

## Jerald Melberg Gallery

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He believes the human figure "provides a vehicle to explore and document various facets of the human condition as they relate to both the individual and the universal whole."

After graduating from the University of Hartford in CT, Napoletano continued his art practice with renowned egg tempera painter Fred Wessel, an experience that further defined his modern and creative take on allegorical realism. Having moved to Charlotte in 2015, his work is already recognizable, aided by an ArtPop billboard and new collaborative mural in the Plaza Midwood neighborhood, both in Charlotte. Napoletano has been commissioned by private collectors and institutions and his work can be found in the collections of Amway, the Detroit Institute



Work by Nicholas Napoletano

ington, Steele arrived in Charlotte in early 2012 to participate in the artist residency program at the McColl Center for Art Innovation. Recently, he was honored with a solo exhibition at Pease Gallery at Central Piedmont Community College and an artist residency at Skyline Artists in Residence in uptown Charlotte. During this residency he created a 70 foot site specific installation made of steel. "To me, functional objects, large or small, personify our intentions and aspirations," says Steele. "Through no small means we continue to build the world we want to see through feat after feat, and this gesture is not lost on me. It is my intention to distill these things down to find the initial human moment in these endeavors." Jerald Melberg Gallery is located on South Sharon Amity Road near the intersection with Providence Road. For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listing or call the gallery at 704/365-3000. To view selected paintings from the exhibition online, visit the gallery's web site at (www.jeraldmelberg.com).

## Elder Gallery in Charlotte, NC, Features Works by Leon Makielski and Ernest Walker

Elder Gallery in Charlotte, NC, will present *Ernest and Leon*, featuring works by Leon Makielski and Ernest Walker, on view from July 1 - 30, 2016. A reception will be held on July 1, from 6-9pm.

Long after their deaths an exhibition is planned for the art of two artists who left an indelible mark on the 20th century American art scene. Leon Makielski and Ernest Walker captured a moment in history that looks as fresh today as it did in the first half of the 20th century.

Makielski was born in Morris Run, PA, in 1885. He studied at the Art Institute of Chicago and spent his summer months at Eagle's Nest Camp, situated west of Chicago in Oregon, IL. The camp was onsidered the most important summer art center in Illinois and attracted notable sculptors, painters and writers. Makielski was awarded the Art Institute's John Quincy Adams Traveling Scholarship in 1908 for four consecutive years to study in Paris. While there he enrolled at the Academie Julian and the Grande Chaumiere, studied with Henri Martin and Richard E. Miller, and was selected to exhibit his work at the prestigious Paris Salons of 1911 and 1912. Makielski spent his spare time painting in the city's parks, on the Seine, and the countryside around Paris, especially Giverny and Versailles. He was a member of the second wave of American artists to study and paint in Monet's beloved town of Giverny. Makielski was included in William Gerdts' book, Monet's Giverny: An Impressionist Colony (New York: Abbeville, 1993.) Ernest Walker was born in Rochdale, England in 1892 and moved to the United States in 1913 where he attended the Art Students League in New York



Work by Leon Makielski

City. He worked as a freelance artist and, after serving in the United States Army, returned to England, married and painted throughout Great Britain. In 1930 Walker returned to Long Island, became an art contributor to Fortune Magazine, Woman's Home Companion, McCall's, Country Life and Pictorial Review. In 1935 Walker was commissioned by House & Garden Magazine to paint interiors of manor homes in England for the covers of the magazine. He was invited to exhibit his work at the Chicago Art Institute in 1938 and at the Philadelphia Museum of Art Watercolor Exhibition in 1939 and was included in the Whitney Museum's 1940 Exhibition for Contemporary Art. Elder Gallery's exhibition contains a number of watercolor paintings of Walker's interiors and scenes in and around New York during the 1930s and 1940s and Makielski's oil paintings from his time in Europe and those completed upon his return to America's mid-west. For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings or visit (www.elderart.com).

of Arts and the New Britain Museum of American Art.

"The new work identifies systems, narratives and objects that were conceived with a certain function that has evolved over time. What is left is a remnant that sustains beyond the original purpose, giving these entities new meaning. Using figures and symbols, I show the relationship between these relics and their everchanging contexts within a contemporary framework."

Matthew Steele's wood sculptures find stylistic balance between elegance and industrialism, as he is enamored with the efforts of humanity to transcend earthly obstacles with infrastructures such as highways, dams and bridges. It is his intent to personify our internal technologies through sculptural depictions of these utilitarian endeavors. All of the work on view is made with sawed and squared planks of soft, grainy walnut, tacked together with tiny nails.

After graduating with a BFA in sculpture from Indiana University in Bloom-

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