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Upstairs Artspace in Tryon, NC, Features Two New Exhibitions

The Upstairs Artspace in Tryon, NC, will present two new exhibits including: *Seeing Is Believing: The Collection of Ray Griffin and Thom Robinson* and *Crossing The Line*, featuring colorful "folk" art by Bonnie Bardos and Charlotte Fowler, both on view from July 19 through Aug. 31, 2013. A reception will be held on July 20, from 5-8pm, preceded at 4pm by an informal talk by Bardos and Fowler.

Seeing Is Believing: The Collection of Ray Griffin and Thom Robinson is a wonderful overview of an authentic private collection built by avid collectors from Asheville, NC, with love, design and frugality. The 34 artists in the show are represented by one work apiece in a variety of genres: painting, drawing, photography, sculpture, folk art and more. Most of the artists live in Western North Carolina; some like Hoss Haley are quite well known, others are young and emerging like Julie Armbruster.



Work by Charlotte Fowler

Lubelski, Brian Mashburn, Linda McCune, Phillip McGuire, Sean Pace, Kevin Palme, Tom Pazderka, William Henry Price, John Rose, Alice Sebrell, Gabriel Shaffer, Micah Amos Sherrill, Mike Smith, David Stewart, Kirsten Stolle, Jill Stowe, and David Vandre.

A major attraction of the show is that, in addition to their works in the collection, most artists have created new work for the show to be sold as a benefit for the Upstairs Artspace.

Collectors Griffin and Robinson have been partners for nine years and agree their passion for visual art is an important shared interest. "We rarely disagree on a piece of art to acquire," says Griffin, "including what to spend on it." Weekends are often spent visiting artists' studios to see works-in-progress and chat about artistic purpose and technique.

Also opening on July 19 is *Crossing The Line*, an exhibit of colorful "folk" art by Bonnie Bardos and Charlotte Fowler. The women are inveterate collectors of trash to incorporate into art that dares to be different. Fowler likes using animal bones, coins, wood; Bardos favors vintage jewelry, flatware, ceramic figures and more.

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



Work by Julyan Davis

In addition to Haley and Armbruster, the artists are: Galen Frost Bernard, Courtney Chappell, Margaret Curtis, Julyan Davis, John Dickson, Samuel Dillon, Alli Good, Ursula Gullow, Edwards Harper, Kevin Hogan, Anna Jensen, Jeffrey Kinzel, Gabriel Kline, Taiyo La Paix, Eric Legge, Nava
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Haywood County Arts Council in Waynesville, NC, Offers Works by Norma B. Hendrix, Nina Howard, Dawn Behling, and Nancy Blevins

The Haywood County Arts Council in Waynesville, NC, will present *Nature Inspired*, featuring works by Norma B. Hendrix, Nina Howard, Dawn Behling, and Nancy Blevins, on view in Gallery 86, from July 3 - 27, 2013. A reception will be held on July 5, from 6-9pm, during Waynesville's Art After Dark event.

The exhibition celebrates the form of mixed media used to express the influence of nature on its creator.

The term "mixed media" refers to a visual art technique that uses various art mediums in one work and was first used in the early 20th Century. Mixed media can achieve many different effects to the viewer. *Nature Inspired* is an exhibit that expresses the artists' influences from nature and the world around them.

Norma B. Hendrix maintains a studio practice in Franklin, NC. She has been an Artist in Residence at major artist residencies in both the US and France. She has served as an active teacher at Western Carolina University and has taught and directed community art programs for over 30 years.

Hendrix is the Executive Director of Cullowhee Mountain ARTS, a non-profit organization committed to supporting artists and students in learning communities through workshops and programs. As an artist, her work has been exhibited in numerous group and solo exhibitions in the Southeastern US and is included in several private collections.

Nina Howard has been called a Renaissance woman by her peers and friends. An artist, interior designer, massage therapist, polarity therapist, licensed esthetician, educator, and entrepreneur, Howard synthesizes all her talents, creating beauty



Work by Nina Howard

and wellness in all that she does.

In 1994, Howard closed her art, design, and massage studio in Waynesville and moved to Ann Arbor, MI, where she created Bellanina Day Spa and Institute. The physical day spa became the walls for her Ann Arbor gallery. Still retaining 50% ownership, Howard is back in Waynesville.

Howard has painted hundreds of paintings since her art career began in New York City. In 1982, she received her first commission and has continued for 30 years to produce commissioned pieces while pursuing other interests in the healing arts. She says her abstract paintings

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