

Central Piedmont Community College

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Susan Jedrzejewski also explores the imperfect and unpredictable patterns of the natural world through the process of photo transfer on canvas and panel. Debra Koo's paintings preserve moments in time such as social celebrations, family, friends and gatherings around the abundance of food and frivolity.

Vietnamese artist Kenny Nguyen's work honors his Vietnamese and American cultural heritage in organic and abstract forms using paint and Vietnamese silk in creative, unconventional ways. Jennifer Minnis' work focuses on a threefold view of humanity in spirit, mind and body, capturing moments of time in paint that cause the viewer to question the thoughtful intentions of the portrayed subject.

"Whether skillfully rendering mundane routines, reimagining a personal archive, or concentrating on the minute details of a moment already gone, these artists bring to life something as connected to the temporary as it is to the everlasting. The small becomes the meaningful, the part becomes a whole. It is not the need for retrospection, but the will to render the complicated nuances of time, memory and fragility that give this collection of works its power. It is within these elapsed moments that the painting lives and continues to evolve,

forever," was a group quote.

Central Piedmont Community College is highly accessible and convenient to people of all ages who seek a real-world, affordable, hands-on education that will transform their lives and strengthen the economic, social, and cultural environment of Mecklenburg County. Central Piedmont is also a smart investment. At a fraction of the cost, students learn by doing, receiving a combination of technical and soft skills training from quality faculty who prepare them to enter the workforce and make a difference in their family, business, community, and world. Founded in 1963, Central Piedmont Community College has eight locations throughout Mecklenburg County, offering nearly 300 degree, diploma, and certification programs; customized corporate training; market-focused continuing education; and special interest classes. For more information, visit (cpcc.edu).

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, contact Amelia Zytka by e-mail at (amelia.zytka@cpcc.edu). Follow them on Instagram and Facebook at Central Piedmont Arts and at their blog at (<http://blogs.cpcc.edu/cpc-cartgalleries/>).

Mint Museum Uptown in Charlotte, NC, Features Works by Fred Smith

The Mint Museum Uptown, at the Levine Center for the Arts, in Uptown Charlotte, NC, is presenting *Fred Smith: From This Disposition*, on view through Sept. 1, 2024.

Fred Smith (b. 1987) is a human navigating their day to day existence through the act of making drawings, paintings, and sculptural objects. Their work is developed with a sense of subversive irony, exploring societal norms and situations that seem off or odd.

By bending physicality and destabilizing reality, Fred Smith's uncanny creations prompt us to ask complex questions about our surroundings and our imagination. The artist has a similar mission in mind while creating the work, stating that he's "simply asking questions that I don't know how to ask with words." Molding form and spaces into open-ended queries, Smith delivers us to a site where "the world is a stage."



Work by Fred Smith

the summer after eighth grade, he drew constantly from National Geographic and skateboard magazines after an ACL tear forced him to direct his active energy into visual expression.

More recently, Smith's sobriety - he stopped drinking and smoking marijuana in 2020 - has strengthened his vigor to make paintings; he observes that "the difference is definitely in the work." Smith swiftly and successfully cuts through what's "known" and approaches the absurd as a place to survey the destabilization of certain structures and systems - an illuminated unreality. It is through this choose-your-own-adventure template that we can conceive of new worlds.

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



Work by Fred Smith

The improvisational quality imbued throughout his compositions nods at Surrealism - a movement developed in post-war Paris that explored the unconscious, hidden psychological tensions, and dream states. Creative abilities permeated Smith's immediate family, and he has made drawings since his youth. His practice deepened

Jerald Melberg Gallery in Charlotte, NC, Celebrates Its 40th Anniversary

Jerald Melberg Gallery in Charlotte, NC, will celebrate its 40th anniversary with an exhibit which will be on view from May 4 through June 28, 2024.

Since 1984, internationally recognized artists have found a congenial home for their work at Jerald Melberg Gallery. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the business Melberg founded with his passion for art and faith in Charlotte as the hub for his far-reaching client base.

To commemorate this milestone, Jerald Melberg Gallery will host a celebratory exhibition showcasing works by every artist the gallery currently represents including: Romare Bearden, Wolf Kahn, Robert Motherwell, Donald Sultan and Brian Rutenberg. On May 4, the exhibition will open to the public with a Coffee & Conversation event where attending gallery artists will turn the tables and

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interview Melberg about his storied career as an art dealer.

As former curator at the Mint Museum, Melberg's extensive experience laid the foundation for four decades of success and collaboration with the City of Charlotte in its Sister City Program in Arequipa, Peru. Jerald Melberg Gallery was founded on the conviction that it would be operated more like a museum than a typical gallery. During his career Melberg has curated major exhibitions for such artists as Pablo Picasso, Romare Bearden, Robert Motherwell, Wolf Kahn and Dale Chihuly. He has focused on building the careers of the artists he represents, taking their work to the major art fairs in the United States as well as organizing museum exhibitions for them.

Welcoming all to enjoy art on display, the gallery has helped hundreds evolve from admiring art to collecting it. Melberg's philosophy is grounded in sharing his passion and knowledge, and his clients will attest to his infectious enthusiasm. "It's wonderful to watch people deepen their understanding of art no matter what their background, and I've been privileged to help make that possible," Melberg said. For Melberg it has always been about art for art's sake and he believes this focus is largely responsible for the gallery's success.

Jerald Melberg Gallery represents artists from all geographic regions throughout the United States and abroad. Equally diverse as where the artists live are the



Jerald Melberg and Romare Bearden

types and styles of art they create. Among these are artists of such stature as Romare Bearden, the master American collagist of the twentieth century; Wolf Kahn, considered by many to be the premier American landscape painter; and Robert Motherwell, one of the leaders of the American Abstract Expressionist movement.

Jerald Melberg Gallery is located on South Sharon Amity Road near the intersection with Providence Road.

To view selected works online, or for further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listing, visit the gallery website at (www.jeraldmelberg.com).

Museum of York County in Rock Hill, SC, Features Works by Meredith Connelly & Mike Hammer

The Museum of York County in Rock Hill, SC, will present two new exhibits including: *Decomposers Glow*, featuring works by Meredith Connelly, on view from May 10 through Nov. 10, 2024, and *Return to Earth*, featuring photographs of actual fungi by Mike Hammer, on view from May 4 through Dec. 15, 2024.

Discover the fascinating world of the Carolina Piedmont's woodland ecosystems and agents of decomposition at the Museum of York County. *Decomposers Glow*, an art installation with larger-than-life glowing snails and mushrooms, is the centerpiece for the museum's summer programming and events.

Created by Meredith Connelly, a Charlotte, NC, based and award-winning multidisciplinary artist, the site-specific installation portrays the agents of decomposition through an interplay of light and technology. A curving path leads visitors through a soft glowing, otherworldly environment to observe over one hundred hand-constructed and 3D printed sculptures.

Leading viewers into Connelly's *Decomposers Glow*, a concurrent exhibit highlights the variety and importance of nature's agents of decomposition. *Return to Earth* features photographs of actual fungi by Mike Hammer, painted mushroom models, a Carolina Piedmont snail shell collection, and two-dimensional cut paper works by Meredith Connelly that reference nature's microscopic structures.

More of Hammer's photography is on exhibit in the museum's Nature Nook Gallery. *Endless Trail* features the natural settings of the Carolina Piedmont and beyond, capturing the uniquely beautiful moments of each season. *Endless Trail* opens at the



Art, nature, and technology create an otherworldly experience through an exhibition of grand-scale, illuminated snails and mushrooms in "Decomposers Glow" at Museum of York County. Photo by Meredith Connelly - York County Museum

Museum of York County on May 18, 2024.

The Museum of York County highlights the natural history of the Carolina Piedmont through award-winning exhibits, planetarium shows, and special programs. The major permanent exhibit "Ice Age Carolinas: Exploring Our Pleistocene Past" is a journey-back-in-time experience that features the strange, gigantic, and fantastic beasts that once roamed the Carolinas. The Naturalist Center, with over 2,500 natural history specimens, provides hands-on opportunities for self-guided discovery and educational programs. The Settlemyre Planetarium presents a changing array of full-dome digital planetarium shows. The Museum Store has a selection of local handmade pottery and goods, locally produced food products, and nature-themed gifts. Outside, the museum has a picnic facility and a three-quarter mile nature trail.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 803/329-2121 or visit (chmuseums.org).

USC Lancaster's Native American Studies Center in Lancaster, SC, Features Works by DeAnn Beck and Nicole Foxx Braswell

Discover the two-dimensional array of landscapes, abstracts, and portrait-style artwork from Catawba Nation artists DeAnn Beck and Nicole Foxx Braswell in the new *Painted Voices* exhibit, on view in the Red Rose Gallery, through June 20, 2024, at USC Lancaster's Native American Studies Center.

Daughter of Charles "Buster" Foxx, great-granddaughter of Mary Evelyn Ayers,

Braswell recalls being introduced to the world of art by coloring with her grandmother for hours when she was a child. She began sketching as a child and as a young adult, honing her craft in painting. The self-taught artist teaches painting to Catawba citizens at the Cultural Center Preservation Project and has recently taken classes through the CAPP on creating

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