

Florence Museum in Florence, SC

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Though the works in this show are relatively new, the artists are well established in the state. Both artists have works in the State Art Collection of the South Carolina Arts Commission and both are featured in the new exhibit *Abstract Art in South Carolina: 1949 - 2012* at the State Museum, on view through Aug. 27, 2012.

“Carl Blair’s paintings explore a familiar, natural environment as well as an unfamiliar, psychological one,” says Florence Museum curator Stephen Motte. “Though he’s revisited similar themes in over 40 plus years of painting, they don’t really resolve, which is a common trait of all good art.”



Work by Laura Spong

Blair, who is also in the permanent collection of the Florence Museum, was a professor of art for 41 years at Bob Jones

University in Greenville, SC. Though retired from teaching, Blair continues to paint and exhibit his art throughout the Southeast.

Laura Spong’s career took off in 2006 with a highly successful exhibit celebrating the artist’s 80th birthday. Three of her works in this exhibit were painted just last year.

“Her art is a great example of how abstraction still holds an important role in the world of contemporary painting,” Motte says. “Blair’s, too. These aren’t, ‘My kid could do that,’ paintings. These are the kinds of paintings that are the mature result of applied, intuitive skill.”

The exhibit, which features 16 works, will be one of the last of its kind at the Florence Museum’s current location on Spruce Street.

“Right now so much of the museum staff’s time is spent preparing for the new museum,” said Motte.

The new building will be located downtown on the northwest corner of Dargan and Cheves Streets and is set to open in late 2013.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 843/662-3351 or visit (www.florencemuseum.org).

Appalachian State University in Boone, NC, Offers New Exhibits

Appalachian State University in Boone, NC, will present several new exhibits at the Turchin Center for the Arts this Spring including: *North Carolina Arts Council Artist Fellowship Award Exhibition*, featuring works by 16 NC artists, on view in Galleries A & B, from Apr. 6 through July 28, 2012; *Reflections on Costa Rica*, featuring works by ASU students and faculty, on view in the Community Gallery, Apr. 6 through June 2, 2012; and *STUFF: Where does it come from and where does it go?*, featuring an installation by Bryant Holsenbeck, on view in the Mayer Gallery from Apr. 6 through July 28, 2012. A reception will be held for all three exhibits on Apr. 6, from 7-9pm.



Work by Kirk Fanelly

Eighteen artists in North Carolina were awarded the distinctive honor of being named the 2010-2011 North Carolina Arts Council Artist Fellowship Awards. The awards were in the categories of choreography, craft, film and video and visual arts. Sixteen of these artists will be featured in the Turchin Center galleries with new work.

Panels comprised of artists and arts professionals with expertise in each discipline selected these recipients. Since the program’s inception in 1980, more than 500 artists have received awards. “Fellowships provide financial support for artists during a crucial point in their careers,” said Mary B. Regan, executive director of the N.C. Arts Council. “These grants give artists a chance to deepen their work and

explore new ground.” Each of the artists received a \$10,000 fellowship.

The recipients of the 2010-2011 North Carolina Arts Council Artist Fellowship Awards include: Elizabeth Brim, Phoebe Brush, Kirk Fanelly, Gail Fredell, Maja Godlewska, Christopher Holmes, Mark Iwinski, Young Kim, Anne Lemanski, Nava Lubelski, Sean Pace, Susan Harbage Page, Vita Plume, Shoko Teruyama, Bob Trotman, and Linda Vista,



Work by Shoko Teruyama

The North Carolina Arts Council works to make North Carolina The Creative State where a robust arts industry produces a creative economy, vibrant communities, children prepared for the 21st century and lives filled with discovery and learning. The Arts Council accomplishes this in partnership with artists and arts organizations, other organizations that use the arts to make their communities stronger and North Carolinians - young and old - who enjoy and participate in the arts.

The NC Arts Council is a division of the NC Department of Cultural Resources, the state agency with the mission to enrich lives and communities and the vision to harness the state’s cultural resources to build North Carolina’s social, cultural and economic future. Information on Cultural Resources is available on their website at (www.ncculture.com).

Reflections on Costa Rica features works made in response to Appalachian State University students’ International travel experience. Students had the opportunity to explore photography and printmaking in Costa Rica in June of 2011 as part of a study abroad opportunity organized by Scott Ludwig, Associate Professor of Printmaking, Department of Art and Dr. Garner Dewey, Associate Dean of the College of Fine and Applied Arts and Associate Professor of the Department of Technology and Environmental Design within the Department of Technology and Environmental Design.

This studio-based, international trip was designed for students to participate

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Call to Artists! 2012 Live Oak Art & Music Festival

Artists are invited to apply for the 7th Annual Live Oak Art & Music Fest held under the oaks at the Historic Horry County Court House in downtown Conway, SC.



Painting by Ruth Cox



The Live Oak Fest is held in conjunction with the City of Conway’s Fall Festival.

Both Festivals bring thousands of visitors to downtown Conway for a full day of music, a car show, and 3 stages packed full of live entertainment.

For more information and to apply online visit www.createconway.com or call 843.248.4527

Create! Conway is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the arts and economic development in downtown Conway. The Live Oak Art & Music Fest is made possible through the generous support of our volunteers, sponsors and the City of Conway.

in hands-on workshops in photography and printmaking/mixed-media at various institutions such as the University of Costa Rica and *Casa del Artista* in San José. Students also traveled extensively in-country, visiting numerous national parks for the purpose of photographically documenting the biodiversity within the stunningly rich landscape that has come to define Costa Rica.

Working with the program directors in collaboration with numerous Costa Rican artists, students commenced development of a thematic body of work based on their personal observations and experiences culled from fieldwork and photo-excursions to locations such as Arenal Volcano, Poas, Rincon de la Vieja, and various coastal and urban communities. As a capstone experience, the culmination of this creative work will be featured in thematic art exhibitions in Costa Rica and in the local community.

The exhibition includes works by ASU students including: Genna Baugh, Jaclyn Bowie, Elliot Chalmers, Paton Davis, Ken Grier, Jennifer Harley, Lily Lane, Austin Lankford, Kirby Mellott, Sean O’Shea, Garner Dewey, and Scott Ludwig, with special guest, Costa Rican artist, Priscilla Romero Cubero.

STUFF: Where does it come from and where does it go?, features an installation by Bryant Holsenbeck, a project in partnership with the Catherine J. Smith Gallery and other campus partners, funded in part by Appalachian’s Sustainability Council Competitive Arts Grant.

The Turchin Center for the Visual Arts and the Catherine Smith Gallery partner with environmental artist Bryant Holsenbeck will be on campus to complete a residency in conjunction with this exhibition. The project she will create at Appalachian State University will utilize recycled materials collected by contributing individuals, organizations and campus partners and will be constructed with community participation. Components of the residency will incorporate workshops, classroom visits, volunteer opportunities, and a public lecture.



Work by Bryant Holsenbeck

Bryant has been producing works with recycled materials for over ten years and is skilled at bringing together groups of people, young and old, to build projects that promote sustainable practices in communities and in homes.

Bryant, an environmental artist, has been documenting the “stuff” of our society that we use once and throw away for over a decade. Americans create more garbage, per capita, than any other culture, yet we are blind to our waste. She collects many things, among them, bottle caps, credit cards, pencils, shoes and chopsticks. Bryant uses these everyday items to make work, which transforms the objects, which surprise us. We are used to using “stuff” once and then throwing it away. We may throw it away, but Bryant’s work makes her aware of its continual impact.

Bryant began her arts career as a basket maker. Since that time she has evolved into an environmental artist who makes large-scale installations that document the waste stream of our society. She has shown her work and taught throughout the United States. She has been the recipient of two North Carolina Arts Council Fellowships, a Project Grant and an NEA Arts and Learning Grant that she worked on in collaboration with the Chapel Hill Public Arts Commission. She is currently attempting to live one year without disposable plastic and writing a blog about it entitled “The Last Straw: A Reluctant Year Without Disposable Plastic.”

Most recent past projects are *AGAIN AND NEVER AGAIN: Can We Co-Exist with Ourselves?* at Guilford College,

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