

Charleston Crafts Cooperative

continued from Page 8

feature upcycled fabrics creating unique and sustainable garments.

Nancy Warren is a fiber artist and handweaver who creates one-of-a-kind wearables and scarves. She dyes some of her yarns prior to the weaving process, resulting in unique color blending effects. For this month, she has created some scarves perfect for the cozy season.

Selma Andrews, a jewelry artist who works in Polymer Clay, creates necklaces with intricate faces and images of leaves and flowers. Her work may also include interesting shapes and designs, creating a unique whole image.

Gini Steele is a knitter who creates whimsical and original designed knit pieces including special buttons, or added felted elements. Steele is an intuitive knitter who uses many stitches in her designs. She has designed a cozy cowl, and a cozy shoulder wrap for this month.

Laurie Prohater is a Polymer Clay jewelry artist whose work has been featured in *Belle Armoire Magazine*. Her winter white necklace is shown with LuAnn Rosenzweig's modular knit sweater, perfect for the season.

Iryna Toney is a fiber artist who specializes in crochet. Crochet is a fiber art form that has never been produced by machine. She makes hand-crafted sweaters, wraps, and hats with interesting finishing touches.

Jennifer York, 2024 Lowcountry Artist of the Year, is proficient in several art forms. In addition to her artistic paper cuttings and paper assemblages, she also hand crafts unique art to wear, with hand dyed and sewn silk tunics and sweaters.

Courtney Powers hand-crafts purses from new Italian leather that would otherwise have been discarded from the furniture industry. She calls her company "Restored" to pay homage to her unique business model. Each of her purses is hand stitched in her South Carolina studio, and is ready for you to take home.



Work by Nancy Warren

While these members are in the spotlight, the work of all the Gallery's members are also on display and available for purchase, including jewelry, wood puzzles, encaustic paintings, mixed media collages, fiber art, apparel and accessories, as well as functional and decorative objects in wood, ceramic and glass.

Charleston's destination for fine craft since 1989, the gallery is located on East Bay Street, in the heart of the French Quarter, on "Gallery Row". The gallery is staffed by its friendly and knowledgeable member-artisans. Charleston Crafts Cooperative Gallery is a dynamic community of more than two dozen jury-selected artisans, all from South Carolina, making this the city's only exclusively local craft gallery.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 843/501-7522 or visit (www.charlestoncraftsgallery.com).

Lowcountry Artists Gallery in Charleston, SC, Features Works by Stephanie Shuler Hamlet

Lowcountry Artists Gallery in Charleston, SC, will present *Woven Threads*, featuring mixed media works by Stephanie Shuler Hamlet, on view from Nov. 1 - 30, 2024. A reception will be held on Nov. 1, from 5-8pm, as part of the Charleston ArtWalk.

With a business degree from Charleston Southern University, Hamlet combines her artistic experience with financial acumen. Her artwork ranges from murals and impressionistic landscapes to abstract collages. Hamlet's artistic adventure began with oil and pastels as she was drawn to their intense, rich colors. Through experimentation she found a path to express herself in a more loose, flowing medium and found her passion in mixed media.

Hamlet's bold and spontaneous mixed media paintings achieve unity through the use of exciting textures and symbolism. The language of her art communicates her emotions and connection with nature, through bold, vibrant colors and visual textures that invite the viewer to share her experience.

Her award winning paintings are in public and private collections worldwide and she has had numerous solo exhibitions.

Founded in 1982, the Lowcountry Artists Gallery is the oldest artist-owned fine art gallery in Charleston. Located in the historic French Quarter of downtown Charleston, this fine art gallery is managed and curated by nine nationally and internationally renowned artists, along with 20 guest artists exhibiting original paintings, photography, prints, sculpture, and jewelry.



Work by Stephanie Shuler Hamlet

Lowcountry Artists Gallery prides itself on the variety of subject matter and styles included in the collection. In addition to traditional Charleston scenes and lowcountry landscapes, contemporary, abstract, still life, and figurative work is also available. Life-size copper frogs, miniature construction, sweetgrass baskets and jewelry are also part of the display.

The owner artists are in the gallery daily and are always available to answer questions and assist collectors with their selections. Personal consultations with individuals, corporations, and designers are welcomed, and specific commissions can be arranged.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 843/577-9295 or visit (www.lowcountryartists.com).

Robert Lange Studios in Charleston, SC, Celebrates 20 Years in Business

The Robert Lange Studios in Charleston, SC, will present *Twenty*, featuring a new collection of paintings to celebrate their 20 years in business, on view from Nov. 1 - 29, 2024. A reception will be held on Nov. 1, from 5-8pm.

RLS proudly announces its 20th anniversary with a spectacular art exhibit aptly titled *Twenty*. The event will be a celebration of art and achievement, showcasing the work of 50 talented artists, each creating a unique 24 x 24 inch masterpiece to commemorate the milestone.

The grand celebration will feature a variety of artistic styles, reflecting the diverse talents of the participating artists. From abstract expressions to realistic portrayals, each piece will be a testament to the creativity and vision of the artist's that the gallery has worked with over the last twenty years.

"We are thrilled to celebrate our 20th anniversary with such a meaningful event," said owner and artist Robert Lange. "The art exhibit not only highlights the incredible talent that we have worked with over the years but also marks two decades of growth and success for our business. It's a wonderful way to give back and share our appreciation with all who have been a part of this journey."



Work by Robert Lange

The journey has had many twists and turns for the gallery owner, who along with his wife, opened RLS when they were in their early twenties. Lange said, "We were just young and naive enough to open a business with no experience or money and just hope for the best." Now, 20 years later, after multiple expansions, hosting hundreds of residency artists and countless exhibits, the gallery is a prominent fixture in the southeastern art scene with well known artists gracing the walls.

One such artist is pop-surrealist Nathan Durfee, who has been part of the RLS stable of artists since the very beginning. Each of Durfee's narrative artworks weave together layers of symbolism and emotion to create a rich tapestry of visual storytelling and for this exhibit he has created one of his iconic *Dreamers*; a masked figure contemplating their next adventure.

Durfee said, "Being part of RLS for so long has been an incredible voyage. I'm deeply grateful for the support and opportunities they've provided. Their commitment to showcasing local artists has not only enriched my career but also helped to foster a vibrant and creative community. This 20th-anniversary exhibit is a testament to their dedication and passion for the arts, and I'm honored to contribute to this milestone celebration."

Alongside Dufee's work will be many realists including world renowned painters, Julie Beck and Anthony Waichulis. Both artists have created intricate still life paintings for the show. Waichulis is heavily regarded as an expert among realist circles. His painting *Ideation* is a supreme example of his understanding of composition and detail.



Work by Julie Beck

Waichulis said, "It might seem a bit odd that the inspiration for this piece was, in fact, found in the struggle for the 'right idea' for such a special exhibition. Yet, that's exactly how this composition unfolded. 'Ideation' is the process or practice of generating and developing ideas. I took some metaphorical liberty with the concept, viewing it through the language or lens of the vanitas, to communicate this process as a life cycle. Every day, countless new ideas are generated, evaluated, refined, and discarded - often with the arrival of new insights. There is a fascinating beauty to be found at every stage of this cycle, and I hope viewers will enjoy exploring the symbols and metaphors of each stage throughout the piece."

Waichulis added when asked about the 20 year celebration, "It is a distinct pleasure to have been able to exhibit under the Robert Lange Studios Gallery (RLS) banner over the past few years. Across two memorable decades of operation, RLS has cultivated an impressive roster of creatives that continue to captivate and inspire. I have been fortunate enough to work with many esteemed gallerists thus far in my career, and the projects I have worked on with RLS will remain among some of my most cherished exhibition experiences. They are a true gem of the contemporary art world."

Beck said of her painting *Ghost in the Machine*, I rarely work on a scale this large, as I typically prefer the intimacy of a smaller picture plane. The size requirement for this show posed a unique challenge: how to evoke the same sense of intimacy within a much larger format. I had a setup that had been in limbo because I couldn't find the right space or surface to make it impactful - an all-too-familiar struggle for me. When the staff informed me about this show, it became the perfect opportunity to explore new possibilities for that setup, and *Ghost in the Machine* was born.

Beck added about her relationship with RLS, "Early in my journey as a painter, I made a list of stretch-goal galleries that consistently showcased creative realist work, and RLS was one of the first to top that list. I'm honored to have had the opportunity to exhibit alongside some of my longtime heroes within these gallery walls over the past few years. As a realist painter who believes that humor, fun, and accessibility are essential to my artistic voice, I feel a deep connection with RLS Gallery and its staff - they really 'get' me. It's evident in everything they do: the swing, the mini art gallery, the hidden clever details, and the sketchbooks for kids - it's all pure magic. Their professionalism, prompt communication, and commitment to community building are not just beneficial to the collectors and art lovers they serve, but is also why they are great to work with from the artist's perspective."

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 843/805-8052 or visit (www.rlsart.com).

Advertise in Carolina Arts

Reach our readers with any size ad, go to (www.carolinaarts.com/advertising.html) to see our sizes and rates. It doesn't cost much to use us as a medium. You won't find more reasonable rates in the art market.

To start in the next issue call 843/693-1306 or e-mail to (info@carolinaarts.com)

Every once in a while I feel like just filling one of these spaces with a kind of nothingness. You know as if nobody reads what's in these spaces anyway. So if one time I said something like the first person to read this and sends me an e-mail to (info@carolinaarts.com) during the month of November they'll get a free 1/4 ad in our December 2024 issue or the month that is most useful for them. But who reads these space fillers anyway? Not many I bet.