Blue Moon Gallery

continued from Page 24

other photographers work and to offer a destination venue for many fine art mediums. "I want this space to be an oasis of fine art here in the mountains at the entrance to DuPont Forest. After many years just around the corner at the Glass Feather I've learned that great art is found in unexpected and tucked away places."

In addition to Travis's photography, the gallery artists include Lucy Clark (pottery), Ray Byram (paintings) and Hanes Hoffman (sculpture). The gallery is one of a growing variety of businesses in Cedar Mountain. It's located just south and in sight of Cedar Mountain Café on Hwy. 276; across the street from the gift shop Changes in Altitudes, and in the same business complex as Cedar Mountain Canteen.

"It's great to see the burgeoning businesses taking root here in Cedar Mountain. This location is its own special destination with visitors and local residents coming over 276 and many hikers and bikers enjoying DuPont Forest. They are finding that Blue Moon Gallery is a great place to visit while in the area," Travis said.

Blue Moon Gallery will feature local and regional artists. Travis has experience with art galleries and building an art destination. He joined Glass Feather Studio Gallery, a fused glass gallery in Cedar Mountain in 2001. The Glass Feather was started in 1982 by his father Robert Travis and his step mother Patricia Travis. Although it recently closed, Travis says as a working artist there he received a tremendous amount of learning and artistic experience. He was encouraged to create his own glass art and he continues to practice the craft.

Travis began exhibiting his photography in 2008. He showcased his images at the Glass Feather in addition to participating in many exhibits throughout the area. "I've always had some natural ability in the visual arts and both my parents had strong artistic talents. I've worked in glass, drawing, watercolors and other mediums. Finally, photography came to center stage and that is now my concentration. It's been rewarding to create the space here at Blue Moon. I want it to be a unique space – even with the name and logo design choices - I hope to communicate and then present extraordinary art in a creative and restful setting. After all, art like this only comes along once in a Blue Moon.'

In addition to the four presenting artists, Blue Moon Gallery will hold exhibits that rotate on a two month basis. The gallery space is designed with larger exhibit



rooms surrounded by small spaces that Travis says serve as vignettes for the art. Visitors are able to experience "corners of art" in a calm and reflective setting. There's also a common area of the gallery that connects the four individual gallery rooms in the 1600 square foot space. Travis plans to showcase themed art representative of the changing mountain seasons in this area.

One of the rooms serves as Lucy Clark's working studio. She has emerged as a talented potter receiving numerous awards and honors including Exhibitors Choice Award from the Piccolo Spoleto Arts Festival. Her method is that of "hand built" pottery creating unique pieces that are embellished or carved after firing. Visitors will be able to see her at work as well as peruse many of her signature pieces available at the gallery.

Ray Byram is known for his oil paintings, watercolors and silk screen printmaking. He has been painting since the late 1960's and recently published a coffee table book of his work. The book, *The Art of Raymond Byram A Labor of Love* shares many full color images of his paintings of iconic scenes of the area. His work on display at Blue Moon Gallery is a selection of most of his styles and offerings.

R. Hanes Hoffman, Jr. creates sculptures that are individually hand crafted from copper. Hoffman and his art have been featured in many publications including *Our State* magazine. Travis likes the mix of two and three-dimensional art in the gallery and feels that Hoffman's work complements the other artists.

"Hanes has a tremendous background and artistic talent. His style and innovation truly captures nature and our surroundings here in the mountains," says Travis.

The gallery is located at 10771 Greenville Hwy. in Cedar Mountain. Current hours are Weds. – Sat., 10am-5pm or by appointment.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/565-2566 or visit (www. BlueMoonGalleryNC.com).

Blowing Rock Art & History Museum in Blowing Rock, NC, Offers New Exhibits

Blowing Rock Art and History Museum in Blowing Rock, NC, is and will be present several new exhibits featuring the likes of: Elliott Daingerfield, Ward Nichols, Eliot Clark, and many others.



Elliott Daingerfield, "Portrait of Anna Grainger Daingerfield and Unidentified Figure" Oil on canvas. Gift of Rolfe and Ann Neill. Permanent Collection, Blowing Rock Art & History

The exhibition, *Elliott Daingerfield*, is an on-going exhibit.

The work of American Impressionist Elliott Daingerfield remains closely tied to the history of the Blowing Rock Art & History Museum. A generous donation of his paintings and drawings from

Cora Ann and Lamont Hudson created the framework upon which this museum was founded. Until recently, this preliminary collection was stored in the museum vault, but with this exhibition, the Museum will honor and reintroduce selections from its founding collection of Daingerfields and several additional Daingerfields acquired since then. Works on view by Elliott Daingerfield were selected by guest curator Jonathan Stulhman, Senior Curator of Modern, American, and Contemporary Art at the Mint Museum, in Charlotte, NC. Through fall 2016, the exhibition will feature Daingerfield paintings collected by the artists' grandson, Joseph Dulaney.

The *Ward Nichols: Look Again* exhibition will be on view through Mar. 26, 2016.

A native of West Virginia, Ward Nichols (b. 1930) made his home nearby in North Wilkesboro, NC. His hyper-realistic paintings are visualized from photographs he takes of everlasting landscapes, abandoned structures, and everyday objects. Spend a little more time with his paintings, however, and Nichols offers rewards through quirky details, such as humorous compositions, nonfunctional door hinges,

continued above on next column to the right



Ward Nichols, "Old Blue" Oil on canvas, Photograph (C) Blue Spiral 1, Asheville, NC.

and hidden eyes that lock unexpectedly with those of the viewers. *Ward Nichols:* Look Again encourages visitors to ponder the mundane and experience the beautiful within it

Selections from the Collection, is another on-going exhibition being presented at BRAHM

The Museum has dedicated three exhibition spaces to its permanent collection. Works in the collection range from prominent American Impressionists, such as Elliott Daingerfield and William Charles Anthony Frerichs, to works by more locally based artists, including Philip Moose and Herb Cohen. The display was guest curated by Jonathan Stulhman, Senior Curator of Modern, American, and Contemporary Art at the Mint Museum.

A Retrospective of Eliot Clark will be on view through Mar. 26, 2016.

Eliot Candee Clark (1883-1980) was born in New York and was poised to become a prominent artist at a young age. After a rock was thrown at his head and cracked his skull at age eight, he became bedridden for a time and immersed himself in his art. After his recovery, he exhibited at the New York Watercolor Club, the Society of American Artists, and the National Academy of Design, where he eventually became an active member, exhibitor, and president (1956 - 1959).

Influenced by his father and mother, both artists, Clark graduated high school at 15 and traveled the world, from France and India to Georgia and North Carolina, and painted plein air along the way. He became best known for his naturalistic landscapes, but was also a skilled writer and published several books on artists and arts organizations of his age.

Clark passed away at the age of 97 in his second home in Charlottesville, VA, but his paintings remain in collections across the country, including the Metropolitan and the Smithsonian. The works on display at the Museum are on loan from Lamont Hudson, a close friend of Clark's, and show a broad range of his work.

Responding to popular demand, *The Sculptor's Voice*, BRAHM's first retrospective of contemporary sculpture, is being revisited. This second look at the exhibition, guest curated by Bill Brown, Jr., will remain on view through Feb. 20, 2016 and will feature one new additional work of art from each of our five exhibiting artists. The exhibition showcases works by five leading and rising sculptors across the South, including: John Acorn of Pendleton, SC; Rick Beck of Spruce Pine, NC; Tinka Jordy of Hillsborough, NC; Hanna Jubran of Grimesland, NC; and Corrina Sephora Mensoff of Atlanta, GA.

The exhibition *Truth Beneath These* Hills: Uncovering the History and Heritage of Mining in Western North Carolina will be on view from Dec. 3, 2015 through Apr. 23, 2016.

Geologists have a saying: "Whatever cannot be farmed, must be mined." Few regions demonstrate this better than Western North Carolina. From the Native Americans who first uncovered minerals and gems thousands of years ago to the miners who today excavate materials crucial to the Silicon Age, mining has profoundly shaped the technology, environment, culture, and community of the High Country.

The exhibition was guest curated by the following graduate students of Dr. Andrea Burns at Appalachian State University: Kathryn Burke, Jessica Cottle, Caitlin Finlayson, Jackson Osborne, Bonnie Roane, Carson Sailor, Colby Stevens, Jimmie Vaughn, and Nicholas White.

The Alexander Community Gallery at BRAHM will also be featuring artwork by four students of the Department of Art at Appalachian State University. The exhibition, *Origins: Works by Chastan Swain, Christopher Lin, Samuel Brown, and Nicholas Osetek*, will be on view from Dec. 3 through Jan. 30, 2016.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 828/295-9099 or visit (www. blowingrockmuseum.org).

Carlton Gallery Near Grandfather Mountain, NC, Offers Annual Winter and Small Works Shows

Carlton Gallery Near Grandfather Mountain, NC, is presenting *33 Winter Group* and *Small Works* exhibitions, on view through Apr. 30, 2016.

Toni Carlton invites all to visit the seasonally decorated gallery for holiday spirit and enjoy *Small Works* by many gallery artists along with the theme of "Winter" in the NC Mountains.

The featured artists' exhibit Art Reflections of 2015 includes a collection by those artists whose paintings were showcased this year. Selected paintings by Amy Sullivan, Kevin Beck, Andrew Braitman, Toni Carlton and Warren Dennis are in oil, acrylic and mixed media with subject matter of traditional and abstracted landscapes and barns, along with cubist style figurative work of ordinary people doing ordinary things. Carlton's work is rendered in her signature style of a peaceful theme with meaningful media. This collection is colorful, thought-provoking, inspirational and amusing.

Beautiful realistic winter scenes of the High Country are rendered by Egi Antonaccio in which he paints the alluring light of nature as a focal point. Antonaccio paints his traditional interpretations of scenes in oils and uses acrylics for a more contemporary rendering of bright colors and bold brushstrokes.

The *Small Works* exhibit consists of original small works on canvas and paper, glass, sculpture, wood, pottery, wearable fiber and fine jewelry. Paintings by Dottie Leatherwood, Freeman Beard, Helen Farson, Marion Cloaninger, Mary Martha McKinley, Linda Apriletti, Jane Desonier, Charles Lawson, and Arlene Mandell are original works embracing all media, styles



Work by Andrew Braitman

and price ranges. This collection of small works has subject matter ranging from local and regional landscapes, exquisitely detailed still life, colorful abstracts and impressionistic portraiture.

Pottery both decorative and functional is included in the exhibit. New gallery clay artist, Jim Whalen, makes eye catching vessels with intricate glazing techniques that look like wood. John Turner crafts urns and bowls in contemporary designs using turquoise and copper glazes. Ralph Mello's classical, sculptural vases, pitchers and lidded jars add an elegance to the exhibition. A large selection of unique mugs for tea, cider or coffee as well as a lively collection of baking casseroles, microwave cookers, platters, berry bowls and tea pots makes great small gifts.

Small wood items in shaker inspired boxes, remote holders, tissue boxes and trays by Jim Thoma; embossed and inlaid bookmarks by Mitercraft, as well as small

continued on Page 26