

Arts Council of York County in Rock Hill, SC, Offers Work by Adrian Rhodes

The Arts Council of York County in Rock Hill, SC, is presenting *Swarm*, featuring works by Adrian Rhodes, on view at the Center for the Arts' Dalton Gallery, through Apr. 30, 2017. A reception will be held on Apr. 27, beginning at 5:30pm.

In her work Rhodes reflects on the collective sense of nostalgia and the yearning associated with generational memory. Printmaking is at the core of her process, allowing for the swift installation of recurring imagery and personal iconography into the work. Sky maps of constellations, navigational charts and the matriarchal structure of bee colonies reference connections between mothers and daughters. DNA structures and printmaking processes examine issues of inheritance. Sky charts represent a primal force - the vastness of the universe - paired with the complexity of bee society to comment on the way maternal bonds can be both fierce and fraught, a complex connection that pulls against chaotic forces in an attempt to align itself in an organic balance.



Work by Adrian Rhodes, detail

DNA imagery and print generated collage provide a way for the work to literally inherit visual information from piece to piece. It is important to Rhodes that connections are made between the structures involved in charting, navigation, DNA and hive mentality as seen in relation to our generational memory. Her work comes directly from the experience of losing her mother and how that loss influences her experience as the mother of daughters, leading Rhodes to consider the way generations of matrilineal relations who have never met still influence each other. Our history, mapped behind us and laid out ahead of us, is fragile, chaotic and layered.

This is further reflected in the use of collage to install visual information in the work. The very nature of collage is taking pieces of rubbish and turning them into something of value and significance. Collage reflects the gathering up and recombining of the pieces as you navigate the uncertainties of life; the process of picking



Work by Adrian Rhodes

up and starting over.

Working on paper is a tactile experience of extremes, a balance of strength and weakness. Rhodes abrades the surface while still being keenly aware of both the fragility of fiber that holds the piece together and its durability in the act of wear. Additional painting and mark making become the record of a journey as the work becomes a map of the process of making. The way that a thing is made has as much to say about its content as the imagery contained therein, and her studio process results in work examining issues of inheritance, influence, loss, and lineage alongside a reflection on attempts to control and protect contrasted with the fundamental inability to do so.

Rhodes grew up in Hartsville, SC. She attended Winthrop University from 2001 - 2005, earning a BFA in General Studio with emphases in Drawing and Painting. While studying at Winthrop, she participated in a semester exchange with the South Carolina Polytechnic in Imatra, Finland. After several years as a practicing artist she returned to Winthrop, receiving her MFA in Painting with a minor in Printmaking in 2011.

Rhodes' work has shown throughout the Carolinas in solo exhibitions, including shows at the University of North Carolina Charlotte, the Sumter County Gallery of Art, and City Art Gallery in Columbia, SC. She has received awards in many regional juried competitions, including Best of Show at the *York County Juried Exhibition in 2013*. She had a solo exhibition at Coastal Carolina University in Jan. 2017.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Council at 803/328-2787 or visit (<http://www.yorkcountyarts.org/>).

Mint Museum Randolph in Charlotte, NC, Offers Look at Bank of America's Collection of Works by Wyeths

The Mint Museum Randolph in Charlotte, NC, is presenting *The Wyeths: Three Generations, Works from the Bank of America Collection*, on view through Aug. 13, 2017.

This exhibition is a testament to the profound artistic impact made by the Wyeth family, providing a window onto the careers of five of the family's artists through more than fifty remarkable paintings and drawings.

For more than a century, the members of the Wyeth family have been renowned for creating works of art that fascinate and captivate the imaginations of their viewers, making the Wyeth tradition one of the most enduring and celebrated legacies in all of American art. *The Wyeths: Three Generations, Works from the Bank of America Collection* is a testament to the profound artistic impact made by the Wyeth family, providing a window onto the careers of five of the family's artists through more than fifty remarkable paintings and drawings.

Patriarch N.C. Wyeth (1882-1945) was one of the country's foremost illustrators at the turn of the twentieth century. His ability to beautifully traverse fantasy and Page 18 - Carolina Arts, April 2017

realism made him one of the most versatile American artists of his time. N.C.'s son Andrew Wyeth (1917-2009) became known for his detailed realism and haunting scenes of American life inspired by the history and beauty of the American northeast.

Although not as well-known as her brother, Henriette Wyeth (1907-1997) painted striking portraits, landscapes, and still lifes. She is also represented in the exhibition, as is her husband Peter Hurd (1904-1984), who chronicled the landscape of the American west. Lastly, Andrew's son Jamie (b. 1946) represents the family's third generation of artists. Jamie, too, utilizes a realistic style, but adds his own twist of magic and mystery to his subjects.

The Wyeths: Three Generations, Works from the Bank of America Collection is provided by Bank of America Art in our Communities program, and generously sponsored by Bank of America.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 704/337-2000 or visit (www.mintmuseum.org/).

Lark & Key Gallery in Charlotte, NC, Offers Works by Vicki Sawyer, Teresa Pietsch and Anna Johnson

The Lark & Key Gallery and Boutique in Charlotte, NC, will present, *Garden Party*, featuring works by Vicki Sawyer, Teresa Pietsch and Anna Johnson, on view from Apr. 7 through May 27, 2017.

"If birds could build nests, then they could make hats." This whimsical notion was the beginning of the joyful bird and animal portraits that artist Vicki Sawyer is celebrated for. The exhibition features Sawyer's original artwork along with ceramics by Teresa Pietsch and jewelry from Anna Johnson.

As a little girl Sawyer learned from her grandfather how to identify plants on their walks in the woods. Her mother's child-like joy in even the simplest things taught her to be visually aware and she inherited a love for birds from her father. These influences filled Sawyer's childhood with delight and eventually an interest in art.

After earning a degree in art Sawyer spent time working as a graphic artist, designing dolls and then a mural artist, painting hundreds of murals in New York as she and her husband raised a family. Most of the murals featured birds, insects, animals, grasses and wildflowers - the very things she that inspired her as a child. Upon moving to Tennessee, Sawyer's 'birds with hats' came while on a walk. Her images were well received so she looked to her muse, Mother Nature, as she explored more flora and fauna.

The popularity of Sawyer's paintings



Work by Vicki Sawyer

kind functional pottery. She grew up in Washington State and graduated from Seattle Pacific University. She worked as a Scientific Illustrator for several years until she started taking pottery classes. Eventually making her way to NC, Pietsch became involved at Claymakers Community Studio in Durham where she worked as a studio assistant and taught wheel classes. In 2010 she began as a full time studio potter working as a resident at the EnergyXchange in Burnsville, NC, then set up her own studio near Penland, NC, in fall 2013.

Pottery reflects Pietsch's "need to make objects that are both functional and beautiful". Her current work consists primarily of red clay forms, using a monoprint slip transfer technique to explore colors, pattern and subtle textures. Her inspiration comes from trees, plants, flowers and ideas that are centered in life, growth and experience.

Anna Johnson studied metalsmithing and jewelry design at Appalachian State University. After college, she moved through Western NC from Boone to Spruce Pine and then to Asheville. She credits the region with "its plants and animals, its mountains, its rich artistic culture, and its people" for greatly influencing her development and work as an artist. Johnson's jewelry is in tribute to holistic life cycles, intra-nature relationships, and nature-human connectivity.

Johnson is drawn to collecting, inspecting, making, and nature. Her jewelry designs are driven by nature, the love of technical processes, creating intimate objects, and a deep fascination of life, death, impermanence, cycles, and personal value. She creates small, wearable ecosystems that are direct connections to nature - combining bones, plants and other natural found objects with gemstones and cast metals. In 2016, Johnson was named one of *American Craft Week's* 'Thirty under 30' rising stars.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 704/334-4616 or visit (www.larkandkey.com).



Work by Teresa Pietsch

has resulted in a number of licensing contracts, allowing her to reach a larger audience. Her imagery can be found on paper goods, tabletop products, needle-point designs and more. Her product line continues to grow and a series of plate designs were featured in *Oprah's Favorite Things* in 2015.

Sawyer works from her home studio in Franklin, TN. To get creatively recharged, she still goes for walks. She says that, "All the outdoor sights and smells take me to a welcomed place outside of the confines of the studio." She returns to the canvas with a fresh perspective, with hopes that her creations, will convey feelings of peace, joy and humor.

Nestled in the mountains of Western NC, Teresa Pietsch creates one-of-a-

Ciel Gallery in Charlotte, NC, Offers 6th Back To The Garden Exhibition

Ciel Gallery in Charlotte, NC, will present *From Pea Pods to Jimi Hendrix: Vibrant and Provocative Artists*, on view from Apr. 7 - 29, 2017. A reception will be held on Apr. 7, from 6-9pm. Awards and juror remarks will be given during the evening's opening reception event.

We invite you to join Ciel Gallery to celebrate nature, from pea pods to Jimi Hendrix, standing stones to conception, with a healthy sprinkling of crows, beetles, and hares among trees and garden settings of every color and description.

Come experience a space transformed by stimulating, whimsical fine art created

by vibrant, provocative artists from 27 states. The vulnerabilities of our planet's fauna and flora are such relevant topics today and using captivating mixed media and sculptural techniques, these artists capture so much of the essence of nature and its impact on our life.

Well-known Canadian artist, and Charlotte resident Felicia van Bork juried this 6th annual national show. 288 entries were received and 58 were selected.

Van Bork earned her MFA at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design. She has been the recipient of numerous

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