

# Hickory Museum of Art

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ing from the North Carolina Humanities Council, a statewide nonprofit and affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

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

## ClearWater Artist Studios in Concord, NC, Features Results of Portrait Competition

ClearWater Artist Studios in Concord, NC, is presenting the works created by the 3rd Sun Drop Pound Cake Portrait Paint-Off Exhibition, by 13 artists, on view through Mar. 31, 2017.

On Saturday, Feb. 18, ClearWater Artist Studios held their 3rd Annual "Sun Drop Pound Cake Portrait Paint-Off". The signature event, unique to the Studios, drew roughly 150 visitors to watch 13 painters work live, completing portraits from a single model in under two hours. The festive atmosphere was punctuated by artist interviews, 5-minute speed drawings of audience members, and raffle prize drawings; and augmented by the plentiful Sun Drop Pound Cake on offer. Several guests went home with prizes, a new ClearWater T-shirt or a new artwork for their walls. Brazilian Samba music filled the space.



View of artists working in the competition

The artists, grouped around model Melissa Ritchie, worked feverishly to render her likeness, while onlookers murmured excitedly and took photos or video. The five Featured Painters, invited for their portraiture skills, didn't disappoint, producing remarkably lifelike portraits for such a short working time. Featured painters this year were Robin Wellner, Mark Stephenson, Gordon C. James, Barbara Ellis and Isaac Payne. Many of their fans came to see them paint.

"Great people, model and cake! I had a wonderful time, even though the clock was ticking," said artist Robin Wellner, one of the five 'Featured Painters,' whose works are on exhibit in the ClearWater Gallery. Another artist, local painter Kevin Harris, said, "What a great space... I have wanted to paint with ClearWater's resident artists for some time now and I was not disappointed... I can't wait to do it again." In their studio, the South-



Gordon C. James working on his painting

ern Piedmont Woodturners entertained guests with demonstrations on their lathe and a display of cigar-box guitars. Local reporter, Michael Knox served as Emcee throughout the event.

ClearWater Artist Studios would like to thank the many businesses and individuals who helped make this event possible: The Concord Youth Council and other volunteers during the event; The Sweet Life bakery, 2 Gals Kitchen and Cheerwine Company for the food and drink; and our generous gift-basket prize donors: Cougar Run Winery, Southern Grace Distilleries and S&D Coffee & Tea. Thanks go also to the ClearWater resident artists, who kept their studios open during the event. Most especially, the painters, who participated for the fun, camaraderie and challenge of it, and allowed an audience in 'behind the curtain' to see their process.

Next on ClearWater's public calendar is the opening reception for *Impulse*, the annual Student Art Exhibit of Rowan-Cabarrus Community College's Fine Arts & Design Department, on Apr. 7, from 6-8pm. This will be the fourth year of this partnership. More events are in the works. If you'd like to be involved, the ClearWater Artists' Coalition, an organization of the resident artists, offers Affiliate Memberships to anyone interested in getting involved in planning and events, for a \$25 annual dues fee.

Spaces at ClearWater such as the Gallery, and outdoor green, Market etc. are available to rent for private events. Contact the Manager, Sarah Gay, to inquire.

For more information, visit ([www.clearwaterartists.com](http://www.clearwaterartists.com)); call ClearWater Artist Studios at 704/784-9535 or send an e-mail to ([clearwatermgr@gmail.com](mailto:clearwatermgr@gmail.com)). The ClearWater Artist Studios Facebook page is continually updated with photos.

## Ciel Gallery in Charlotte, NC, Features Annual Art Salon

Ciel Gallery in Charlotte, NC, will present its annual Art Salon, featuring a curated exhibit including works by local artists, on view from Mar. 3 through Apr. 1, 2017. A reception will be held on Mar. 3, from 6-9pm.

Works represent a variety of media, and have been approached from very unique perspectives, striving to poke the viewer enough to answer questions and provoke serious thought and emotion.

Featured local artists include: Amy Goldstein-Rice, Amy Hart, Caroline C. Brown, Celena Burnett, Christina Cobb, Diane Pike, Elyse Frederick, Emily Anders, Jackie Radford, Jean Cauthen, Jen Walls, Jonathan Grauel, Kate Thompson, Kelly Carlson-Reddig, Kerry Griffin, Laura McRae Hitchcock, Leigh Williams, Marianne Huebner, Pamela Goode, Rae Stark, Renee Calder, Teresa Hollmeyer, Terry Shipley, Tina Alberni, and Valerie Hawkins.

Artist Caroline C. Brown's methodology when approaching works on paper, is primarily through monotypes; works

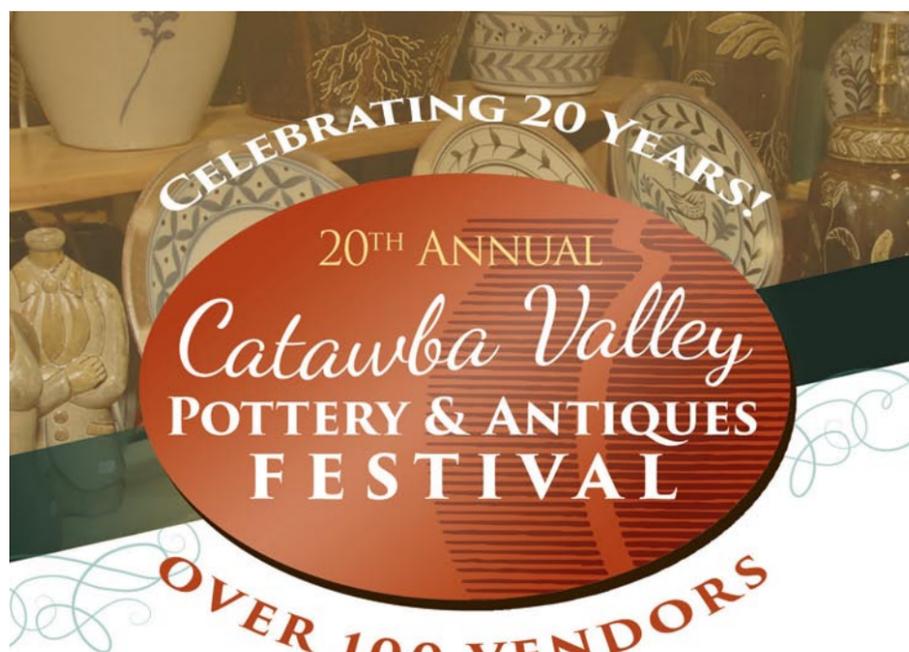


Work by Jen Walls

on heavy cotton paper coming alive with multiple layers of colors creating negative and positive spaces from native NC plants she uses to print with.

Jen Walls experimental, abstract images are charged with a brilliance of color

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and composition created by following her method of stepping back and letting intuition guide her through.

Christina Cobb's contemporary approach speaks from the heart. Each work is based on the philosophy that everything is a product of an experience and an extension of self, conveying stories of movement and ideas of color through light, lines, and layers.

Tina Alberni's mixed media lithographs spawned from the current socio-political dialectic, combining simultaneously with seeds of hope and positivity, where love, light, wisdom, knowledge and the rest of goodness prevails. Her work begs you to think about how you are feeling and approaching things in our current state of affairs.

Ciel Gallery is a well-known fine art & fine craft collective hot spot, with a focus on local artists who are very in touch with Charlotte's pulsating art scene. Ciel hosts



Work by Tina Alberni

twelve unique fine art exhibitions a year, and offers a varied slate of art instruction for all levels. The Gallery is located on E. Park Avenue, in South End, Charlotte's urban, trendy neighborhood within walking distance to the train.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listing or visit ([www.cielcharlotte.com](http://www.cielcharlotte.com)).

## Jerald Melberg Gallery in Charlotte, NC, Features Works by Members of the Wyeth Family

Jerald Melberg Gallery in Charlotte, NC, will present *The Wyeth Family*, an exhibition of drawings, watercolors and paintings by America's First Family of Art, the Wyeths, on view from Mar. 24 through May 6, 2017.

We will celebrate the great achievements of N.C., Andrew and Jamie Wyeth, who have collectively captured the spirit of 20th century America, depicting its people and landscapes. This exhibition coincides with the Mint Museum's *The Wyeths: Three Generations, Works from the Bank of America Collection*, affording the Charlotte area an opportunity to see two major exhibitions at the same time.

Jerald Melberg Gallery will be exhibiting paintings, drawings and watercolors by N.C. Wyeth (1882-1945), his son Andrew Wyeth (1917-2009) and his grandson Jamie Wyeth (b. 1946). All works will be



Andrew Wyeth (1917-2009), "WHALEBONE 1973". Watercolor on Paper, 21 x 29 inches, Andrew Wyeth images © 2017 Andrew Wyeth / Artists Rights Society (ARS), NY

available for acquisition.

Newell Convers Wyeth (N.C.), often called the patriarch of America's First Family of Art, established a career of

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