

USC Upstate in Spartanburg, SC

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a wall between the US/Mexico border; the plan to boost the economy via infrastructure improvements; gun violence and controversies over gun control; and the history of mistreatment of private citizens, refugees, asylum seekers, and peaceful protestors on public land. Barricades are frequently erected by people in power to provide a sense of security, often by keeping people in or out. They are interruptions in the landscape, causing a new flow of traffic, or blocking an otherwise unobstructed view. We are using imagery of fences and barricades, as well as other symbols that divide the country, as the visual language to examine these manifold and evolving issues," says Naomi J. Falk, Amy Sacksteder, and Brooks Harris Stevens.

Naomi J. Falk grew up in the wilds of Michigan and, from an early age, planned to be an archaeologist, a brain surgeon, a heart surgeon, a meteorologist, and travel the world with Jacques Cousteau. None of those worked out, but she did learn to scuba dive, studied sculpture and ceramics at Michigan State and Portland State Universities, and received an MFA from Carnegie Mellon University. She has exhibited regionally and nationally, and done residencies in Germany, Iceland, New York, Vermont, and the Faroe Islands. In Fall 2016, Falk joined the School of Visual Art & Design at the University of South Carolina as an Assistant Professor of Sculpture.

Amy Sacksteder's paintings, drawings, collages, and installations explore artifacts as vehicles of human connection to specific places and occurrences. Compelled by our interactions with the land and landscape, she investigates the personal, environmental, and political significances of place. Sacksteder has participated in solo and group exhibitions nationally and internationally at venues such as The Front (New Orleans); Polis University (Tirana, Albania); Signal Return (Detroit); Neon Heater (Findlay, OH); Popp's Packing (Hamtramck, MI); the Drawing Room (Budapest); SÍM Gallery (Reykjavík); KunstraumTapir (Berlin); Grizzly Grizzly (Philadelphia); The Urban Institute for



A view from the Threshold exhibit.

Contemporary Art (Grand Rapids); and Threewalls (Chicago).

Sacksteder and her family live in Ypsilanti, MI, outside of Detroit. She works from her studio in Ypsilanti, and is a professor in the School of Art & Design at Eastern Michigan University.

Brooks Harris Stevens creates work that is deeply rooted in the history of textiles. Her work asks questions referencing history, culture, craft and tradition as well as responding to cultural divisions being drawn across our country. Brooks Harris Stevens is an artist and Professor at Eastern Michigan University where she is the Fibers program coordinator in the School of Art & Design. She received her BFA in Fibers from Savannah College of Art and Design and a MFA in Fibers from East Carolina University, School of Art and Design.

Stevens has recently had work included in *Guns: Loaded Conversations* a global touring exhibition beginning at the San Jose Museum of Quilts & Textiles, and a solo exhibition, *Mending Gold: With Reverence* at George Fox University in Oregon. In addition to exhibiting her work Brooks has recently performed several landscape and architectural mendings in Leh, Ladakh, India, Mount Dajti, Albania, and at the Peninsular Paper Company in Ypsilanti, MI.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, e-mail Jane Allen Nodine, Gallery Director, at (Jnodine@uscupstate.edu), or call 864/503-5838.

Heritage Trail Pottery Tour and Sale Takes Place Apr. 25 & 26, 2020



Examples of works you'll find on the Heritage Trail Pottery Tour and Sale

The Heritage Trail Pottery Tour and Sale will be holding its 9th annual event on Saturday, Apr. 25, from 10am-5pm, and Sunday, Apr. 26, from noon-5pm. This fun and fascinating event will feature 4 studios and 9 clay artists in Edgefield County. A

kiln opening will be held on Saturday, Apr. 25, at 9am at the Edgefield Ground Hog Kiln site at 54 Crest Road in Edgefield.

South Carolina has a captivating history of the production of pottery, due to the

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ART LEAGUE OF HILTON HEAD

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abundance of clay and kaolin (a special white clay). Much of the early pottery was made by slaves and is highly collectible today.

In 2006, Piedmont Technical College of Greenwood helped regenerate local interest by starting a pottery program at their Edgefield Campus. Although the program closed, its influence has had a lasting effect. Several of its former students have developed their own businesses in Edgefield County. Fired by the desire to conserve and promote this locally significant art form, as well as a mutual professional respect and strong friendships, these artists still network and preserve those ties. Several other clay artists have also joined in more recent years.

The diversity of techniques and styles between the artists is striking. Some prefer the traditional, others contemporary. There

is beautiful and functional dishware, vases, urns, jewelry, whimsical sculptures, and much more.

"This tour provides the perfect opportunity to meet the artists and purchase a unique gift or piece for your own clay collection," said Bob Taft, artist and tour participant from Ridge Clay Arts in Johnston, SC.

The Heritage Trail Pottery Tour and Sale is just once a year, and includes demonstrations, refreshments, drawings for prizes, and is free to the public.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, contact Pam Kadlec by e-mail at (potterybypk@yahoo.com) or find us on Facebook at [Heritage Trail Pottery Tour & Sale](#) or on Instagram at SCHeritageTrail.

Looking for info on the next juried art show in the Carolinas, an opportunity to show & sell your work at the next festival taking place in the Carolinas or do you want to know who the new director of an art museum in the Carolinas is - just check out our Blog, "Carolina Arts News" at (<https://carolinaartsnews.wordpress.com/>).



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