

The Center for Craft, Creativity & Design Opens in Asheville, NC, with Exhibit of Windgate Fellowships

The Center for Craft, Creativity & Design, now in Asheville, NC, is presenting *Taking Shape: Celebrating the Windgate Fellowship*, on view through May 10, 2014. The show was juried by Cindi Strauss, the curator of Modern and Contemporary Decorative Arts and Design at The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and features works from 14 of the 50 artists who were awarded Windgate Fellowships in the first five years of the program, which is now in its ninth year.

The Center for Craft, Creativity & Design (The Center) is pleased to open their permanent location in downtown Asheville. The Center, an independent 501(c)3 non-profit organization, finalized the purchase of 67 Broadway Street on Aug. 7, 2013. The purchase was made possible through a gift from the Windgate Charitable Foundation, a patron of craft in Western North Carolina and long-time benefactor, with additional support for renovations provided by Fleur S. Bresler and The Bresler Foundation.

The Center's new 3-story home is situated in the heart of downtown Asheville's thriving arts, music, and restaurant scene. The building, circa 1912, originally served as a garage, machine and repair shop, and automobile showroom before housing the Asheville-born and craft-focused book publisher Lark Books. The Center and Ken Gaylord Architects/ Blackhawk Construction have revamped the space. Non-essential fixtures and temporary walls have been removed to make way from an expanded exhibition area and office space, all the while maintaining the building's historical aesthetic and integrity.



Nate Moren with *Tandem Made*, Topographic Rocker, 2012, Masonite, plywood, nylon spacers, hardware, 31 x 22 x 37 in

For nearly 2 decades, The Center has garnered the respect of the national and international crafts community with conferences, exhibitions, and publications, while also brokering millions of dollars in grants to prominent and aspiring craft artists, scholars, and institutions. In 2010, The Center produced *Makers: A History of American Studio Craft* the first studio craft survey published by UNC Press. They have done so from a humble locale tucked in the woods west of Hendersonville, NC. In moving to downtown Asheville, The Center will increase its local impact while maintaining and bolstering its national focus, visibly,

UNC Asheville in Asheville, NC, Features Works by Pavel Antonov

UNC Asheville in Asheville, NC, is presenting *Robert Wilson vs. Burning Man*, an exhibit of photographs by renowned Russian-American photographer Pavel Antonov, on view in the Blowers Gallery of UNC Asheville's Ramsey Library, through Feb. 28, 2014.

This two-part exhibition examines two different events in contemporary American culture: the conceptual innovative theater of Robert Wilson, and spontaneous theatrical performances in the desert of Nevada.

Antonov is known for his work in theater photography, and his exhibits have spanned from Moscow to Zurich to New York. His work has been published on covers and in features of *Vanity Fair*, *Vogue*, *ELLE*, and *Marie Claire*, among others.

The Burning Man Festival is a yearly gathering in Nevada's Black Rock Desert in which participants create a temporary city dedicated to community and art.



Dustin Farnsworth, *The Understood Weight*, 2013, Basswood, poplar, plywood, MDF, veneer, rope, steel, and polychrome, 42 x 13 x 13 in

and dedication to craft.

"Western North Carolina is the crossroads for craft in the United States," said Stephanie Moore, The Center's executive director. "The Center plans to draw attention, visitors, and resources to Asheville. This facility provides us the space to form significant partnerships and leave a lasting imprint - not only to preserve craft's legacy but also to ensure its future."

In late August, The Center unveiled "Programming Forward," a strategic programming plan that utilizes their new Asheville home to strengthen its core programs and initiatives, which include awarding grants, hosting an annual Craft Think Tank, sponsoring regional lectures, developing local and nationally-attainable resources for artists, and organizing exhibitions of contemporary craft.

The 2014 exhibition schedule continues with an exhibition titled *CTRL+P* that investigates the implications of digital technologies on the making of sculptural and functional objects curated by Anna Walker and organized by the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, on view from May 16 through Aug. 23, 2014 and a selection of internationally renowned Gee's Bend quilts in partnership with Warren Wilson College's Holden Visual Arts Center and Gallery from Sept. 5 through Dec. 30, 2014.

The mission of The Center for Craft, Creativity & Design is to advance the understanding of craft by encouraging and supporting research, critical dialogue, and professional development. The Center's programs strive to support the best examples of research and practice in the field.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 828/785-1357 or visit (www.craftcreativitydesign.org).

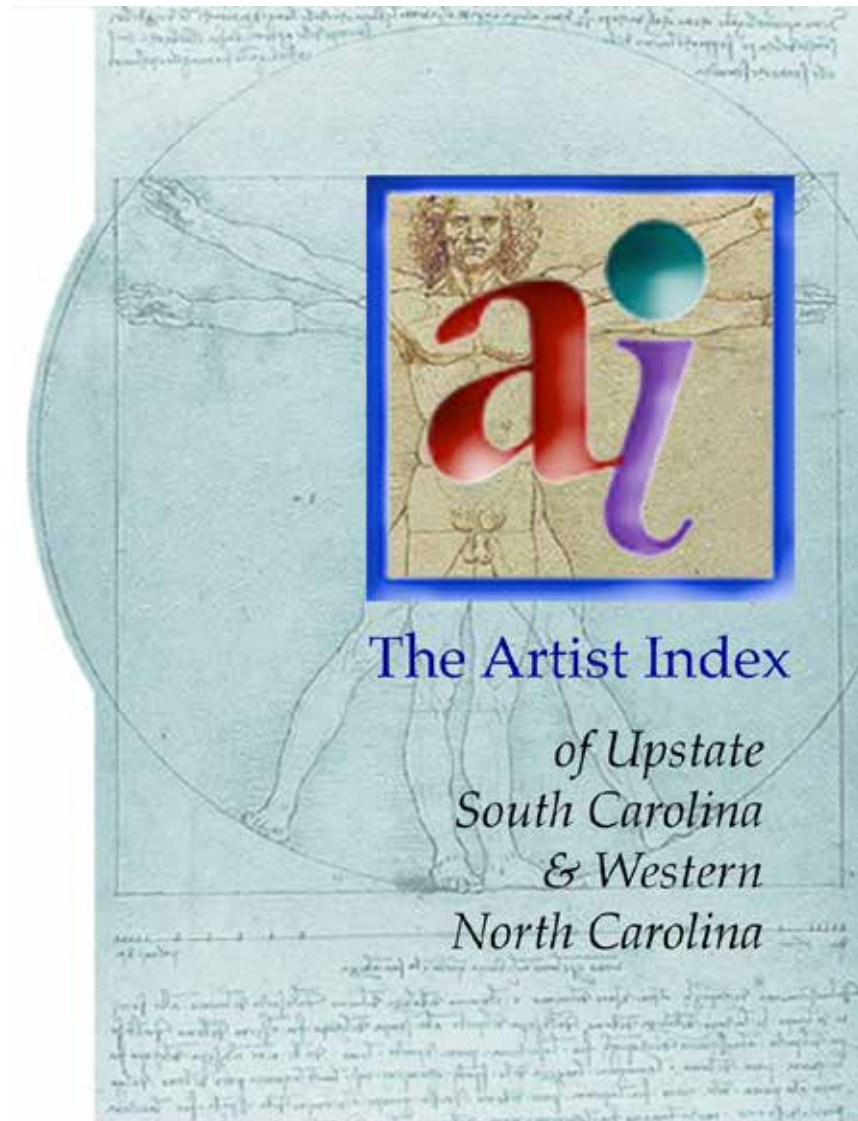


Work by Pavel Antonov, copyright Pavel Antonov, New York, NY

The *New York Times* has described Wilson as "a towering figure in the world of experimental theater... an explorer in the uses of time and space onstage." His numerous awards and honors include an Obie award for direction, the Golden Lion for sculpture from the Venice Biennale, and the 3rd Dorothy and Lillian Gish Prize for

continued above on next column to the right

www.theartistindex.com



Lifetime Achievement.

Robert Wilson vs. Burning Man is brought to UNC Asheville by a collaboration of the university with the A.A. Bakhrushin Central State Museum of Theatre in Moscow and Grabbe, Inc. New York, NY.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Library at 828.251.6336 or visit (bullpup.lib.unca.edu/library).



Work by Pavel Antonov, copyright Pavel Antonov, New York, NY

Asheville Art Museum in Asheville, NC, Offers Exhibition Focused on Space and Place

The Asheville Art Museum in Asheville, NC, is presenting the evocative exhibition *Social Geographies: Interpreting Space and Place*, on view through May 18, 2014. The Museum is also presenting several engaging and informative events in the coming weeks in conjunction with the show.

Social Geographies is an exhibition that asks viewers to experience artwork regarded as different, differently. Whether deemed "outsider" (Henry Darger, Martín Ramírez, George Widener) or "self-taught" (Thornton Dial, Sr., Minnie Evans, Lonnie Holley), the artists featured in this exhibition are classified in terms that organize their art but do not adequately speak of their arts' unique qualities and circumstances.

Rather than presenting artists and their work through notions of marginality, *Social Geographies* generates discussions of subjective and shared experiences told through concepts of space and place. To this end, the exhibition engages viewers on multiple levels. Featuring 40 mostly large-scale works by American artists that represent space and place, the exhibition investigates visual ways of mapping such experiences through layered material objects, panoramic formats, cartographic views, chronographic vistas and depictions of visionary and vast worlds.



Thornton Dial, *After the Burn*, 2012, fabric, metal, wood, clothing and enamel on canvas and wood, 72 x 72 x 10 inches. Collection of the Souls Grown Deep Foundation, Atlanta.

Scheduled events include:

On Mar. 20, at 6pm - Lecture - "Troublesome Things in the Borderlands of Contemporary Art" lecture by Dr. Bernard Herman, Humanities Lecture Hall, UNC Asheville. Free and open to the public.

On Mar. 21, at noon - Gallery Talk - Dr. Bernard Herman, Lunchtime Art Break gallery talk. Free with Membership or Museum admission. UNC Asheville students are

continued on Page 18