The Real Estate Studio in Charleston, SC

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angles of our living beings. Spray paint, oils and iridescent pigments are used to create abstractions of life. A belief in all that glitters really could be gold is necessary.

The show will be split into two parts. Jones will display her portraits through May 8 and replace them with her abstracts beginning May 9 for the remainder of the show.

Jones graduated from Baylor University where she studied Studio Art and received a degree in Psychology. She moved to the Lowcountry in 2005 and has been a working artist here ever since.

After working as an event designer and overseeing installations from concept to creation, Jones focused solely on portrait commissions and currently has her work in over one hundred private collections throughout the United States.

Currently, Jones is using her studies in portraiture as a referencing point for large scale abstract paintings and installations. Using combinations of spray paint, iridescent pigments, and oil paint, Jones is enthralled with the abstraction process and outcomes.

The Real Estate Studio is the downtown



Work by Michelle Meeks Jones

office of dunes properties, a boutique real estate, vacation rental and property management company serving the Charleston area since 1989. The Real Estate Studio supports Charleston's thriving art community by highlighting a new artist or organization every six weeks.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings or call the Studio at 843/722-5618.

Edward Dare Gallery in Charleston, SC, Offers Works by Brenda Orcutt

The Edward Dare Gallery in Charleston, SC, will present *Palette Knife Impressions:* Sea Island Landscapes, featuring a solo show of works by Brenda Orcutt, on view from May 2 - 31, 2014. A reception will be held on May 2, from 5-8pm.

In this tribute to the scenic beauty of the Lowcountry, Orcutt's focus is on the interplay between land and water with interpretations of skies, water reflections, and the flora and fauna of nearby coastal areas. Several paintings in this new series capture a beautifully familiar scene for islanders that cross the Ben Sawyer Bridge daily.

Orcutt's talent for capturing her subjects with loose but deliberate palette knife work, rich with color and texture is showcased in this work. Collectors of the artist's floral compositions will also be pleased with this show as several new pieces in her popular still life series will be included.

Orcutt was born and raised in the Carolinas and has called Charleston home for the past 17 years. Her artistic methods have advanced and diversified as she has continued her education and developed her own personal style. She studied under noted Charleston artist Joyce Hall and honed her palette knife techniques with internationally renowned artist James Pratt, then continued this study with Susan Sarback, of the School of Light and Color in California.

Working in oils, Orcutt is intrigued by the texture and purity of color that the palette knife process allows and uses this method extensively in her work. She is deeply inspired by the richness and contemporary feel the technique produces. The knife lets her use paint strokes to show spontaneity and movement in her work. Orcutt paints quickly, *alla prima*, using texture and bold color to capture her subjects without perfecting form. Her goal is not to reproduce a landscape or still life with precision, but to translate the creative concepts into an artistic image.



Work by Brenda Orcutt

"I've always loved the drama of thickly applied paint, the sculptural quality, the purity of the colors. The response from people who view the work has been very positive," says Orcutt.

Depictions of Charleston across the watery expanse of its harbor with interpretations of skies and water reflections, low country flora and fauna in all their glory and wild flowers or bouquets that convey a sense of peace, quiet joy or even solitude are favorite subjects of the artist. Each composition reflects the beauty the artist sees in the world around her and invites the viewer to step back from life's frenetic pace and journey with her. Orcutt's work is also available at sister venue Sandpiper Gallery on Sullivan's Island, SC.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 843/853-5002 or visit (www.edwarddare.com).

College of Charleston Features Works by Jasper Johns and Shepard Fairey

The College of Charleston in Charleston, SC, will present *The Insistent Image: Recurrent Motifs in the Art of Shepard Fairey and Jasper Johns*, on view at the Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art, from May 22 through July 12, 2014. A reception will be held on May 22, from 6-8pm.

The Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art at the College of Charleston, School of the Art celebrates its 30th Anniversary with *The Insistent Image: Recurrent Motifs in the Art of Shepard Fairey and Jasper Johns*. This exhibition pairs new work by Shepard Fairey and a survey of prints produced by Jasper Johns from 1982 to 2012 at Univer-

sal Limited Art Editions. The exhibition is curated by Mark Sloan, senior curator and director of the Halsey Institute.

Both Fairey and Johns recycle graphic elements in the works they produce and in each case these repeated fragments gain new meaning through fresh juxtapositions and associations. Additionally, both artists have the capacity to transform the quotidian into the iconic. This exhibition demonstrates the power of this strategy of image repetition in the works of these two distinguished American artists.

Jasper Johns will be represented by a continued on Page 16

WELLS GALLERY



Russell Gordon, *Peonies*, 24x27, oil on canvas

Russell Gordon

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& SATUARDAY, MAY 3



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