

# Artists Collective | Spartanburg, SC, Features Works by Robert Poe

Artists Collective | Spartanburg, SC, will present *Interconnections*, featuring paintings by Robert Poe, on view in the Solomon Gallery, from May 7 through June 1, 2024. A reception will be held on May 16, until 8pm, as part of ArtWalk Spartanburg.

Upstate artist Robert (Bob) Poe likes to doodle. Then, his doodles become his paintings, some of which he will show in his exhibition.

“The title of this exhibit, *Interconnections*, is intended as a metaphor,” says Poe, a native of Greensboro, NC, who now lives in Greenwood, SC. “The titles of two of the works in the show, *Borders* and *Haiku*, also are metaphoric. The shifts in color, shapes and lines represent surprises along the way and the dynamics of those relationships are fluid.”



Work by Robert Poe

Poe says his paintings begin as doodles. “I look for the energy in my doodles as a composing force. What begins as a line, may become an edge, a color, shape or a space. The composition changes as the dynamics/energy of the marks change. It tells me whether it is too small, too big, too sweet or sour, too loud or too quiet – interconnections.”

Poe earned a degree in art from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill and a master of arts degree from East Tennessee State University. He has taught art in public schools and at Brevard College. He received the Max Beckman Scholarship



Work by Robert Poe

to the Brooklyn Museum School of Art in Brooklyn, New York. He moved to Greenwood in 1972 to start an art department at Lander College. He taught art education, design, photography and painting for 38 years before retiring and has maintained a consistent record of producing and exhibiting his work regionally and nationally, while teaching. In 1981, he won a Fulbright year in England for him and his family, which extended his exhibiting opportunities for showing internationally.

“I enjoy keeping in touch with my former students and colleagues, meeting new artists and seeing their work,” says Poe, who continues to paint and photograph daily in his home studio.

The Artists Collective | Spartanburg, located on W. Main Street, 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](http://artistscollectivespartanburg.org)).

# Artists Collective | Spartanburg, SC, Features Works by Pat Cato & More

Artists Collective | Spartanburg, SC, will present *Colors: And Poems*, featuring mixed media works by Pat Cato, on view in Gallery II, from May 1 through June 7, 2024. A reception will be held on May 16, until 8pm, as part of ArtWalk Spartanburg.

Color has always inspired Upstate artist Pat Cato, so it's only right for her upcoming exhibition, *Colors: And Poems*, to be centered around various colors on canvases painted in mixed media.

“Each canvas depicts a certain color on how it makes me feel, starting with the primary colors and into secondary ones to offshoots, then finally black and white to complete the series,” says the Greenville artist.

Cato, a member of the Artists Collective for more than a year, also invited two other members to join her in the exhibition – Rosemary McLeod, a jewelry designer, and Karin Patrick, a potter. “Their colorful work will add to the excitement of this very colorful show.”



Work by Pat Cato

Visitors to the show will see “vibrant colors and free-form poetry, plus colorful pottery and jewelry. The messages for viewers will be written in a free form style of poetry beside each piece.”

Cato adds, “This series is very personal to me. I started it three years ago and had eight pieces completed. My husband, David, had been my muse and my best sharp critic, but, unfortunately, he passed away two years ago, so most of these were the last pieces I got his opinions on and encouragement for, which make them very special to me. I held onto the ones I had finished and



Work by Pat Cato

stayed in my studio. In the past year, I added many to complete the series for me. I feel it's ready to show to the public now.”

“Paints, brushes and canvas were toys to help me experiment and grow and to help express myself,” Cato says. “My inspiration derives from nature, life events and the environment around me. My goal is to produce a thought-provoking piece that makes a connection with the viewer. I strive to bring feeling into my choices of subject matter using my brush, knives, fingers and many other tools. Another strong motivator is my palette. Color and texture have become essential to convey my message. I hope my work makes the viewer stop and look and make their own conclusions. This, I believe, is the fun and fascination of art.”

A native of Pittsburgh, PA, Cato moved to Greenville in 1995 after living in West Virginia. By 2007, she says, she became committed to be a full-time artist. In addition to the Artists Collective | Spartanburg she has exhibited at 80Six Gallery and Tryon Painters and Sculptures, both in Tryon, NC, and has had one-woman shows in the Hyatt Hotel Gallery in Greenville, and the Carri Bass Gallery in Tryon. She has sold paintings nationwide to collectors and patrons of the arts.

“The Artists Collective has been a great experience, and I am enjoying working with these eclectic artists,” Cato says. “I am proud to be a member at a gallery that is growing and being noticed by the Spartanburg community and the surrounding

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cities.”

The 13 works in the exhibition will be offered for purchase, with prices ranging from \$200 to \$1,200.

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

The Artists Collective | Spartanburg, SC, will present *Spring into Summer*, featuring works by Patrick DeCrane and Gale Roberts, on view in Gallery III, from May 7 through June 1, 2024. A reception will be held on May 16, until 8pm, during the ArtWalk Spartanburg.

Spring is bursting out all over, and Upstate artists Patrick DeCrane and Gale Roberts are taking the chance to show nature's beauty through a joint exhibition.

The artists hope the show will encourage visitors to see nature through the eyes of the artists' eyes, says DeCrane. Watercolor works and acrylics by Roberts will be featured.

“The show is light, airy and colorful, with an invitation to stop and enjoy the progression of spring to summer,” DeCrane says. “We enjoy as artists encouraging and motivating each other in our art skills. The use of our individual media allows us to express our art with different contrasts.”

Roberts adds, “Our inspiration is just to enjoy the colorful beauty of nature. This time of the year nature provides us many opportunities to express her beauty. Visitors will see color, nature and comfort. The settings of the artwork provide a calm and comforting feeling of nature.”



Work by Patrick DeCrane

The two have shown their work jointly for the past three years. “We want people to see how two artists who enjoy working together can create a visually satisfying exhibition,” says Roberts, who joined the Artists Collective in 2022. DeCrane joined in 2016. “This show provides an opportunity for the viewer to enjoy nature as it is expressed by two artists.”

The 18 works in the exhibition will be offered for purchase, with prices ranging from \$50 to \$325.

DeCrane, a native of Cleveland, OH, has been painting and drawing most of his adult life, using acrylics, pastels and watercolors,



Work by Gale Roberts

his favorite. “I also find great satisfaction in drawing with pencil and charcoal. My subject matter generally includes flowers, trees and still life.” He began formal art classes in high school. A graduate of Park College and retired from the US Army, he spent 11 years working for the Military Officers Association. Prepared for a new adventure, he then opened, owned and operated a bed and breakfast for 10 years with his life partner, Michael Thomas.

Roberts, a native of Erie, PA, says she enjoys “bringing brush to paint to capture people, places and things that mean something to me when I see them. I like the bright colors that catch my eyes and the happy smiling faces of my grandson or my two golden retrievers. If you look very closely, life will talk to you. The singing of the birds, the movement of the trees, the color of the flowers, the rush of falling waters and even the silence of an old building about to be torn down. I hope you get a taste of the vastness of the colors and the life of our surroundings both indoors and out through some of my art.

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# Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, NC, Offers Group Exhibition

Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, NC, will present *Forever Transient* featuring works by Andrew Leventis, Kenny Nguyen, Colby Caldwell, Brent Dedas, James Henkel, Susan Jedrzejewski, Deb Koo and Jennifer Minnis, on view in the Pauline Dove Gallery, located at the Central Campus: Parr Center, from May 20 through Aug. 9, 2024.

*Forever Transient* visually investigates the meaning behind transience, impermanence, continuous change and the desire to preserve and prolong the temporary moment. Inspired by Dutch still life paintings and vanitas, each artist exemplifies a different creative approach and skill set to artistically render the fragility of time. Time does not stand still. It marches forward and looks back retrospectively at the past. Therefore, the experience of time is never linear, but cyclical.

*Forever Transient* exhibits works by eight nationally and internationally ac-

claimed artists. Through varying processes, each artist composes their work to include vibrant references, and in some cases direct interactions, with nature and humanity.

Andrew Leventis' hyper realistic refrigerator still life paintings, echo the elements of Dutch still life techniques, but with a contemporary and refreshing update of a classic art form. Brent Dedas' “honeybee drawings” incorporate the assistance of live honeybees landing and crawling on his drawings, which Dedas then turns into cyanotype prints.

Colby Caldwell, brings his flatbed scanner along on his nature walks, instead of a camera, and scans natural flora found on the forest floor. James Henkel arranges fragments of glass from destroyed vessels to create organic shapes, therefore showing transience through destruction, change and reformation.

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