

Hickory Museum of Art in Hickory, NC, Features Work by Ruth Ava Lyons

The Hickory Museum of Art in Hickory, NC, is presenting the work of Charlotte, NC, artist Ruth Ava Lyons. *Oceanic Alchemies* will be on view through Feb. 8 in the Museum's Gifford Gallery.

Lyons creates impressions of the natural world that explore concepts surrounding man's negative impact on the environment and its redemption. The effects of global warming creating endangered ecosystems and environmental degradation inform the imagery she develops in mixed media. This new body of work combines underwater photography with painterly handling and is a result of an artist residency at the world famous Heron Island Research Station on the Great Barrier Reef, Australia.

The artist states, "My paintings are evidence of my personal search to comprehend universal themes of growth, resistance, adaptation, and perseverance that I see in nature, and in my own life."

This project was made possible by the NC Arts Council, a division of the Department of Cultural Resources, the Blumenthal Endowment and the Arts Council of Mecklenburg County.

Ruth Ava Lyons was born in Cleveland, OH, and holds degrees from Kent State University and Cranbrook Academy of Art. She is a Fulbright fellowship recipient and has taught at several colleges and universities in 4 states. She and her



Ruth Ava Lyons, "Oceanic Alchemies X", mixed media on aluminum, 30x30", Photo credit: David Ramsey

partner, sculptor Paul Sires, ran Center Of The Earth Gallery, an award-winning commercial art gallery for 22 years.

Lyons' work can be found in numerous collections including The Metropolitan Museum Of Art, Hearst Corporation, Bank of America, New Orleans Museum of Art, National Museum for Women In The Arts, Philip Morris Headquarters USA, SAS Institute, and The Federal Reserve Bank.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 828/327-8576 or visit (www.hickoryart.org).

Caldwell Memorial Hospital in Lenoir, NC, Offers Works by Dawn Mathews

Caldwell Memorial Hospital and the Caldwell Arts Council in Lenoir, NC, is presenting *The Go-o-o-od Life*, featuring works by Granite Falls artist and owner of The Thankful Goat, Dawn Mathews, on view in the Art-in-Healing Gallery at the hospital, through Mar. 31, 2015.

In 2009, Mathews bought her first goat, "I had visions of goat cheese dancing in my head. Fresh, farm cheese, feta, brie, gouda; but the goat had other plans! After she ate a whole laurel bush in our yard (which is poisonous to goats), we had to give her an anti-toxin shot. We couldn't use the milk for cheese so a friend suggested we make soap. The Thankful Goat was born! We are a local micro-farm making goat milk soap and bath products. Our herd has expanded, and we love what we do. Being an artist, I have captured snippets of our farm life along the way. That's where this show comes in. It consists of my memories of our crazy farm brought to life in art. I hope you enjoy it as much as we have enjoyed living it! It truly is the go-o-o-od life!"

Mathews' book, *The Thankful Goat: An Unlikely Partnership Between a Woman and a Goat*, is available at the Caldwell Arts Council gift shop or online at Amazon.com.

The Art-in-Healing Gallery is located just inside the Mulberry Street Entrance to Caldwell Memorial Hospital, and is open 7am-8pm daily

The Caldwell Arts Council, located on College Avenue SW, Lenoir NC, presents monthly and quarterly exhibits, education and collection programs that foster cultural arts in Caldwell County. There is no admission charge, although donations are gratefully accepted.

The Caldwell Arts Council's programs are supported by the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the Department of Cultural Resources and by individual and corporate donors.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the council at 828/754-2486 or e-mail to (info@caldwellarts.com).

The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be Jan. 24th for the February 2015 issue and Feb. 24 for the March 2015 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).



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NC Institutional Galleries

Aberdeen

The Exchange Street Gallery of Fine Art, 129 Exchange Street, in the old Aberdeen Rockfish Railroad storage terminal, Aberdeen. **Jan. 11 - 28** - "See How It's Done". This art show features paintings by our 2015 class instructors. There will be works in all mediums. **Ongoing** - The Artist's League of the Sandhills currently houses 35 artists-in-residence studios and offers classes by local professional artists and workshops by nationally known artists. Hours: Mon.-Sat., noon -3pm. Contact: 910/944-3979, or at (www.artistleague.org).

Alamance County

BAL Gallery, Holly Hill Mall and Business Center, 309 Huffman Mill Rd., Exit 141 off of I85/I40, Burlington. **Ongoing** - Since the beginning of Burlington Artists League in 1972, we have grown to represent many local artists in our immediate area. BAL's express purpose is to promote and elevate the area artists and their fine art spirit in Burlington, NC, and surrounding areas, thereby creating outlets for the artists and encouraging their continuing efforts to improve and create more art work. Along with wall art and bin reproductions, the BAL Artists Gallery also includes 3-D art such as sculptures and pottery. Hours: Mon.-Fri., noon-8pm; Sat., 10am-9pm, & Sun. for special events. Contact: 336-584-3005 or at (<http://balartists.com/joomla/>).

1873 Capt. James & Emma Holt White House, 213 South Main Street, 2 1/2 blocks off I85/40, exit#147, Graham. Home of the Alamance County Arts Council. **Ongoing** - We are committed to shaping the cultural identity of Alamance County by making art a tangible presence in the lives of its citizens. We strive to enhance the quality of life by engaging people in a diverse array of art through the delivery of programming and education, and through the provision of facilities, advocacy, promotion, and funding. **Ongoing** - Picasso's Gift Shop, located in the Captain White House, promises unique finds of local, regional, and international art. The beautiful arts and craft items sold in the store help support the artist in the community. Featuring a wide variety of art, pottery and glass. Admission: free. Hours: Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm. Contact: 336/226-4495 or at (www.artsalamance.com).

Albemarle

Falling Rivers Gallery, 119 West Main St., next to Starnes jewelers, Albemarle. **Ongoing** - The gallery is a cooperative venue of the Stanly Arts Guild. Member staffed, this gallery offers the very best in local art and crafts including oil and watercolor, photography, pottery and ceramic art, jewelry, native American art, gourd sculpture and much more. Hours: Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Thur. till 6:30pm & Sat., 10am-4pm. Contact: 704/983-4278 or at (www.fallingrivers-gallery.com).

Asheboro

Sara Smith Self Gallery, W.H. Moring, Jr. Arts Center, 123 Sunset Avenue, Asheboro. **Jan. 6 - 27** - "Ed Rich". A reception will be held on Jan. 6, beginning at 5:30pm. A Lunch and Learn event will be offered on Jan. 27, from noon-1pm. Hours: Mon.-Fri., 10am-5pm & Sat., 10am-2pm. Contact: 336/629-0399 or at (www.randolphartsguild.com).

Asheville Area

River Arts District, Asheville. **Jan. 11, 10am-5pm** - "Second Saturdays". Join the artists of the River Arts District on the Second Saturday of each month for A Closer Look—a day of artist demonstrations, classes, open studios and fun. Spend the day hopping and shopping from studio to studio to view a range of mediums and an abundance of creativity! For further info visit (www.riverartsdistrict.com).

Asheville Art Museum, 2 South Pack Square at Pack Place, Asheville. **Jan. 24 - Mar. 8** - "Western North Carolina Regional Scholastic Art Awards". A reception and awards ceremony will be held on Feb. 15, beginning at 2pm. With the assistance of its volunteer docents, partners with the Asheville Area Section of the American Institute of Architects each year to sponsor the Western North Carolina Regional Scholastic Art Awards. Students in grades 7-12 from all across our region are invited to submit work for this special juried competition, and the Museum features the artwork of award recipients in an exhibition. **Through Mar. 8** - "What You See Is What You See: American Abstraction After 1950". This exhibition considers the four phases of Color

Field painting from the 1950s through the 1980s. Beginning in the late 1950s, art critic Clement Greenberg noted a tendency toward all-over color — or Color Field — in the works of several of the First Generation Abstract Expressionists such as Rothko and Clyfford Still. Greenberg included Color Field painting as part of post-painterly abstraction, a movement away from the bold gestural brushstrokes of early Abstract Expressionism. **Through Jan. 11** - "Hands, Hearts, Mind: Cherokee Artistry," an exhibition celebrating the unique artwork of the Cherokee - the longest tradition of art and creativity in Western North Carolina. The Cherokee have long created artistic as well as functional works. In the 20th century, with the rise of tourism and the increased availability of manufactured products, the functional and the artistic blended together. While Cherokee art ranges from painting to weaving, the Museum's collection focuses on three areas - baskets, ceramics and sculpture - and represents both contemporary and historical pieces. **Gallery Six, Through Feb. 8** - "X, Y + Z: Dimensions in Sculpture," is an exhibition of contemporary works of art, highlighting a variety of three-dimensional pieces. By definition, sculpture is a freestanding work of art created either with additive or reductive methods and can be made in a variety of media. The works featured in this show are sculptural, but anchored to the wall rather than the floor. The works' dimensionality shows off various processes and materials that engage the audiences by jumping from the wall and into the gallery. These works enter the viewer's space, asking them to interact with the work in a manner different from traditional painting or sculpture. The exhibition features work from the Museum's Permanent Collection and private local collections. **Appleby Memorial Foundation Gallery, Through Jan. 18** - "Mary Frank: Finding My Way Home". Over the course of her career, Mary Frank has worked in sculpture, painting, drawing, printmaking and recently encaustic and photography, suggesting that her primary loyalty is not to a particular way of working or to any medium, but rather to the power of direct expression and to the act of creation itself. All of this work evinces an eagerness to use the intuitions and improvisations that arise naturally during the creative process. The Museum is pleased to present a broad survey of Mary Frank's work from across her long and accomplished career. **New Media Gallery, Through Jan. 4** - "Humans and Machines: The Robotic Worlds of Adrienne Wortzel". Wortzel utilizes computer software, robotics, video and fictive narratives to create robotic worlds filled with humanlike creatures, historical references and scientific data. She works with contributions from researchers, scientists and robotic experts from across the globe to examine the relationship between humans and machines through art. Featured in the New Media Gallery are two of her short films entitled "The Veils of Transference" and "archipelago.ch". **Ongoing** - "Sol LeWitt: Creating Place, Wall Drawing #618." Sol LeWitt (1928-2007) was born in Hartford, Connecticut. As a pioneer of conceptual art, he has had a major influence on 20th century American art. **Ongoing** - "Community: Sharon Loudon". The second work in the Museum's Artworks Project Space, Sharon Loudon's innovative installation Community is a continued conversation based on a series of work that she started in 2013 that traces its path through installation, animation, painting and drawing. In each genre, her gestures create an implication of dance — movement and energy — transposed against the resistance of fixed squares and rectangles of color. Admission: Yes. Hours: Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Fri. till 8pm & Sun., 1-5pm. Contact: 828/253-3227 or at (www.ashevilleart.org).

Work by Marion Vidal
Asheville Gallery of Art, Ltd., 16 College Street, Asheville. **Jan. 1 - 31** - "New Kids on the Block,"

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