

Waterworks Visual Arts Center

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and with Luciana Notturmi at the Mosaic School in Ravenna, Italy.

For further information check our

NC Institutional Gallery listing, call the Center at 704/636-1882 or visit www.waterworks.org.

Hickory Museum of Art in Hickory, NC, Features Work by Wolf Kahn

The Hickory Museum of Art in Hickory, NC is presenting the work of internationally recognized artist Wolf Kahn. *Wolf Kahn: Then & Now* will be on view through Oct. 12, 2014, in the Museum's Coe Gallery.

This is one of the most comprehensive Wolf Kahn exhibitions ever assembled. The show offers visitors the opportunity to compare and contrast similarities and differences created by an artist who is widely considered one of the premier landscape painters. The early bold, emotional landscapes are linked to the Abstract Expressionist movement of the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s. Kahn's paintings and pastels from half a century later more easily blur the distinction between abstraction and reality and also use a more heightened sense of color.



Wolf Kahn, "Riverbend II," 2013, 40x52", oil on canvas, Courtesy of Jerald Melberg Gallery, Charlotte, NC.

Kahn's representative for more than 30 years, Jerald Melberg offered remarks during the opening reception. Melberg curated Kahn's *50 Years of Pastels* that was exhibited at HMA in 2001. The current exhibition is made possible by Jerald Melberg Gallery, Charlotte, NC.

Born in Stuttgart in 1927, Wolf Kahn fled Nazi Germany as a child and in 1945 graduated from the High School of Music



Wolf Kahn, "Yellow Uphill," 2013, 16x16", oil on canvas, Courtesy of Jerald Melberg Gallery, Charlotte, NC.

and Art in New York, NY. After a time in the Navy, he studied with Hans Hofmann and graduated from the University of Chicago in 1951.

Kahn has been active as a painter for over sixty years. His work may be found in the collections of The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Whitney Museum of American Art, and the Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY; the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA; the Hirshhorn Museum and the National Museum of American Art, Washington, D.C.; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA; and the Hickory Museum of Art, Hickory, NC.

Wolf Kahn: Then & Now is presented in memory of Nancy and Jim Phillips, long-time Museum supporters and fans of Wolf Kahn. The exhibition is sponsored by Plastic Packaging, Inc.

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

Pickens County Museum of Art & History in Pickens, SC, Offers Works by Keith Spencer

The Pickens County Museum of Art & History in Pickens, SC, is presenting *Recent Paintings by Keith Spencer*, on view through Aug. 14, 2014.

An exceptional use of color and direct brushwork combine in the artwork of Western North Carolina artist Keith Spencer. He has been described as "both an expressive painter and a true colorist" by William Kortlander, Professor of Art at Ohio State University. There is a boldness to his creativity and the works are full of life and energy. The result is a striking range of both figurative and landscape paintings that can be found in galleries and collections throughout the United States and Europe.

Spencer's landscapes are frequently done in the alla prima tradition (one sitting) and will often include the mountainous upstate, where he now lives, as well as the Lowcountry surrounding Charleston. Likewise, much of his figurative work is done directly from life, and ranges from abstract nudes to the painterly realism of his work from the *Artist Ride in South Dakota*. Having managed a cattle-horse farm, for the first twelve years of his career, Spencer's own horses are frequently found in his paintings.

When asked about his work Spencer said, "A big part of the creative process for me is continuing to grow and experiment. This latest body of work is very much in that vein. Using mainly local landscapes as inspiration and subject



Keith Spencer, "Creekside", oil on canvas, 2014, 24 x 36 inches

matter, many of these paintings are the result of asking myself, 'What if I try...' The unifying concept in my work is an effort to present the viewer with a sense of the feeling of a place. Why does one place feel different than another, even though they may be similar? Rather than rendering the details of the elements in a landscape, I try to reduce it to elemental shapes and colors. In that way the work becomes as much about the paint as the subject."

Spencer continued, "What makes something unique has always interested me. I think at some level, I am trying to reveal that uniqueness through painting. When I see something it's kind of like love...it either happens or it doesn't."

Spencer is included in the 2011 book by Edward Emory and Stephen Stinson called *Artists Among Us - 100 Faces of Art in Spartanburg*. Articles about him and his

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work have been written in *Bold Life Magazine*, *The Laurel of Asheville Magazine*, *Berry Magazine*, *Greenville News Arts* section, *Spartanburg Herald Arts* section, *Landrum News Leader* and the *Tryon Daily Bulletin*. He has been in two television productions on the ETV art show called *Impressions*. He does an average of 3-4 exhibitions a year and donates work regularly to various Environmental and Humanity Groups. Spencer has had solo exhibitions at both The Chapman Cultural Center in Spartanburg and Skyuka Fine Art in Tryon, NC, as well as a group show at the Greenville County Museum of Art. He is currently represented by The Raiford Gallery in Roswell, GA, The Red Wolf Gallery in Brevard, NC, and the Carolina Gallery in Spartanburg, SC.

Keith Spencer: Recent Works is sponsored in part by South Carolina Bank & Trust, Pickens Savings & Loan and Robinson Funeral Home, Crematory and Memorial Gardens. The Pickens County



Keith Spencer, "Trout Stream", oil on canvas, 2014, 24 x 36 inches

Museum of Art & History is funded in part by Pickens County, members and friends of the museum and a grant from the South Carolina Arts Commission, which receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 864/898-5963 or visit (www.pickenscountymuseum.org).

Pickens County Museum of Art & History in Pickens, SC, Offers Works by Michael Brodeur

The Pickens County Museum of Art & History in Pickens, SC, is presenting *Looking Back, Looking Forward: the work of Michael Brodeur*, featuring fifteen years of work, on view through Aug. 14, 2014.

Brodeur is Associate Professor in studio art at Furman University, Greenville SC. Born in Claremont, NH, Brodeur has called Greenville his home for the past fifteen years. After graduating from the University of New Hampshire with a BA in art, he went on to earn his MFA in painting and drawing from Boston University where he studied with Philip Guston.

When asked about this exhibition which represents his work during the past fifteen years in Greenville, Brodeur said, "At first glance my work is about many



Michael Brodeur, "Warm Embrace", alkyd on wood panel, 2010, 5x8 inches

things: exacting formal balance, quality of edge, light, space and form, subtle surface and color, or abstraction through selective editing of shape, texture and detail. Although these surface readings are valid, collectively they create a poetic clarity through which metaphysical events occur:

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