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## Halsey Institute of Contemporary Arts

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at the American College of the Building Arts, who carved "disputed likenesses" of the characters from the Kcymaerxthaere story in Charleston. Those characters were first depicted by students from the Academic Magnet High School after Demetrios integrated them into the project. Now, with thanks to professors Junius Wright and Michelline Callicot, AMHS students have created their own Kcy-derived story which has come to fruition on the school campus as well as online at (<http://kcy-maerxthaere.wikispaces.com/>).



Work by Eames Demetrios

The exhibitions and plaque installations have been brought to Charleston thanks to partnerships with the School of the Building Arts, Academic Magnet High School, Charleston Waterkeeper, CHARLIE magazine, and with support from the Lyndhurst Foundation and the Quattlebaum Artists-in-Residence Endowment for the College of Charleston School of the Arts.

Paolo Ventura has also created an alternate reality in his exhibition, *Winter Stories*. The Italian miniaturist and photographer has invented scenes from the memory banks of an old circus performer looking back on his life in this imaginative series of photographs. The photograph is actually the final product in a chain of creative processes, from initially drawing the scene in watercolor to constructing an elaborate miniature set with figurines to

taking the final photograph. Using his own childhood memories and these mastered techniques, Ventura evokes both the sweet melancholy of an earlier era, while his images remaining timeless in their ability to resonate with contemporary audiences. Ventura's miniatures and preparatory watercolor drawings from *Winter Stories* are displayed alongside their photographed images in the exhibition at the Halsey Institute. *Winter Stories* is the official visual arts offering of the 2011 Spoleto Festival USA.



Work by Paolo Ventura

In addition to *Winter Stories*, Ventura has created two additional bodies of work since his studies at the Accademia di Belle Arti di Brera in Milan in the early 1990's: *War Souvenir* (2005) and most recently *Venice* (2010). These series have been selected for inclusion in the 2011 Venice Biennale. Both *War Souvenir* and *Winter Stories* have been published into critically acclaimed, internationally distributed monographs that will be available at the

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College of Charleston bookstore during the run of *Winter Stories* in Charleston.

Born in Milan, Italy in 1968, Ventura's works have been acquired by prominent public collections including the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, MA, and the Library of Congress in Washington, DC. Venues that have shown his work include Forma International Center for Photography in Milan, the Reccontres de la Photographie in Arles, France, Fotomuseum Den Haag in the Netherlands, and Maison Europeenne de la Photographie in Paris. Paolo Ventura currently divides his time

between New York City and Italy.

The Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art is administered by the School of the Arts at the College of Charleston and exists to advocate, exhibit and interpret visual art, with an emphasis on contemporary art.

Guided group tours will be offered through the Halsey Institute's Looking to See program. Contact Lizz Biswell by e-mail at ([BiswellL@cofc.edu](mailto:BiswellL@cofc.edu)).

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Institute at 843/953-4422 or visit ([www.halsey.cofc.edu](http://www.halsey.cofc.edu)).

## Rick Rhodes Art Gallery in Charleston, SC, Features Works by Tina Christophillis, Justin Nathanson and Brit Washburn

Rick Rhodes Art Gallery in Charleston, SC, are presenting the exhibit, *You Are Safe*, featuring works by Tina Christophillis, Justin Nathanson and Brit Washburn, a Piccolo Spoleto Festival Exhibition, on view through June 25, 2011.

The beginning of the collaboration was sparked by a chance meeting between Brit Washburn and Tina Christophillis. Both artists were participating in a singer-songwriter event at the Charleston Pour House. Christophillis was able to graphically capture the text, tone and imagery of the musicians' lyrics and the poets' words in a wholly unmediated and captivating way. Through this meeting a project was initiated with the impulse to explore city life, relationships and their connection. It wasn't long before filmmaker Justin Nathanson was asked to join the group and an artistic cross-pollination happened, as though one had infiltrated the deep sub-consciousness of the other and in so doing transformed the very molecular structure of the other's aesthetics to a startling effect. Only in a state of complete dis-inhibition is such a collaboration pos-



Work by Tina Christophillis

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