

Mint Museum in Charlotte, NC

continued from Page 10 / [back to Page 10](#)

pieces form a powerful anthology on the human struggle for freedom and equality.

A fully illustrated catalogue is available in The Mint Museum Shops for \$45. In addition to the support provided by Wells Fargo, *Hard Truths: The Art of Thornton Dial* received additional support provided

by Duke Energy. The exhibition is organized by the Indianapolis Museum of Art.

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

MoNA Gallery in Charlotte, NC, Features Works by Osiris Rain

MoNA Gallery in Charlotte, NC, will present the exhibit, *From the Mouth of the Cave*, featuring a new collection of works by Osiris Rain, on view from July 6 through Aug. 11, 2012. A reception will be held on July 6, from 7-10pm.

The exhibit, *From the mouth of the Cave*, is a reflection on transitions. Like stepping from the darkness of a cave, your eyes strain to convalesce from their long dilated state of uselessness. They struggle to make sense of a new experience of truth and reason. It is a chance to re-assimilate in the mind that which one holds as dear and important. While uncomfortable and perhaps painful, it is recognized as a necessary step in the evolution of beauty, truth, and reason.

Rain (b. January 10, 1986) began his training as a painter at a young age. While attending High-school at Northwest School of the Arts in Charlotte, he soon became disillusioned with the lack of emphasis on craftsmanship and skill set in contemporary arts education. So at age sixteen he applied to, and was accepted into the prestigious Angel Academy of Art in Florence, Italy. He promptly dropped out of school and began working construction jobs to pay for his tuition. And at the age of 17 Rain moved to Italy. Though only after one semester he was expelled. So he spent the rest of the year of 2004 traveling Europe and copying from museums in Italy and France. After returning to North America to live in the Niagara region of Canada, Rain was accepted in 2005 at the age of 19 to the highly competitive summer residency/apprenticeship with painter Odd Nerdrum in Stavern, Norway. Since then, Rain has exhibited throughout North America, and Europe.

Rain's work can be found in both private



Work by Osiris Rain

and public collections, including those of George Whitman of Shakespeare and Co. in Paris, France, and Bartlett Tree Co. of New York. He was the founder of *L'Ecole de l'Oeil Ouvert* in Charlotte, and has taught workshops and classes in both the United States and Canada.

Rain is an active member of World Wide Kitsch, The International Society of Realist Painters, and the Portrait Society of America. His paintings and portraits are often sought after for their striking and poetic resonance, and lauded for their beauty and accuracy of likeness to their subject.

Rain currently resides in Charlotte.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, contact Dan Butner at 704/970-9676 or visit (www.monacharlotte.com).



Work by David Wendel

media. The depth of the paint forms its own world of suggested shadows and form. All of creation is his palate.

The nature of light fascinates and fills Wendel's work, particularly reflected light. His personal journey has been one of hyper-realism, oil and acrylic on canvas, paper and wood. After having been diagnosed with cancer in 1996, he pursued his art with a new found passion. Automobiles from childhood were the first subjects, moving on to the present still life series. Now, after 30 years in the graphics design business, he is pursuing his true passion full time: Bringing to life the world of scale, natural repetitive shapes, light, shadow, and overlooked beauty to the canvas.

Shain Gallery is again *Charlotte Magazine's* Best of the Best for 2012.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 704/334-7744 or visit (www.shaingallery.com).



New Works by Todd Baxter

On Display Thru July

www.ProvidenceGallery.net

601-A Providence Road . Charlotte, NC 28207 . (704) 333-4535

Shain Gallery in Charlotte, NC, Offers Works by Jerry Lee Kirk & David Wendel

Shain Gallery in Charlotte, NC, will present an exhibit of beautiful paintings by Jerry Lee Kirk and David Wendel, on view from July 13 - 31, 2012. A reception will be held on July 13, from 6-9pm.

Jerry Lee Kirk is an Expressionist painter who has won numerous awards, most notable receiving an Emerging Artist Grant from the Arts and Science Council of Charlotte/Mecklenburg. His work has been exhibited in dozens of galleries throughout the east coast, including Ward-Nasse Gallery in NYC, Waterworks Gallery in Salisbury, NC, R.J. Reynolds Gallery in Winston-Salem, NC, and The Contemporary Art Museum in Raleigh, NC.



Work by Jerry Lee Kirk

Kirk began his art career as an editorial cartoonist before moving on to work as a graphic designer and illustrator then art director for various advertising agencies, all the while exhibiting and selling his painting in galleries and festivals. He was also the

owner of his own gallery, the short-lived but award winning "Sanctuary Art". Kirk's works are included in private collections throughout the world, as well as several corporate collections.

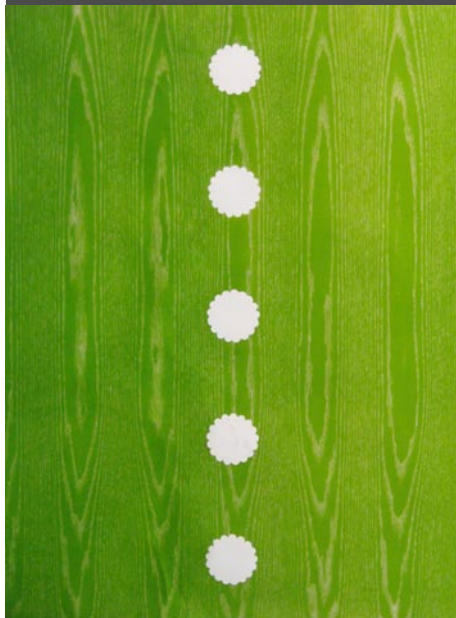
Working out of his home studio in South Charlotte, Kirk produces paintings of various themes in a unified and unique style of bold colors and hard lines that shows the influence of both German Expressionism and Picasso. For the past 2 years he has turned his attention towards landscapes in an attempt to bring a different perspective to a somewhat tired genre and the result has been some of his most dynamic and successful paintings to date. Using the mountains and coastline of North Carolina as inspiration, Kirk creates meticulously detailed renderings that are alive with vibrant light and deep shadows.

David Wendel was born in Kansas City MO, in 1954. He moved a lot, and found drawing to be a constant friend during that time. The pursuit of added skills led to him attending the Louisville Art School and the Norman Rockwell School in the 1960's. Deciding at that time to pursue architecture after high school, he attended the graphics school at University of Georgia. Entering the graphic design world in 1979, he did everything from painting signs and banners to designing logos, brochures, menus and graphics.

The nature of light fascinates and fills Wendel's work, particularly reflected light. His personal journey has started from a hyper-realist pursuit to one of a painterly, sculpture like application of various paint

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Ann Conner, Brentwood 4, Woodcut, 48.75 x 36.75 inches



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Nature inspires the colorful images Annette creates. Her goal in creating a piece of art is to grab and hold the viewer's eye, drawing the person deeper into the painting to discover the myriad treasures there.

Annette works mainly in acrylic, but also paints in oil, watercolor, pastel, and mixed media. She accepts commissions from those who want a specific color scheme or subject matter that isn't available in an existing piece.

Annette's artwork can be found at *Southern Spirit Gallery* in Salisbury, NC; *Green Goat Gallery* in Spencer, NC; and *The Little Gallery* at *Smith Mountain Lake* in Moneta, VA.

Annette works out of her studio at Rail Walk Studios & Gallery at 413 N Lee Street in the Rail Walk Arts District in Salisbury, NC. Rail Walk is open Saturday from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Downtown Salisbury is a great place to spend a weekend and see a lot of great art. For more information, visit railwalkgallery.com and visitsalisburync.com.

To see more examples of Annette's work, go to ragone.com