

# Caldwell Arts Council Exhibit

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illustrator. She has exhibited internationally, including the Broome Street Gallery in New York City. Cauthen currently teaches painting and Art History at UNCC.

Diane Pike's paintings are a result of her pursuit to understand and express how light creates color and how those different notes of color convey light. Pike met Jean Cauthen at a plein air event shortly after moving to North Carolina from Colorado. They share a passion for painting outdoors and have different approaches to the subject matter.



Work by Diane Pike

Pike says, "Jean and I thought a show based on paintings we did plein air of the same subject but from two different viewpoints would be interesting. And so we have spent a good part of the last year painting for this show."

Born in Iowa, Pike moved to Boulder, CO, in 1959. She lived in that area until December of 2008 when she relocated to Denver, NC. She has a degree in Fine Arts from the University of Northern Colorado where she studied printmaking and graphic design which led to 10 years in Denver, CO, as a graphic designer/artist in the advertising field.

Shelby, NC, artist Chrys Riviere-Blalock studied in New York at Parsons-The New School for Design and earned an MA in art at Appalachian State University. She has lived in western North Carolina, teaching in small colleges for 25 years, and also taught summer 2007 in Provence, France. Riviere-Blalock is a 2011 recipient of the North Carolina Regional Artists Project Grant from the North Carolina

Arts Council and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Arts and Science Council.

Riviere-Blalock says "What I see is exhilarating... vast space, a robust and wondrously alive landscape that is simultaneously as delicate and fragile as each spring's new leaf. These paintings are a visual response to the disappearing rural landscape. In the last few years cell towers, gigantic storage silos from multinational corporations and housing developments have encroached on the farmland I have known and loved all my life in the foothills of North Carolina. Four years ago I began to realize a sense of urgency in the need to respond as a painter to the beauty and fragility of this area; this is when I began a series of paintings of the landscape that surrounds us."

Rudy Rudisill of Gastonia, NC, uses sculpture to conjure a building lost and abandoned, excavating it from memory. The illusion of change arises via galvanized steel and copper brushed with acid, yielding a corrosive effect. The work is simultaneously contemporary and traditional, industrial and pastoral as Rudisill explores the relationship of physical elements to their symbolic implications. By bringing together various textures and architectonic forms, personal, cultural and historic elements bring together in and homage to the changing landscape. Each anthropomorphic piece carries with it a narrative and a particular relationship - sometimes familial, other times structural.

A working artist for over thirty years, Rudisill's fabricated sheet metal sculpture has won international awards and can be found in public, corporate and private collections in North America, Europe, and Asia. He is a member of the International Sculpture Center, Tri State Sculptors Association, Piedmont Craftsmen, Inc., and American Crafts Council. He is presently the Exhibits Preparer/Artist at the Schiele Museum of Natural History in Gastonia.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Arts Council at 828/754-2486 or visit ([www.caldwellarts.com](http://www.caldwellarts.com)).

## Appalachian State University in Boone, NC, Offers New Exhibits

Appalachian State University's Turchin Center for the Visual Arts in Boone, NC, is bringing in the fall season with their Fall Exhibition Celebration on Friday, Sept. 2, 2011, as part of Downtown Boone's First Friday Art Crawl. From 7-9pm, the Turchin Center will be open for all visitors to come and celebrate the current exhibitions on display, meet some of the artists, listen to live music by John T. Woodall and enjoy a refreshing beverage from the cash bar.

The new exhibitions being celebrated on Sept. 2 are *Sanctuary: Val Lyle, John Scarlata: Living in the Light: A Retrospective & Other Works* and *Northmost: R. Martin Stamat*. *Sanctuary* is in the center's Mayer Gallery and *Living in the Light: A Retrospective & Other Works* will be featured in Galleries A & B in the West Wing. Both exhibitions will be on display until Jan. 21, 2012. *Northmost* will be displayed in the Catwalk Community Gallery, East Wing until Oct. 29, 2011 while the *Halpert Biennial '11* in the Main Gallery, East Wing and *Selections: Works from the Turchin Center Permanent Collection* in the Mezzanine Gallery, East Wing will continue to be on display through Dec. 3, 2011.

Val Lyle's current traveling exhibition, *Sanctuary*, continues her exploration of what it means to be a human being in Appalachia. This installation will be in its eighth incarnation of the exhibition and Lyle will create major new work designed specifically for the environment that the work is displayed within.

Lyle received her BFA from Ringling College of Art and Design with emphasis on sculpture and printmaking, and her MFA from East Tennessee State Univer-

sity with emphasis on ceramic sculpture. A portion of this project was funded by a grant from the Tennessee Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Organized by the family, friends and colleagues of beloved Appalachian State Photography Professor, John Scarlata (1949-2010), *Living in the Light: A Retrospective & Other Works* will feature works by the Southern photographer who designed this exhibition in partnership with The Wellington B. Gray Gallery at East Carolina University in early 2010.

A native of Long Island, NY, Scarlata studied photography at Brooks Institute of Photography and received his MFA from the California Institute of the Arts in 1976. He held teaching positions at UNC-Charlotte, Penland School of Crafts, Virginia Intermont College and served as chair of the photography program in the Technology Department at Appalachian State University.

Martin Stamat's work in *Northmost* concentrates on the role of nature, microcosms and found objects that took hold of his imagination as a child that would otherwise go unnoticed. The subjects present in Stamat's work span from textures and found objects to cultures and civic concepts.

A native of the piedmont area of North Carolina, Stamat studied sculpture, photography and anthropology at the Australian National University, the University of New Mexico at Taos and Appalachian State University. He currently lives and works in Boone, NC.

For further info check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 828/262-3017 or visit ([www.tcva.org](http://www.tcva.org)).

## Caldwell Arts Council in Lenoir, NC, Presents 26th Annual Sculpture Celebration on Sept. 10, 2011

The Caldwell Arts Council in Lenoir, NC, in partnership with the Tri State Sculptors Association is announcing the *26th Annual Sculpture Celebration*. Recognized as the longest-running sculpture event in the southeast, it will be presented on Saturday, Sept. 10, 2011, from 9am-4pm at a new location this year - the beautiful T.H. Broyhill Walking Park in Lenoir, NC.

Celebrating its 26th year, the *Sculpture Celebration* will feature sculptural artwork by artists from the eastern US in competition for cash prizes totaling over \$10,000. For this day, over 150 sculptures - realistic and abstract, traditional and contemporary, movable and stationary, indoor and outdoor - will adorn the Broyhill Walking Park.



Work by Whitney Brown, First Place in 2010

On Friday evening, after the largest sculptures are put in place using a "knuckle boom" during the day, the Caldwell Arts Council will host The Blue Jeans Preview Party where sculptors, patrons, and artists will gather for dinner and live music. Following dinner will be a presentation by the competition judge, Ken Rollins of Rollins Fine Art Services in St. Petersburg, FL. The Blue Jeans Preview Party is open to everyone; however, tickets are required and must be purchased at a cost of \$15 per person in advance from the Caldwell Arts Council.

From 9am to 4pm on Saturday, Sept. 10, visitors may stroll through the park and enjoy three-dimensional art and live music; savor hot dogs, hamburgers, ice cream, Blue Moose coffee drinks, and other treats from local vendors. Members of the Foothills Art Gallery will be present to assist children during the day with

a variety of art activities. Awards will be announced at 3:30pm followed by a walk-through and discussion by the judge. Admission to the Sculpture Celebration is free.

Registration is open to any 3-D artist up to the day of the event, and each sculptor may present up to three sculptures. A registration prospectus is available by request from the Caldwell Arts Council or online at ([www.caldwellarts.com](http://www.caldwellarts.com)). Cost to register the day of the *Sculpture Celebration* is \$60; however, discounts are available for early registration.

The *Sculpture Celebration* began in 1985 with a simple idea and a pig weather vane, which now adorns the roof of the Caldwell Arts Council at the corner of College Avenue and Norwood Street in Lenoir. Since then, Caldwell County's interest in sculpture has become a near obsession. Caldwell County is recognized for maintaining one of the largest collections of public sculpture per capita in the United States.

The pig was the first in the Caldwell Arts Council's current collection of 77 publicly-displayed sculptures, most of which are outdoors for anyone to enjoy at any time of day. Not only has this unique collection of art become a major attraction and point of pride for the area, it has also brought some national attention. In 2006, then NC Secretary of Cultural Resources Libba Evans announced that Lenoir had more public sculpture per capita than any community of its size in the United States. In addition, the *Sculpture Celebration* and the permanent collection have been featured in North Carolina's *Our State* magazine, on a UNC-TV special, noted in the *Orlando Sentinel*, and dubbed by the *Charlotte Observer* as the place "where sculpture reigns".

The annual *Sculpture Celebration* has been a constant driving force in building up the area's collection as well as creating a sculptor-friendly environment. It started small but now attracts artists and visitors from across the country. "It's a great show for experienced artists, but also great for the first-time experience," Caldwell Arts Council Executive Director Lee Carol Giduz said.

Lenoir is located in Caldwell County in the beautiful foothills of the North Carolina mountains, off Hwy 321 between Hickory and the Blowing Rock / Boone area.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Council at 828/754-2486 or visit ([www.caldwellarts.com](http://www.caldwellarts.com)).

## Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC, Features Works by Alice Sebrell

Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC, is presenting the exhibit, *Understory: An Exhibition of Work by Alice Sebrell*, on view at the Fine Art Museum through Oct. 28, 2011.

Sebrell, a North Carolina native and program director for the Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center in downtown Asheville, NC, uses photography and other media, including wood, metal and glass, to create work that combines imagery from the natural world of plants and animals with the human-constructed environment.

The WCU exhibition includes selections from several recent bodies of work (including two-dimensional and three-dimensional), all of which reveal a curiosity about - and appreciation for - the secrets of the world. The work prompts questions, without attempting to provide answers, about the story behind the narrative - the "understory."

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 828/227-2553 or visit ([www.fineartmuseum.wcu.edu](http://www.fineartmuseum.wcu.edu)).

The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This would be Sept. 24th for the October 2011 issue and Oct. 24 for the November 2011 issue. After that, it's too late unless your exhibit runs into the next month.

But don't wait for the last minute - send your info now.

And where do you send that info?

E-mail to ([info@carolinaarts.com](mailto:info@carolinaarts.com)) or mail to:

Carolina Arts, P.O. Drawer 427, Bonneau, SC 29431