

# Elder Gallery of Contemporary Art

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thinking.

An artist luncheon will be offered on Feb. 2 and a panel discussion on Feb. 13, where these participants will examine the impact artists can have on how we view and address the tumultuous events and social realities of the day.

Susan Brenner is a nationally recognized artist who for decades explored issues surrounding perceptions of gender and femininity and issues related to the body. Primarily a painter, Brenner also uses photography, digital imaging, drawing and installation to create her work. In *This is History...that is not over*, Brenner offers a sardonic view of hysteria as a defining metaphor for femininity. The work draws parallels between the world of contemporary advertising and the 19th century institutions that produced and reproduced hysteria as a spectacle.

Brenner is also exhibiting two other series of works – *Susannah and the Elders* and *The Judith Stories: Without Voice* – that examine the repression of trauma and the fragmentary nature of identity. The series is based on the prominent 17th century Italian Baroque painter Artemisia Gentileschi's paintings. Gentileschi, a rape survivor, is celebrated as an early champion of feminist themes.



Work by MyLoan Dinh

displacement, identity and home in her new series *4 Minutes*, paintings that seek to capture facets of our humanity. Inspired by the Border Network for Human Rights project, *Hugs Not Walls*, families had only four minutes to reunite with their loved ones. These works explore the desire to love and be loved, the value of being in the moment and the fleeting minutes of an emotional embrace.

Charles Farrar is an internationally celebrated wood artist whose artworks honor the valuable skills and creative abilities that enslaved Africans brought with them to the North and South American continents. Using hand-selected woods with irregular grain patterns, knots and burls, and incorporating meaningful artifacts and heirlooms into his artwork, Farrar creates fine art vessels that hold and emotionally convey ideas and concepts.

In *Homage to Sharecroppers*, Farrar uses reclaimed rings from the hub of a wagon wheel dug out of farm property owned by his parents that had been worked by family members who were sharecroppers in earlier generations. Using circles of spalted birch wood in this contemporary multi-piece work, Farrar taps into the universal symbols of totality, wholeness and timeliness to open the viewer's eyes to the expansiveness of the cycles in time, life and nature itself. His works evoke a sense of wonder as they mirror the aesthetic standard of today while also providing a window into the historical context of the time. Farrar will also be exhibiting a number of vessels and wood-turned sculpture artworks.

The goal of this exhibition is not simply to call attention to contemporary social struggles, but to also begin a dialogue. Gallery owner Sonya Pfeiffer notes that "a significant motivator for creating an exhibition like *The Art of Struggle* is the conversation engendered by the works and the communities that form in the process of developing and participating in them. Artists have an opportunity to be part of the discourse. They are shedding light on their own personal experiences with injustice or those endured by others, and through this shared dialogue, work together to transcend polarities and rediscover our common humanity."

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call Sonya Pfeiffer at 919/368-1700 or e-mail to (Sonya@eldergalleryclt.com).



Work by MyLoan Dinh

MyLoan Dinh challenges institutionalized ideas and uses her mixed media work, paintings and installations to share her perspective on the social environment. Dinh is a former Vietnamese refugee who settled in North Carolina after fleeing Saigon with her family in 1975. In *WOKE-Out*, Dinh uses the contemporary byword 'woke' for self and social awareness, to question the existing dominant paradigm and actively participate in the process for positive change. Dinh's series of boxing gloves in *WOKE-Out* represents the struggle for racial and gender equality.

Dinh takes the gloves out of their normal context and integrates unexpected mediums – cross stitch, hip hop lyrics and eggshell mosaic – to disrupt conventional artistic and social norms. Dinh addresses contemporary challenges of migration,

## ClearWater Artist Studios in Concord, NC, Works by Rowan-Cabarrus Community College Faculty

The ClearWater Artist Studios in Concord, NC, is presenting works by the Rowan-Cabarrus Community College Faculty of the Fine & Applied Arts Department, on view in the ClearWater Artist Studios Gallery, through Mar. 2, 2018. This is the 2nd annual faculty show at the gallery.

This is the only venue hosting a collective show exclusively of full-time and adjunct Visual Arts Faculty in the Fine & Applied Arts Department of RCCC.

The nine faculty members participating include: Jenn Selby, Jonathan Hoffman, Lorraine Turi, Travis Phillips, Anna Kenar, Rachel Goldstein, Michelle Rodenberg, Sandra Casserly, and Mikel Frank.

ClearWater Artist Studios Gallery will be having limited open hours - call for apt. to check availability.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call 704/784-9535 or visit ([www.clearwaterartists.com](http://www.clearwaterartists.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 Feb. 24th for the March 2018 issue and Mar. 24 for the April 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)).

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## Southern Highland Craft Guild in Asheville, NC, Features Works by Tapestry Weavers

Southern Highland Craft Guild in Asheville, NC, is presenting *Tapestry Weavers South*, featuring over fifty hand-crafted, fiber pieces, on view in the Main Gallery of the Folk Art Center, through Apr. 29, 2018.

The show features 27 weavers, 3 of whom are members of the Southern Highland Craft Guild – Tommye Scanlin, Pat Williams and Sandy Adair. Since 2007, the Guild has fostered a close relationship with the organization in support of their mission to cultivate the crafts and makers of the Southern Highlands. This is the third show with *Tapestry Weavers South* (TWS).

A southeastern organization founded in 1996 by 18 weavers, TWS encourages and promotes tapestry among its members, and educates the public about tapestry as an art form. The membership covers a diverse design aesthetic with both abstract and figurative textiles.

Tapestry weaving itself is one of the oldest forms of woven textiles and the principal way of creating a picture through weaving. This differs from the traditional form of weaving that is a weft-faced textile. The natural, strong warp is completely covered by the colored yarn of the weft. Tapestries of old were created by several weavers working together on the same tapestry, with a separate artist creating the design. Contemporary tapestries, like ones seen in this exhibition, are created entirely by the same person, requiring several skills to accomplish and just as time consuming. These include drawing/computer graphics for designing, to the color skills and choice of yarns, and finally to the technical weaving to create the actual tapestry.

Tapestry Weavers South displays the following fiber makers and their work in the Folk Art Center exhibition:



Work by Nancy Garretson

Sandy Adair, Jean Clark, Nancy Duggar, Michelle Elliot, Nancy Garretson, Barbara Gilmore, Joan Griffin, Gail Griffith, Louise Halsey, Betty Hilton Nash, Connie Lippert, Mary Jane Lord, Lynne Mayne, Sidsel Moreb, Laurie O'Neill, April Carter Price, Christina Rasmussen, Jennifer Sargent, Dorina Scalia, Tommye Scanlin, Rosemary Smith, Rebecca Stevens, Sarah Thomsen, Linda Weghorst, Holly Wilkes, and Pat Williams.

The Folk Art Center is located on the Blue Ridge Parkway in east Asheville. Headquarters to the Southern Highland Craft Guild, the Center also houses three galleries, a library, a craft shop and a Blue Ridge Parkway information desk and bookstore.

The Southern Highland Craft Guild is a

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