

## Call For Entry 2018 SC Watermedia Society National Annual Exhibition



2017 Best In Show: "Distracted" by Lynn Shilling

**Entry deadline: August 4, 2018**

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**SCWS 2018 National Annual Exhibition**

Exhibition will be shown at City Art  
1224 Lincoln St, Columbia, SC 29201  
Columbia SC October 6 - November 26, 2018

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## West Main Co-op - Cardell

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works described as "abstract street art" by TheMaddArtist - Roderice Cardell, on view through Aug. 11, 2018.

"I want people to feel my pain through color," the 30-year-old Moore, SC, native said. "I use music to create, to fight depression and anxiety. I want people to know they aren't alone. I want people to paint through whatever they are going through, to use their emotions to guide them along with the music."

TheMaddArtist is an abstract expressionist, performance artist, and street artist, who creates two-dimensional works with acrylics, spray paint, pastels, and mixed media.

He was inspired to have this exhibit because of his "limited resources and fighting through poverty," he said and added that he "feels the need to speak up, to be the voice of the people. I want everyone to know we are all connected and our experiences can help each other through life's obstacles. Colors connect us: They shouldn't make us different."

Cardell said it has taken him his entire life to make these works of art. When people see his work, he wants them to "feel hope. They should feel enlightenment. They should feel love. They should experience what it takes to be a fighter in this world." The Winthrop University graduate describes himself as a "triple-threat artist that is on a mission to save the world through art. As a rising emerging artists, Cardell has spent his career telling his story of overcoming dyslexia and fighting anxiety using art as an outlet."

The M.A.D.D.D. in his professional name stands for Making Art Diverse, Daring, and Distinguished. His creative process usually begins "with random brush strokes of color, or he slings paint onto the canvas to create violent and uncontrolled responses to the music, according to his promotional material. "The work's unpredictability creates movement to the rhythm of the music



Work by Roderice Cardell, aka TheMaDDArtist and emotional connection he has with the content of the music. He connects sound to emotion, and he sees colors when he hears the music. The music gives him a sense of direction when he creates."

Cardell started off as a young ambitious student who suffered from dyslexia and anxiety. Twenty years later while studying at Winthrop University, he branded himself as "a triple threat artist." But it wasn't until a near-death experience in 2015 that he dedicated his life to his passion of art.

Born in Spartanburg in 1987, Cardell was reared by his grandparents, alongside his mother and father who played a role in his creativity. He started producing paintings and capturing art with photography in 2013. He was mainly influence by Michel Basquiat and Ryan King. His style can be best described as abstract subliminal imagery. Cardell wishes to tell stories with his art to help people get through rough times. "It can either mellow you out or hype you up," he said. He also creates relevant New Age

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music.

"Nothing is ever planned!," he said. "I guess it takes the fun out of creating. Most of my most recent work has been influenced by taking big risks and finding new combinations that I've never done before. It excites me to see my experiments come alive.

"Sometimes I think my paintings have a mind of their own," he continued. "The way they speak to me while meditating. I listen and the vibrations of the music in the room

help me connect to my abilities and allow me to surrender to the canvas and become one with the art. As a musician, everything I create is full circle. When I create, life makes way more sense," adds Cardell.

"I want people to see that we all have a voice," TheMaddArtist said. "Are you willing to listen?"

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or visit ([www.WestMainArtists.org](http://www.WestMainArtists.org)).

## West Main Artists Co-op in Spartanburg, SC, Features Works by Nancy Williamson and Nancy O'Dell-Keim

Spartanburg, SC, artists Nancy Williamson and Nancy O'Dell-Keim will exhibit their latest works in ceramics and painting in the exhibit, *Primordial Voices: Expressive Paintings and Sculptural Forms*, on view at West Main Artists Co-op, from Aug. 16 through Sept. 15, 2018. A reception will be held on Aug. 16, from 5-9pm.

The exhibition contains new works created on the premise that art (and the process of creating) is essential, fundamental, and primal. The three-dimensional and two-dimensional works of art will be available.

Williamson will have on view three-dimensional totems of various sizes, from tabletop versions to nearly five feet tall. In refining the irregularly stacked ceramic "stones," Williamson is using a super-refined finish that imparts a smooth, ivory satin sheen. O'Dell-Keim's works will include abstract oil paintings of trees and landscapes, often from a ground-skyward perspective using bold colors and creating network patterns from the limbs and branches.

"I think that people in general, and especially artists, have a need - an inborn drive - to use our talents in a creative way and to connect with others through our creations," Williamson said. "It can take many forms: painting, pottery, music, acting, gardening, even culinary arts. And the work can be



Work by Nancy Williamson

used in different ways: to process the world around us, to process emotions, to share our knowledge, to worship, to meditate, or just to beautify our world in some way. For this exhibition, we are calling those inborn drives 'primordial voices' -- voices that are hard to ignore and that lead us to create and connect with others."

"When viewing the work, it is my hope that the people feel an emotional connection," O'Dell-Keim said. "I want to engage the viewer, creating an experience where visual experience speaks in a 'thousand voices' and where the viewer feels, on a primal level, the elements of line, color, and light in the pit of the stomach. I want the experience to transcend beyond the moment, connecting on many levels."

Both artists have lived and worked in

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