

# The Art of Sykes Gallery

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using Pyrography. Pyrography is the art of decorating wood or other materials with burn marks resulting from the controlled application of a heated object such as a poker. It is also known as pokerwork or wood burning. Pyrography means "writing with fire" and is the traditional art of using a heated tip or wire to burn or scorch designs onto natural materials such as wood, leather, paper, etc.



Work by Eugene Jenkins

Eugene Jenkins was born and raised in Charleston, believing art is a way to express himself. In the early 70's he started his voyage, his religious inspiration led him to becoming a self taught jeweler. Becoming a hard driving, imaginative, and innovative, as well as a perfectionist, has brought the artist great success. Jenkins continues to develop and refine his own work each time making his art alike but not of the same. He specializes in custom jewelry designs, and jewelry sculptures. Since 1973, Jenkins' creative work has spread all around the US.

Makeeva Omari Spann is a world-renowned artist residing in Charleston. He specializes in drawing/painting portraits, live sketches, and celebrity art pieces. His artwork is featured in the Historic City Market located in downtown Charleston.

Spann (MoSART) originally hails from Atlanta, GA, with a host of creative artists within his lineage. At the tender age of

3, MoSART and his family relocated to Charleston. It was then that a very young MoSART saw his mother draw a picture of his younger brother, which sparked in him an appreciation for the arts. Like most children his age, he enjoyed doodling. Fortunately, his mother realized his talent and encouraged him to continue cultivating his craft.

By the time he was in grade school, MoSART's ability to draw far surpassed that of his peers. Unfortunately, most of MoSART's teachers believed that he devoted too much time to drawing, often balling up his sketches and tossing them in the trash. However, his first art teacher, proved to be the exception by encouraging MoSART to pursue his passion for artistic expression.

At the age of 11, MoSART's parents separated, placing a financial strain on the family. As a way of earning extra income, MoSART would sell illustrations to fellow classmates so that they could complete class projects. In addition, he would even draw cartoon characters on his classmates clothing. All of this created an entrepreneurial spirit in the budding artist.

After the untimely death of his father, MoSART became reacquainted with a cousin, artist Ashanti Johnson, who stressed the importance of pursuing his God-given talent of artistically conveying images on canvas as a profession.

The Art of Sykes Gallery will be open Monday through Saturday, from 10am-7pm. The gallery will hold future monthly exhibits featuring well-known and emerging national and regional artists.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listing, contact Karen Ingram, Gallery Director by calling 843/628-2286 or visit ([www.ArtofSykes.com](http://www.ArtofSykes.com)).



## Morris & Whiteside Galleries on Hilton Head Island, SC, Features New Works by Dean Mitchell

Morris & Whiteside Galleries on Hilton Head Island, SC, will present, *Recent Works: Dean Mitchell*, featuring an opening reception held on Nov. 18, 2011, from 6-8pm.

A native of Quincy, FL, Mitchell received his formal training at Columbus College of Art and Design and subsequently worked as a leading designer for Hallmark Cards, Inc. in Kansas City, MO.



Work by Dean Mitchell

In 1983, Mitchell left the commercial field to pursue the muse of realist painting in both rural and urban America. His prodigious talent was quickly recognized with membership in the American Watercolor Society, National Watercolor Society, Miniature Artists of America, Allied Artists of America, The National Society of Painters in Casein and Acrylic, Knickerbocker Artists, and the Santa Fe Watercolor Society, of which he was President in 1993.

In 1992, Mitchell was one of five finalists in the \$250,000 Hubbard Award for Excellence, Ruidoso, NM; and received the \$50,000 Grand Prize for the Arts in the

Parks competition in 1999. In 1995 the US Postal Service commissioned Mitchell to do a series of Jazz stamps.

Today, Mitchell's paintings may be found in the permanent collections of the St. Louis Art Museum, Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Hubbard Museum, Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Mississippi Art Museum, Arkansas Art Center and others.

Morris & Whiteside Galleries is an American fine art firm specializing in representational paintings and sculpture by the nation's leading artists. Housed in the historic Red Piano Gallery (South Carolina's oldest professional art gallery) on Hilton Head Island, partners Jack A. Morris, Jr., J. Ben Whiteside and David G. Leahy provide over 70 years of experience for individual collectors, corporations and institutions.

Featured artists at the gallery include Ken Auster, Joe Bowler, Elaine Coffee, Jane DeDecker, Kim English, Glenna Goodacre, Jonathan Green, Walter Greer, Michael Harrell, Clark Hulings, Karin Jurick, Michael Karas, Milt Kobayashi, Dan McCaw, Dean Mitchell, Pino, Sandy Scott, Loran Speck, Linda St. Clair and Stephen Scott Young, among others.

Morris & Whiteside Inc. is also producer of Charleston Art Auction and a partner in Scottsdale Art Auction, both nationally recognized firms producing spring and fall sales each year.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 843/842-4433 or visit ([www.morris-whiteside.com](http://www.morris-whiteside.com)).

## Hilton Head Art League on Hilton Head Island, SC, Features Works by Ann Bannister & Virginia MacKenzie

The Hilton Head Art League will present the exhibit, *Playing With Fire*, featuring encaustic paintings by Ann Bannister and Virginia MacKenzie, on view in the Greer Gallery at the Coastal Carolina Art Center on Hilton Head Island, SC, from Nov. 1 - 27, 2011. A reception will be held on Nov. 1, from 5-7pm.

Encaustic art which uses pigmented melted beeswax mixed with damar resin is an ancient art medium. Thousands of years ago, the Greeks and the Egyptians made life size mummy portraits in wax on wood panels which were then attached to the coffins. A number of these portraits are in perfect condition to this day. The word encaustic is a Greek word that means "to burn in". After the wax is applied to the substrate, it is fused with a heat gun or torch to make it solid and permanent.

This versatile medium is well suited for abstracts, three-dimensional effects, atmospheric illusion, luscious organic florals and landscapes, and even realistic detailed paintings. Encaustic can be used in combi-

nation with watercolor, pastel, oil, photography, collage, printmaking, or gold leaf. It can be fused, scraped, poured, inscribed, dipped or burnished.

Why did Bannister and MacKenzie call their show, *Playing With Fire*? Even though they are serious artists who have both painted in every other medium, they decided that they have had so much fun preparing this exhibit that it can only be considered "playing". If a painting doesn't turn out like they would like, they just put shellac on it and torch it, laughing all the while. The result is a miraculous, luminous, new creation. One of these works is entitled, *God's Painting*, as the artist gives up all control and can only watch it burn (outside in the driveway). The signature piece for the exhibit, *The Bonfire* took three months to complete and over a dozen layers of wax. After all that, it was set on fire!

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Art League at 843/681-5060 or visit ([www.artleaguehhi.org](http://www.artleaguehhi.org)).

## Historic Penn Center on St. Helena Island, SC, Offers Annual Celebration and Works by Luther Vann

The Historic Penn Center, located on St. Helena Island, SC, will kick off the 29th Annual Heritage Days Celebration on Nov. 10-12, 2011 and feature an exhibit, *Songs of My People*, by Luther Vann, on view from Nov. 11 through Dec. 31, 2011. A reception will be held for Vann on Nov. 11, beginning at 5:30pm.

Heritage Days is a time that visitors from all over the country will converge on St.

Helena Island to revel in a unique Gullah experience: an exciting three-day event that includes food, music, performances, seminars, arts and crafts, a parade, and cultural demonstrations by the Gullah descendants of former West African slaves in an historic setting, formerly known as the Penn Normal Agricultural and Industrial School. This year's theme is "Surviving and Thriving:"

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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 Nov. 24th for the December 2011 issue and Dec. 24 for the January 2012 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