

Spartanburg, SC's Open Doors Studio Tour Takes Place - Apr. 26 & 27, 2025

The Artists Collective | Spartanburg, the Chapman Cultural Center, the Spartanburg Art Museum and the Artists Guild of Spartanburg will host the third annual two-day Open Doors Studio Tour Apr. 26 and 27, 2025, to showcase more than 40 artists' working studio spaces and their works.

The participating artists have been included in a month-long tour preview exhibition at the Artists Collective | Spartanburg, on view in their Solomon Gallery through Apr. 26. A reception will be held from 5 to 8pm, on Thursday, Apr. 17, in conjunction with Spartanburg ArtWalk.

The self-guided tour is free and open to the public; works will be available for purchase. During the Tour, the 43 participating artists will open their studios to visitors to come to see how they produce their works. Visitors can pick and choose which studios to visit and when, on the schedule provided in catalogs produced for the event. They also can view all the participants, their artwork and the tour catalog at (opendoorstudios.art).

"The Open Doors Studio Tour gives the artists the opportunity to invite the public into their workspaces so they can see their artwork, learn about the creative process and purchase works," says Beth Regula, chair of the management board of the Artists Collective and co-chair with local artist Glenda Guion for the event.



View inside Judy Martin's Studio

"Art studio tours are a unique, fun attraction for all ages – from the seasoned art collector – to the youngest art student," Guion says. "The focus of the Open Doors Studio Tour is to provide both support for local visual artists and to heighten artistic and cultural awareness within our community. Collectors, supporters and the



View inside Julia Burnett's Studio

art-interested public will have the opportunity to see how art is created by visiting the artists in their studios all across the county."

The studios are required to include a "working" artist space. All artists will show their creative process inside their studios, some doing demonstrations.

More than 1,000 pieces of artwork will be part of the tour. The tour includes painters, sculptors, potters, photographers, jewelers, printmakers, fiber artists and more. Participation in the event was opened to all local artists, whether they were members of any of the sponsoring organizations or not.

Regula and Guion, who were two of dozens of artists who started Greenville Open Studios more than 20 years ago, collaborated in 2023 to bring the Spartanburg arts organizations together for the community's first Open Doors tour.

The exhibition "is a representation of the broad range and the high quality of art being created across Spartanburg County," Guion says. "The Artists Collective hosts the Open Doors Studio Tour and the preview exhibition annually to promote and support artists beyond its membership."

The Artists Collective | Spartanburg, located on W. Main Street in Spartanburg, SC, provides a forum and home for the arts and creative population of Spartanburg, providing facilities and services to artist members for exhibits, performances and creation.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (artistscollectivespartanburg.org).

Artists Collective | Spartanburg, SC, Features Works by Patrick DeCrane and Gale Roberts

Artists Collective | Spartanburg, SC, will present *Cruising Through France*, featuring works by Patrick DeCrane and Gale Roberts, on view in Gallery III, from Apr. 1 - 26, 2025. A reception will be held on Apr. 17, from 2-4pm and a second one from 5-8pm, as part of the Spartanburg ArtWalk..

Upstate artists Patrick DeCrane and Gale Roberts recently enjoyed a visit to France, especially an excursion cruising down the Rhone River. Now, they are presenting a joint exhibition of their art inspired by the experience.

"We want the visitors to the exhibit to see a variety of unique things and places in France interpreted by two artists," says DeCrane, primarily a watercolorist.

In the upcoming exhibit, the two want to convey that they have "provided an enjoyable interpretation of France," says Roberts, who works in acrylics and oils. "They will see a variety of unique things and places in France interpreted by these two artists. The exhibit shows the different views that each artist experienced in the country of France."

DeCrane, a native of Cleveland, OH, has been painting and drawing most of his adult life, using acrylic, pastels and watercolor, his favorite. "I also find great satisfaction with drawing with pencil. My subject matter generally includes flowers, trees and still life."

He began his formal art classes in high school. A graduate of Park College and re-
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Work by Gale Roberts

tired from the US Army, he spent 11 years working for the Military Officers Association. Prepared for a new adventure, he then opened and operated a bed and breakfast for 10 years with his husband, Michael Thomas.

Roberts, a native of Erie, PA, has been painting for about eight years. "I am continuing to take art classes and continuing to learn from a local artist. I love to paint things that are bright and beautiful. I've decided that painting dogs is a favorite of mine and will continue with painting them as I develop my skills as an artist."

DeCrane has been a member of the continued above on next column to the right

Artists Collective | Spartanburg since 2016; Roberts joined in 2022. They have exhibited jointly many times at the Artists Collective. "Our individual interest in the arts has drawn us together for a number of years," DeCrane says. "Consequently, we have shown our exhibitions for over four years. Our history at ACS is substantial proof it is home for our artworks. As members of ACS, we have many opportunities to show our artwork and enjoy the camaraderie with other artists," DeCrane says.

The art in the show will be offered for purchase with prices ranging from \$50 to \$300.

The Artists Collective | Spartanburg, located on W. Main Street in Spartanburg, SC, provides a forum and home for the

Artists Collective | Spartanburg, SC, Features Works by Jason Huffman

Artists Collective | Spartanburg, SC, will present *It Is What It Is: Art Should Explain Itself*, featuring works by Jason Huffman, on view in Gallery II, from Apr. 1 - 26, 2025. A reception will be held on Apr. 17, from 5-8, as part of the Spartanburg ArtWalk.

Huffman believes art should be valued for what it is, that it speaks for itself. The art in the show will be offered for purchase with prices ranging from \$950 to \$2,000.

"As an artist, I'm just doing what I do," says Huffman, who works mostly in oil on canvas with some pencil on canvas. "This is a collection of my artwork over the years, including most recent to some older pieces."

Huffman says he wants the works to convey to viewers that they should "enjoy art and its value to society."



Work by Jason Hoffman

"Most people describe my work as very realistic, with a sense of connection to each piece," he continues, adding that his works range from wildlife and country living to figures and realism. "This exhibit speaks to the continued relationship between the community and art."

He adds that visitors likely will notice the changes and growth in his work as they view the exhibit. "Most people describe my work as very realistic, with a sense of connection to each piece."

Stormwater Studios in Columbia, SC, Is A Very Busy Place In April

Stop by Stormwater Studios in Columbia's Vista area during Columbia Open Studios on Saturday, Apr. 5, from 10am-6pm, and Sunday, Apr. 6, from noon-6pm.

Columbia Open Studios is a self-guided, weekend-long, free tour of artists' studios throughout the Greater Columbia, South Carolina area, including all of Richland and Lexington Counties. This event offers a unique opportunity to explore the workspaces of local artists, learn about their materials and technique, and discover the inspiration behind their pieces.

The following Stormwater Studios Resident Artists will be participating: Heidi Darr-Hope, Michel McNinch, Pat Gilmartin, Quincy Pugh, and Stephen Chesley.

For details on Columbia Open Studios and a map visit (<https://www.columbiapopenstudios.org/>).

Later on in April Stormwater Studios is excited to present *Rites of Spring*, the annual Resident Artist Exhibition, on view from Apr 2 - 13, from 11am-3pm, as part of the 2025 Artista Vista celebration.

The resident artists of Stormwater



Work by Patrick DeCrane

arts and creative population of Spartanburg, providing facilities and services to artist members for exhibits, performances and creation.

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Work by Jason Hoffman

Art has been "a lifelong obsession" for Huffman. "It is not an option. I have to create, whether it is a sketch, painting or sculpture. I've tried many different media. At this time in my life, I am focused on painting. I am a self-taught artist known for a wide range of media. My works have included pencil drawings, oil paintings, watercolor, bronze sculptures, glass and jewelry."

A native of Arizona, Huffman says he was drawn to move to the Carolinas. "After living near Spartanburg for a few years, I am enjoying being a part of the artists community. I am excited to be a part of the Artists Collective | Spartanburg. They have a wonderful facility for artists to work and display their work. Everyone at ACS is fantastic, you can't find a better group of artists and people to be a part of." He has been a member for four years.

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Work by Gerald Erley

Studios invite you to celebrate this season of renewal through *Rites of Spring*, an exhibition exploring what it means to feel truly alive within the world around us. From paintings and drawings to sculptures and mixed media, their work captures the magic of daydreaming, the thrill of wandering, and the promise of new beginnings. Step into a world where creativity

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