

University of South Carolina in Columbia, SC, Offers Book Art Exhibit

The University of South Carolina in Columbia, SC, will present the exhibit, *The Celebration of the Book*, on view in the McMaster Gallery, from June 2 through Aug. 4, 2011. A reception will be held on June 2, from 5:30-7:30pm.



Work by Daniel Essig

The Southeast Association for Book Arts and McMaster Gallery are pleased to present this exhibition that explores the art form of artists' books. These art objects combine content and form to create something that is more than a simple container of information. The intent is to engage the reader in the viewing process, not only to see the words on a page but also to consider how the words, pictures, and form of the piece contribute to the meaning.



Work by Kristi Higby

Artists' books come in many forms that include a variety of formats, such as the traditional codex, accordion books, scrolls, tunnel books, pop-up books,

boxed, and letterpress. The materials used range from handmade paper, manufactured papers and materials that are not generally associated with books, such as plastic, fabric, glass, wood, leather, metal, and found objects.

Book arts address a broad variety of subjects that may be highly personal or may concern current events, poetry and fantastic tales. *The Celebration of the Book* exhibition reflects each artist's personal interests. Thirty-five artists are represented in this Bi-Annual exhibition.



Work by Lisa Blackburn

The participants include: Lisa Blackburn, Mary Beth Boone, Frank Brannon, Barbara Bussolari, Annie Cicale, Cynthia Colbert, Laurie Corral, Gwen Diehn, Bridget Elmer, Daniel Essig, Annie Fain Liden, Larry Lou Foster, Michelle Francis, Susi Hall, Susan M. Hogue, Cathy Howe, Ellen Knudson, Susan Leeb, Matt Little, Annie Liden, Peter Madden, Wayne McNeil, Stephanie Nace, Linda Neeley, Bea Nettles, Teresa Prater, Robin Price, Kathleen Robbins, Lisa Beth Robinson, Alice Schlein, Sharon Sharp, Kathy Steinsberger, Susan Stevens, Kate Stockman, and Kathleen Strouther.

This eclectic exhibition seeks to stimulate viewers' imagination and expand their appreciation of this art form.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call Mana Hewitt, Gallery Director at 803/777-7480 or e-mail to (mana@sc.edu).

Columbia Design League in Columbia, SC, Offers Installation by Jonathan Brilliant

The Columbia Design League in Columbia, SC, is presenting *Field of Good Fortune*, a temporary, site-specific installation by local artist Jonathan Brilliant, at the corner of Main and Lady Street in downtown Columbia, on view through June 20, 2011.



Brilliant is the winner of the Design League's inaugural Play With Your City public art initiative and competition, which supports innovative approaches to public spaces within the community on a small budget. The Columbia Design League is a not-for-profit philanthropic organization of the Columbia Museum of Art.

Brilliant's *Field of Good Fortune* installation is composed of multiple twelve-foot long fortune cookie fortunes arranged in the park on the corner of Main and Lady Streets. Six actual fortunes were selected from hundreds of Brilliant's personal fortune collection accumulated over the past 10 years. These fortunes were digitally scanned and then professionally printed and mounted by local sign fabricators at Signs Now of Columbia. Brilliant toyed with the fortunes in a variety of projects. When the Play With Your City competition was announced, he saw it as a perfect opportunity to use the fortunes to

create a *Field of Good Fortune* for the city of Columbia.

"Rather than focus on simply creating a temporary monument or public sculpture, it is my intention to activate a specific space in downtown Columbia," Brilliant said. "I hope that the placement of the *Field of Good Fortune* will not only provide regular users of the green space on the corner of Main and Lady an opportunity for discussion and enjoyment, but also attract new visitors to the green space. As with all my installations the work will only be complete when viewers are present to enjoy the piece in person."



In planning the Play With Your City public art initiative, the Columbia Design League formed a public art committee, whose members created an open call competition to select three finalists for a Face-Off event that was held in September 2010. Teri Tynes, an award-winning New York City-based arts writer, editor, blogger (Walking Off the Big Apple - www.walkingoffthebigapple.com) and former Columbian, returned to the capital city to serve as the Face-Off juror and select one winner. Playfulness is a key part of the initiative; and the Play With Your City competition sought public art

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proposals that approached downtown spaces in exceptional and surprising ways. The goal of the initiative is to demonstrate that effective, engaging public art can be produced with a modest budget, which will engage all members of the community in a meaningful way.



"The Play With Your City public art initiative offers a fresh and truly innovative approach to public art," Design League president Anna Redwine said. "We expected participants to have fun with this competition and hope this playfulness will be contagious and continue to inform the way we view our evolving urban spaces."

Brilliant was born in 1976 in Charleston, SC, and holds a BA in studio art from the College of Charleston and an MFA in Spatial Arts from San Jose State University. He exhibited his work in several group and solo exhibitions nationally and internationally. Brilliant received numer-

ous fellowships to artist residencies and communities. From May 2009-December 2010 he conducted his "Have Sticks Will Travel world Tour." The tour was a marathon series of site-specific installations that took place in 13 galleries in 18 months, in three countries, on two continents. In September 2010, the tour concluded with a three-month fellowship as an artist in Residence at The McColl Center for Visual Art in Charlotte, NC. In addition to site-specific installations, Brilliant works with drawing, sculpture, photography, and Googles himself regularly. He currently lives and works in Columbia, SC.

The Columbia Design League is a not-for-profit philanthropic organization of the Columbia Museum of Art. The mission of the Design League is to promote passion for design excellence and understanding of design's broad impact on our community. All members of the Columbia Museum of Art are eligible for membership in the Design League.

Sponsors of Play With Your City and *Field of Good Fortune* include: First Citizens Bank and Signs Now of Columbia, SC, with special thanks to the City Center Partnership.

For more information on Play With Your City or the Columbia Design League, please visit (www.columbiadesignleague.com) or contact Anna Redwine by e-mail at (annaredwine@gmail.com).

Columbia Museum of Art in Columbia, SC, Features Works by and Selected by Sigmund Abeles

For the first time in history, the Columbia Museum of Art in Columbia, SC, opens its Modern and Contemporary vaults to famed South Carolina artist Sigmund Abeles to present *An Artist's Eye: A Journey through Modern and*

Contemporary Art with Sigmund Abeles. The major summer exhibition will be on view from June 17 through Oct. 23, 2011. The Museum will also present the exhibit, *It Figures: The Art of Sigmund Abeles*, on

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