

PARALLEL PLAY

Jan Kransberger
Jim Kransberger

MIND OVER MATTER

Barbara Fisher
Ann Stoddard
Felicia van Bork

FUNNY PAPERS

Julie Armbruster
Andy Herod
Kreh Mellick
Michael Ohgren
Victor Palomino
Nathanael Roney
Martha Skinner
Kirsten Stolle
Jessica White



MAY 25 THROUGH JULY 7, 2012

49 S. Trade Street, Tryon, NC 28782 828.859.2828

www.upstairsartspace.org

Hours: Tuesday - Saturday, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

upstairs [artspace]

(CLOCKWISE FROM TOP): Martha Skinner, "10x10, A Table" (detail), pastel on panel; Barbara Fisher, "Wish I Might, Too," oil on panel; Julie Armbruster, "Delirious," acrylic & ink on board; Felicia van Bork, "Evolution's Secret 3," monotype; Jan Kransberger, "Too Many Secrets," kiln cast glass, fine silver wire, copper wire; (CENTER) Michael Ohgren, "Equal History" (detail), ink on board.

Upstairs Artspace in Tryon, NC, Offers Grins, Glass and Galaxies

Three theme-based exhibits are enjoying a six-week run at Tryon, NC's Upstairs Artspace through July 7, 2012.

Mind Over Matter explores evolution, space and consciousness in abstract paintings by Barbara Fisher, of Asheville, NC; Ann Stoddard, of Spartanburg, SC; and Felicia van Bork, of Charlotte, NC. Each artist is well represented in major galleries and private collections around the country. Van Bork has an exhibit this month at the prestigious Jerald Melberg Gallery in Charlotte, while Fisher looks forward to a solo exhibit at the Hickory Museum of Art in 2013. The three artists have exhibited at the Upstairs in years past.

Funny Papers is a group show of works on paper. Co-curator Ursula Gullow of Asheville explains the exhibit as "contemplating social malaise, political issues, philosophical angst and pop trends with a humorous edge." Artistic styles run the gamut from comic book stylizations to contemporary abstractions and folk art portraits. The artists, all from Asheville, are Julie Armbruster, Andy Herod, Kreh Mellick, Michael Ohgren, Victor Palomino, Nathanael Roney, Martha Skinner, Kirsten Stolle, Jessica White. Margaret Curtis, of Tryon, is also co-curator.

In the exhibit, *Parallel Play*, Jan and Jim Kransberger breathe wit, elegance and novelty into figurative glass sculpture (Jan) and mixed media folk art (Jim). The amazing Asheville couple became artists



Work by Jim Kransberger

after they were well into retirement. Each has achieved phenomenal recognition and success - both regionally and nationwide. Currently, Jim is in the highly praised exhibit, *Waking Up with Van Gogh*, at the Hickory Museum of Art, plus is featured in the soon-to-be published book, *Humor in Craft*.

Jan's glass work is in Blue Spiral 1 in Asheville, RedSky Gallery in Charlotte, River Gallery in Chattanooga, TN, and Prismo in Aspen and Vail, CO. She is a member of Southern Highland Craft Guild and Piedmont Craftsmen.

On Tuesday, June 5, at 7pm, *Funny Papers* artists and curators will discuss social and political art in a free public program.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the center at 828/859-2828 or visit (www.upstairsartspace.org).

works by Boone, NC, and Blowing Rock, NC, artist Wiili Armstrong, a regionally known artist who suffered from Bipolar Disorder. It is presented in conjunction with a new documentary produced by WTVI called *From Billy to Wiili: A Bipolar Artist's Journey*. The film documents his life and art as seen through the experience of his family, friends and neighbors.



Work by Wiili Armstrong

When manic, Wiili's colors were bright; his subject matter tended to be related to nature, birds, butterflies and flowers. Paintings from his depressive moods have a biting quality - darker blues and blacker colors. Subjects are less attractive and more bizarre and inner directed.

Wiili died in 2003 at the age of 47. He left a legacy of over a thousand paintings, drawings, and collages.

Susan Webb Tregay is very serious about having fun with her art - where color can be imaginary and gravity holds no sway. Freedom and humor are part of her painting process from her very first strokes of color. Taking advantage of acrylic's fast drying-time, she paints



Work by Susan Webb Tregay in layers to give the work a dazzling, intricate surface that will expand your imagination.

Tregay is a nationally recognized artist whose new series recently won awards from Watercolor USA and the International Society of Acrylic Painters. Her work is included in thirty-nine corporate and museum collections, and she is a signature member of the National Watercolor Society, the Transparent Watercolor Society of America, and the Watercolor USA Honor Society. She teaches workshops around the country.

Tregay is the author of *Master Disaster: Five Ways to Rescue Desperate Watercolors* [North Light, 2007] and many articles for art magazines and newspapers.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 828/327-8576 or visit (www.hickoryart.org).

Hickory Museum of Art Offers Works by Wiili Armstrong & Susan Webb Tregay

The Hickory Museum of Art in Hickory, NC, is presenting two solo exhibitions by North Carolina artists including: *From Billy to Wiili*, and *Susan Webb Tregay*:
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Contemporary Art for Adult Children, both on view through Aug. 26, 2012.
From Billy to Wiili features over 60
continued above on next column to the right

Didn't see an article here about your exhibit.
Did you send us the info - on time?
The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be June 24th for the July 2012 issue and July 24 for the August 2012 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) or mail to:
Carolina Arts, P.O. Drawer 427, Bonneau, SC 29431

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