

Mint Museum Uptown in Charlotte Shows Works by Ajané K. Williams

The Mint Museum Uptown in Charlotte, NC, is presenting *Ajané K. Williams: Sublimations of Spacetime*, on view through Mar. 3, 2024.

Ajané K. Williams' art is out of this world. Her artist's statement reveals that she "came to Planet Earth ... to show humanity how to find their higher self and travel to the edge of infinity using the power of our own consciousness."

Naturally curious, Williams immerses herself in the unfamiliar. The self-described "space and time traveler" is a DJ (DJ Nebula), video artist, and Afrofuturist painter. She sees Afrofuturism as "a cultural aesthetic that combines African American culture with futuristic, innovative ideas."



Work by Ajané K. Williams

Williams moved to Columbia, SC, where she currently lives.

She's fascinated by UFOs, death, the afterlife, and reincarnation. A related belief is that "children born within your own family might be here to finish something a past family member wasn't able to complete."

Such is the case in her family. Her great grandfather, Harvey Williams, was a left-handed painter, as is she. He was a surrealist who painted gospel and jazz album covers. He couldn't afford to be an artist and support his family, so he gave up art. Williams believes she's here to fulfill his purpose. Another late relative was a DJ; Williams feels she's meant to finish his work, too. Here is a look at a day in her life.

The Mint Museum Uptown houses the world renowned collections of the Mint Museum of Craft + Design, as well as the American Art and Contemporary Art collections and selected works from the European Art collection. The building also includes a café, a Family Gallery, painting and ceramics studios, classrooms, a 240-seat auditorium, a Special Events Pavilion with outdoor terrace, and an expanded Museum Shop specializing in crafts of the Carolinas.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 704/337-2000 or visit (www.mintmuseum.org).



Work by Ajané K. Williams

She finds working in the genre therapeutic and her work is garnering national attention. It was part of the "Black Creativity Juried Art Exhibition" at the Chicago Science and Industry Museum.

"Every time I make something, it's healing to me as a Black woman [who suffers] from generational and karmic curses from my family lineage. Afrofuturism is healing my Black self, and - I hope - healing humanity," she says.

Williams was born in 1999 on a military base in Fort Stewart, GA, and spent her youth in Alaska, both Carolinas, Germany, Japan and Korea. After graduating with a BFA in painting from UNC Charlotte, she

Gaston County Museum in Dallas, NC, Features Works by Regina Bos

The Gaston County Museum in Dallas, NC, is presenting *Folk Tales of the Future*, an art exhibit by Regina Bos, on view through Jan. 6, 2024.

Regina Bos is a sculpture, painter, Graphic Designer, and small business owner. A graduate of Monmouth University, she earned her Bachelor's in Fine Arts in Computer Graphics and Design. She has worked in marketing, advertising, packaging, and web design for the *Miami Herald*, *Village Voice*, and various creative companies since 2002.



Work by Regina Bos

the audience to explore themes of transformation, growth, and decay, drawing inspiration from the natural world and the cycles of life. A hybrid born of human striving, ignorance, hope and denial. The human face is long gone, but an echo remains, informing new patterns and growth, speaking to what is innate in all of life, in us and in nature. I'm drawn to the intricate shapes and patterns found in nature and use these as a starting point for my compositions, creating art that is not only unique and unusual but also memorable. The ancient medium of encaustic wax offers me a unique way to explore and express my connection to nature. It allows me to create a tangible representation of my vision. To layer, carve, and mold the wax until it takes on a life of its own. The process is both meditative and challenging, requiring an immersive understanding of the material; it's a delicate balance between light and shadow, form and texture, and the interplay of color and translucence."

Folk Tales of the Future asks its viewers what would hang in an art museum after humans no longer exist on the earth? What natural materials would be left to use as art? Artist Regina Bos dives deep into a fascinating medium of encaustic, found materials, metal, textiles, and more.

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Work by Regina Bos

Bos has explored a wide variety of artistic mediums but began focusing her work within the encaustic medium in 2014. Mostly self-taught, she has also attended numerous workshops around the country. In 2018, the Encaustic Museum of Art in Santa Fe, NM, added her art to their permanent collection. In early 2022, Bos was awarded a grant from the North Carolina Art Council, Mecklenburg Arts and Science Council and the Cleveland County Arts Council, and most recently, she was in a group exhibition in Dallas, TX, called "A Woven Underworld" at the Janette Kennedy Gallery. Upcoming in the fall of 2023, Bos will be featured in annual *EcoArtSpace Publication, The New Geologic Epoch 2023*.

"With *Folk Tales of the Future* I invite

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"I hope this exhibit will inspire our visitors to think outside the box and to embrace our natural environment," Gaston County Museum's Curator, Alicyn Wiedrich said. "The Gaston County Museum is excited to support yet another regional artist and give her a platform to show off her innovative

work."

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listing, call the Museum at 704/922-7681 or contact Alicyn Wiedrich by e-mail at (Alicyn.Wiedrich@gastongov.com).

Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, NC, Offers Group Exhibition

Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, NC, is presenting *Carolina Mountains to Shore*, featuring fiber works by Evelyn Beck, Lynne Harrill, Sara Quattlebaum, Cynthia Steward, Denny Webster and Kathryn Weston, on view in the Ross and Overcash Galleries, through Dec. 7, 2023.

Upcountry Fiber Artists is a group of six Carolina textile artists who explore and experiment with the creative expression of fabric and stitch. Their strength lies in their diversity, as each artist's unique voice emerges through their approach to design, selection, use of materials, and construction techniques in their work. However, this diversity in their artistry is united by their use of layered fabric, batting, and thread.

This exhibition draws inspiration from places and sights they discovered while driving idly through the countryside, glimpsing a lovely vista, visiting the cities and coast, or during quiet moments in nature. Their innovative use of fabric, surface design, and stitching creates exciting, unique works that convey their individual Carolina experience to the viewer - whether a long-time local, new to the area, or just visiting, this exhibition will inspire everyone by revealing the captivating and unique aspects of the Carolina region.

The Carolinas are blessed with a diverse and beautiful landscape, teaming with natural resources. Whether you are in the

upcountry, the central hills and plains, or the low-country, each region offers ample opportunities for recreation, exploration, and geological inspiration. However, the landscape also reveals moments from our history, which help define our heritage and tell our stories.

Central Piedmont Community College is highly accessible and convenient to people of all ages who seek a real-world, affordable, hands-on education that will transform their lives and strengthen the economic, social, and cultural environment of Mecklenburg County. Central Piedmont is also a smart investment. At a fraction of the cost, students learn by doing, receiving a combination of technical and soft skills training from quality faculty who prepare them to enter the workforce and make a difference in their family, business, community, and world. Founded in 1963, Central Piedmont Community College has eight locations throughout Mecklenburg County, offering nearly 300 degree, diploma, and certification programs; customized corporate training; market-focused continuing education; and special interest classes.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, contact Amelia Zytka by e-mail at (amelia.zytka@cpcc.edu). Follow us on Instagram and Facebook at Central Piedmont Arts and our blog at (<http://blogs.cpcc.edu/cpccartgalleries/>).

Check us out at (www.carolinaarts.com) or e-mail to (info@carolinaarts.com)