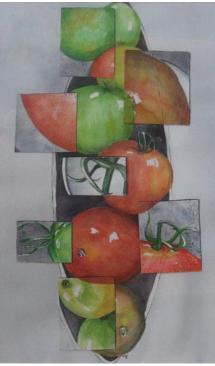


Francis Marion University in Florence, SC, Offers New **Exhibitions for the Summer**

Francis Marion University in Florence, SC, is presenting two new exhibits including, Florence Museum Painters, featuring works by Uschi Jeffcoat, Minnamie Murphy, Betsey Olsen, Sherry Williams, and Dale Worsham, and Pieces of Work, featuring works by Jo and Hugh Jeffers. Both exhibits are on view in the Hyman Fine Arts Center Gallery through Aug. 9, 2012.

Uschi Jeffcoat offered the following statement: "I paint because it transfers an internal tension in times of stress as well as an internal ease in times of reflection. The creative process provides a harbor for chaos or embraces measured control. I can experience both a calm stillness and moments of intense focused energy. Water color is the medium in which I currently find the most delight. The medium reflects my personality in that it appreciates good planning echoing a work ethic of work before pleasure. Influenced by the people and spaces I encounter, I attempt to reflect that in a manner that is simple yet with hidden complexities and contradictions." Minnamie Murphy offered the following statement about her work: "As a mother of 5 little boys, I find myself merely skimming the surface of life many a day, justifying it as survival. In contrast to the hurriedness, painting is a welcome occasion to slow down, regain sanity, be still and think (or not). Creativity makes me re-grow roots as lines, colors, and shapes join to make a whole; a spacious whole that orders the discombobulated and forges continuity between different aspects of life. It is a process that invites me to move more slowly, look more intently, appreciate more fully and be more alive than the surface alone allows." Betsey Olsen says, "I'm not sure that I have developed enough as an artist to



Jane Jackson. I realized a few years ago that I really missed painting. I was able to start taking classes again and have enjoyed the process of learning different art techniques. Hopefully, one day I will be able to create on paper what I see in my mind.'

Dale Worsham said, "As a child I loved to draw, color or do anything that was creative. I would buy markers or pens every time I was in a store. I always dreamed of being an artist but never pursued it seriously. I am now getting to the age where I realize that we truly will not be here forever and if you want your dreams to come true you had better go for it now!"

Jo Jeffers was born in Florence and attended Florence schools. She graduated from Agnes Scott College in 1967. She now lives and works on Pocket Road in Florence County.

"Drawn to clay during college, I was then fortunate to spend time at Pendland School of Crafts. I have been working with clay for 36 years and now maintain studio in the Back Swamp community near Florence, where I grew up," says Jo. "I work with stoneware, fired to about 2300 degrees in a gas kiln. My aim is to make pieces, which hold up to everyday use, while also adding a sense of form, color and quiet joy to those who use them." Hugh Jeffers grew up on a farm near Florence and graduated from USC. Founder and partner of JMO Woodworks, Inc., for 34 years he has been a professional woodworker in Charleston, SC. "A self taught woodturner, I am



Work by Jo Jeffers

fascinated by the color and texture of wood. I have always sought graceful forms and fine detail with my work on the lathe," says Hugh, adding, "After yea of exploring the bowl form, I am making more hollow vessels and sculptural pieces. Recently I have begun adding textures, carving and some colors to the finished surfaces. Pleasing shapes are always my priority. Woodpiles, tree service lots and storm-felled trees are sources for most of my material." For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the gallery at 843/661-1385 or visit (http://departments. fmarion.edu/finearts/gallery.htm).

Work by Sherry Williams

have a statement as an artist. My subjects are varied, my style is all over, my influences are from every direction. Do I really have anything to say? I do know I want art to be joyous to me. It can be riotous and happy but it can be quiet and peaceful, somber and serious or curious, weird and wonderful. It does reflect my life - all over the place. For now it is an exciting challenge to try something new, develop new skills and find new techniques. I am so left-brained I want to know the chemistry behind the paint and the physics behind the process. I think I'll shake things up a bit next time. I'll try throwing paint!"

Sherry Williams offers, "As a child I was able to attend art classes taught by

Art Trail Gallery in Florence, SC, **Features Exhibition of Sculptures**

The Art Trail Gallery in Florence, SC, is presenting the First Annual Alex Palkovich Student Sculpture Exhibition, on view through June 23, 2012.

The public will have an opportunity to continued above on next column to the right | view the works of the students in varying

stages of completion; clay to bronze. Students exhibiting works are: Dr. Townsend Holt, Jane Holt, Janis Hobbs, Dr. Ian Smith, Kathy Crosby, Patti Whitesides, Ros Storm, Marlene Askins, Marian Hoylen, Berent continued on Page 30

Carolina Arts, June 2012 - Page 29

Table of Contents