

# Leland Cultural Arts Center in Leland, NC, Offers Works by Heather Divoky

Leland Cultural Arts Center in Leland, NC, *A Relative Geography: Painted Perspectives of Where We Live*, featuring works by Heather Divoky, on view from Sept. 1 - 30, 2016. A reception will be held on Sept. 29, from 6-8pm with a gallery talk at 6:30pm.

Divoky hopes to inspire conversation with her latest art show. Instead of 380+ individual art pieces, she sees the entire show as one large installation, taking the visitor from what starts as a small portrait of the Leland Cultural Arts Center, where it's located, and expanding into the 100 counties of North Carolina, 50 states of the US, 196 countries of the world, the continents, the solar system, the Universe, and beyond. Each piece examines a story from its respective location, revealing a fact or an oddity. "I really wanted to cross boundaries and focus on the stories of these places. So often we only see a certain aspect of a geography—sometimes positive, and often negative—I wanted to reach beyond that, to break down barriers and give folks a totally different perspective."

One instance of this is Somalia - a country with a turbulent past. Instead of focusing on that, Divoky decided to delve into the Somalian tradition of poetry. "The piece is a tiny illustration of Somalian love poetry...it's really beautiful. A baker in the 1920's fell in love with a woman and it was unrequited, so he became a poet. It's some of the most beautiful poetry I've ever read."

Divoky also looked for the surprising, intriguing, and funny. Did you know Hawaii was a training ground for NASA because its terrain is most like Mars? Or that a man set several tires on fire inside of a volcano in Alaska as a joke? Legends, folklores, and random stories work together as a cohesive story of the world

and beyond.

Divoky had plenty of experience researching each piece, reaching out to friends abroad and at home, family, delving into books, and using the Internet. And although this show deviates from her normal pen-and-ink style, she hopes to bring a new sense of what she can do as an artist and perhaps dive further into installation art. "I like installation art for its site specific nature and the tendency to go toward more conceptual themes. It's harder to understand, sure; but I think challenging yourself is never a bad thing. I think that's what I want from this: for folks to really challenge themselves, to see beyond where they physically are and see some of these places in a unique light."

Divoky is an artist living and working in Wilmington, NC, where she is part of the Wilmington Artist Association and the Women's Art Guild of Wilmington. She has a BA from Appalachian State University in Art History and a Master's degree from Leiden University in Museums and Collections. She was a recipient of the 2015 Regional Artist Grant and has worked in the Arts as a creator, curator, historian, designer, and administrator.

Divoky's award-winning art has shown in Nashville, the Netherlands, and all over North Carolina. Her primary concern is story-telling through great detail and color. She frequently uses her environment and its history as an inspiration, obsessively researching a subject until she is ready to illustrate it. When she is not working on art, she is busily planning her next trip around the world, swimming at the beach, or happily devouring a book underneath a tree.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings or call the Center at 910/385-9891.

# Seaside Arts Council in Emerald Isle, NC, Offers Art Show, Social and Sale - Sept. 25, 2016

The Seaside Arts Council in Emerald Isle, NC, will present an *Art Show, Social and Sale*, featuring works of the beautiful coastal scenery, at The Trading Post Restaurant, Sept. 25, from 3-5pm.

Enjoy complimentary appetizers, a cash bar, the music of Justin Castellano and beautiful artwork. Attendees will have a chance to mix and mingle with the artists and view and/or purchase one-of-a-kind paintings! Event goers will also have an opportunity to vote for their favorite piece of art. The artist chosen will receive the "People's Choice Award" and a cash prize.

Artists will offer a wide variety of price points, so it is a great way to spend a Sunday afternoon and begin or add to your art collection. Come and collect some art and/or socialize and enjoy a lovely display of paintings of our beautiful coast; along with great eats and drinks on the patio at

The Trading Post Restaurant on Emerald Drive in Emerald Isle.

This event is sponsored by Seaside Arts Council and SAC board member/artist Irene Bailey. SAC is a non-profit organization with a mission to bring visual and performing art events to the greater Swansboro and Western Carteret County area.

"We support free outdoor concerts during the summer like SwanFest and EmeraldFest and reasonably priced events during the Fall/Winter such as The Performing Arts Series and various art events," said Bailey.

Memberships are \$35 per person or \$65 per family of up to 4 members. Members receive \$5 off each indoor concert ticket and contributions supports Seaside Arts Council events.

For further information visit ([www.seasideartscouncil.com](http://www.seasideartscouncil.com)).

# Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County, NC, Offers Works by Native American Artists

The Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County in Fayetteville, NC, is presenting *Contemporary Art Forms by America's First People*, on view through Oct. 22, 2016.

When you think of Native American culture, what comes to mind? Paintings by artist Jessica Clark may change your perspective. She says that her work "dispels stereotypes by portraying the legacy and narrative of Southeastern Natives in everyday life."

This exhibition celebrates the contemporary art of "America's First People" through graphic art, paintings, pottery and

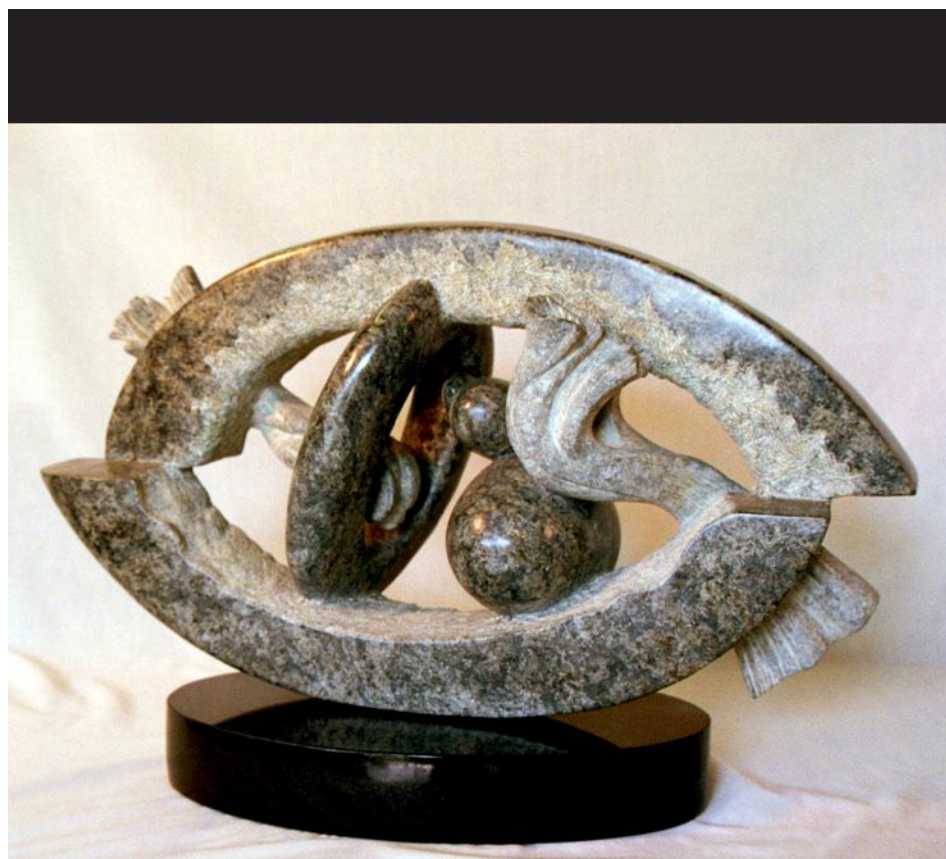
photography.

While much of the artwork is deeply rooted in tradition, the exhibition is contemporary and shows the perspective of Native American artists who are living and creating today.

Featured artists include: Bea Brayboy, painter; Keith Carter, graphic artist; Jessica Clark, painter; Chevron Lowery, painter; Gloria Lowery, painter; Senora Lynch, potter; and Jeremy Wilson, photographer.

For some of the participants, a connection between art and culture started at

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"Primordial" by Dean R. Leary

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