

"Ocean Night Passage" by Barbara Curry



#### Largest Fine Art Gallery in Eastern North Carolina

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# UNC-Wilmington - Student Art

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digital painting will also be featured.

The exhibition features a variety of subjects ranging from literature and fantasies to abstractions of the human form as well as portraits, nightlife, simplicity and shape, nature, and astrology.

The gallery is located in the Cultural Arts Building at the corner of Randall Drive and Reynolds Drive.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call 910/962-7958 or visit (www.uncw.edu/art/gallery).



Work by Sarah Hathcock

#### The ArtWorks in Wilmington, NC, **Features The Silver Arts Exhibition**

The ArtWorks in Wilmington, NC, will | in this program by sponsoring two catpresent The SilverArts, a component of the Senior Games, which is a state of NC

egories of The SilverArts, the Visual Arts and the Heritage Arts. Both the Visual

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## **University of North Carolina at** Greensboro, NC, Offers Look at Works by Self-Taught Artists

The Weatherspoon Art Museum at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, NC, is delighted to present Inside the Outside: Five Self-Taught Artists from the William Louis-Dreyfus Collection, on view from May 21 through Sept. 4, 2016. A Members' Gallery Talk by William Louis-Dreyfus and Nancy Doll will be given on May 20, at 6pm, with a public reception to follow at 6:30pm/

The enigmatic - and often humorous and dramatic - works in this exhibition survey the production of five highly gifted artists: James Castle, Thornton Dial, Nellie Mae Rowe, Bill Traylor, and Willie Young. Prior labels of "outsider" and

"visionary" have given way to the more appropriate term, "self-taught" art, though the genre remains one of the most intriguing in modern and contemporary art. Each of these artists has examined an idiosyncratic personal reality to create works full of imaginative and visual power, works that stand beside the canon of the mainstream art world.

Three of the artists of African-American heritage grew up in the Deep South: Thornton Dial on a tenant farm in Alabama, Nellie Mae Rowe on a farm in rural Georgia, and Bill Traylor, born a slave in Alabama, who only began to draw and paint at age 84. Willie Young, also African-American, participated as a child in a scholarship art class at the Dallas Museum of Art but found his own voice using only pencil as a medium. James Castle was born deaf and spent his entire life at his rural family home in Idaho.

The exhibition includes Castle's spit and soot drawings of the only home and town he knew as well as Willie Young's exquisite graphite renderings of imagined architectural forms and plant life. Nellie Mae Rowe's imaginary world and its inhabitants are spun from bold colors and graphic patterns, while Bill Traylor's repertoire of male and female figures and animals derive directly from his poor surroundings. Thornton Dial, who recently died, incorporates found materials into his assemblages while his drawings celebrate women, tigers, and birds. William Louis-Dreyfus began collecting the works of self-taught artists in the 1970s with the purchase of a Bill Traylor drawing. He now owns more than 500 works by these artists, within his over-all collection of 3,500 objects, which includes well-known names such as Jean Dubuffet, Albert Giacometti, Helen Frankenthaler, Red Grooms, and Alice Neel. When asked what caused him to collect self-taught art, he explains that, "I think the answer is not anything different from what propelled me to collect art itself, namely a conviction that the work achieves an inescapable and meaningful artistic presence: the quality that differentiates art from illustration. In addition to providing an in-depth and focused look at the work of five



Bill Traylor, "Blue Rabbit Running", 1939-42, poster paint and pencil on cardboard,  $9 \times 117/8$  in. The William Louis-Dreyfus Foundation.

remarkable artists, the exhibition also celebrates William Louis-Dreyfus's passion for art and his belief in its power to affect lives," says Nancy Doll, Director of the Weatherspoon Art Museum. His commitment to philanthropy is exemplified by his promise to donate a large group of artworks from his collection to the Foundation, for the future benefit of the Harlem Children's Zone, a New York City non-profit that provides comprehensive educational support to children and their families from youth to adulthood. Mr. Louis Dreyfus's daughter, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, produced the film "Generosity of Eye" in 2015; it captures her father's thoughts on art, collecting, and his promised gift.

A publication with essays by Karen Wilkin and Trenton Doyle Hancock accompany the exhibition. Wilkin, a prolific writer on modern and contemporary art, reflects on the self-taught artist's career in the context of mainstream art practice. Hancock is a celebrated contemporary artist who uses pop-cultural imagery to build complex narratives that convey symbolic meaning.

The exhibition was co-organized by Darsie Alexander, Executive Director, Katonah Museum of Art and Nancy Doll, Director, Weatherspoon Art Museum. ArtsGreensboro and the Joseph M. Bryan Foundation are sponsors of the exhibition at the Weatherspoon. Thank you to the City of Greensboro for their support of the Fringe on Film Series. The Weatherspoon Art Museum at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro acquires, preserves, exhibits, and interprets modern and contemporary art for the benefit of its multiple audiences, including university, community, regional, and beyond. Through these activities, the museum recognizes its paramount role of public service, and enriches the lives of diverse individuals by fostering an informed appreciation and understanding of the visual arts and their relationship to the world in which we live. For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 336/334-5770 or e-mail to (weatherspoon@uncg.edu).

sponsored program, on view from May 20-22, 2016.

This program is a state wide competition in 100 plus athletic events and an art competition in the 4 art categories of *The* SilverArts, the Visual Arts, Heritage Arts, Literary Arts and Performing Arts. These events are open to all NC residents age 50 and over.

In Wilmington this program is over seen by the board of the "Senior Games by the Sea". The events are held throughout Wilmington between the months of April and May. The Wilmington Art Association is in the 2nd year of participating

Arts and Heritage Arts have several subcategories and each sub-category will be judged separately. Example: in the Visual Arts category, oils are judged separately from acrylics, etc.

Artists who win 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in one of these sub-categories will have the opportunity to go to the state finals which will be held in Raleigh, NC, this Fall.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 910/352-7077, e-mail to (jim.knowles@theartworks.com) or visit (www.wilmingtonart.org).

You can send us snail mail to: Carolina Arts, 511 Hildebrand Drive, Bonneau, SC, 29431

The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be May 24th for the June 2016 issue and June 24 for the July 2016 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).

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