her multi-layered oil paintings feature faceless figures surrounded by butterflies, fruits and numeric notations - symbolism that alludes to questions of feminine duality, intuition and fertility.

Jacob's technique of generously thinning her paints with linseed oil and other mediums allows the paint to drip and flow, simultaneously removing pigment from underlying layers while establishing a new outer surface. The effect is both unifying and dissolving which Jacob sees as "a metaphor for memory, slippery and sometimes blurred."

Duy Huynh creates narratives of the human condition with ethereal characters maintaining a serene, precarious balance, often in a surreal or dreamlike setting. With his figures, Huynh explores motion along with emotion in order to portray not just the beauty of the human form, but also the triumph of the human spirit. He pulls from a variety of influences and imagery, especially anything with the ability of flight, to portray physical or spiritual transformation. Recurring themes include floating figures, butterflies, moths, hot air balloons, boats and trains.

Huynh's acrylic paintings are rich in depth and textural qualities. His palette is muted, often counter-balanced with bursts of vibrant color or the use of soft light, such as the warm glow of lunar moths in a dark forest. Images, or backgrounds, are accented with the use of patterns created with his growing collection of vintage Indian wood block stamps and stencils. Huynh hopes to inspire wonder and enable viewers to embark upon their own journey.

Growing up Jennifer Mecca was greatly influenced by the traditions and rituals of her Italian-American extended family. Among the most prevalent of these traditions were the preparation, presentation and eating of elaborate meals. This

served as a foundation for her interest in utilitarian pottery and love of creating elaborate surfaces and forms.



Work by Duy Huynh

Working in porcelain, Mecca strives to create pots that are visually pleasing and unique in character, but useful in everyday life. Fabric, wrapping papers and fashion, inspire her surfaces, rich in color and often decorated with abstracted floral motifs. Whether a bottle vase, serving bowl or butter dish her forms and line quality evoke a sense of playfulness and feminine sensibilities. Although childhood memory plays a large role in her pots, Mecca's work is also informed with her adult memories and the moment of creation - with each piece inscribed with the month made along with a simple message, random thought or factual note - whatever is on her mind in the moment.

For more info check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call 704/334-4616 or visit (www.larkandkey.com).



Mary Lou Sussman, *Trace a Path*, 2010, Monotype, 34 x 28 inches

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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 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. Don't be late - send your info well before the deadline.