

Green Hill Center for NC Art in Greensboro, NC, Offers Exhibition Focused on Woodworking

The Green Hill Center for NC Art in Greensboro, NC, will present *Speaking in Species: A North Carolina Perspective*, features the work of 27 artists, both seasoned makers and the next generation of makers, working in wood. The exhibition funded through a grant from the Windgate Charitable Foundation, on view from June 14 through Aug. 18, 2013.

This exhibition, guest curated by Brent Skidmore, brings the art of woodworking to a new level. Skidmore is an Assistant Professor of Art, Director of Craft Studies at UNC-Asheville and maintains a studio at Grovewood Studios in Asheville. He received his MFA in Sculpture from Indiana University and a BFA in Sculpture from Murray State University where he was first introduced to wood as an artistic medium.

Skidmore's work and processes are included in a 2007 Lark Publication entitled "The Penland Book of Woodworking." He has shown his work extensively across the country as well as internationally; showing in Finland and most recently in Dubai. Exhibitions of Skidmore's personal work have included the Smithsonian Craft Show and SOFA Chicago.

Skidmore, and the group of artists he has selected for *Speaking in Species*, all bring an expressive language to the art of woodworking. "There are over 100,000 species of wood; think about the opportunity for an artist. Every specie of wood brings unique qualities and expressive characteristics. With the 27 artists assembled by Brent Skidmore in *Speaking in Species*, we get a glimpse of the enormity wood offers us in our lives and in art. From furniture to ornamentation and so much in between," said Laura Way, Executive Director of Green Hill Center.

Through the exhibition, Skidmore captures the role wood plays in daily life and its universality. "From cradle to grave, we interact, own and even inhabit things made of wood. From early on, we might encounter bassinets, spoons, bowls, ladles, beds, brooms, shoes, boats, and flying ma-

chines. We walk on bridges to houses in which we live, before finally being buried in a wooden box under a tree. Wood is ubiquitous, common and simultaneously complex all at the same time," he said.

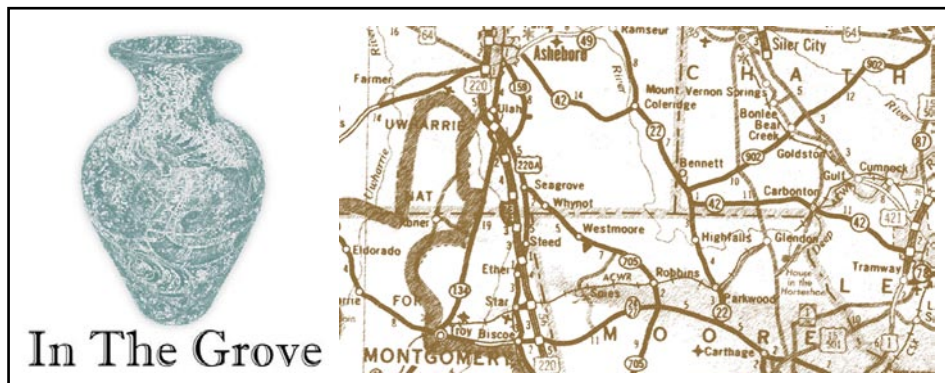
From his strong network of colleagues, Skidmore selected artists who embrace innovation, longevity and creativity. Fulltime makers, industry specialists and educators are all represented; each using wood in unique ways. Beyond the variety of experience and talent, the viewer will be exposed to an unexpected culmination of sculpture, fine craft, instruments, illustrations and painted surfaces in works both large and small in scale.

Skidmore said, "I wanted a mixture of works ranging from traditional, like a Windsor chair, to the most exciting wooden sculpture out there; works that would stand up well outside of the home boundaries." The works range from functional furniture, like Richard Prisco and John Clark, to the monumental sculptural work of Stoney Lamar. This is juxtaposed to the visionary work of Elizabeth Alexander, Sylvia Rosenthal and others.

Participating artists include: Chris Abel, Elizabeth Alexander, Fatie Atkinson, Elia Bizzari, David Caldwell, John Clark, Melissa Engler, Dustin Farnsworth, Brian Fireman, Russell Gale, Mark Gardner, Derek Hennigar, Robyn Horn, Stoney Lamar, Timothy Maddox, David Merrifield, Brad Reed Nelson, Kurt Nielsen, George Peterson, Richard Prisco, Nathan Rose, Sylvie Rosenthal, Tom Shields, Al Spicer, Joël Urruty, Michael Waldeck, and Robert Winkler.

Green Hill Center for NC Art is located on North Davie Street, in the Greensboro Cultural Center. Green Hill Center is the only non-collecting institution dedicated to presenting, promoting, and advocating contemporary visual art and artists of North Carolina.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call 336/333-7460 or visit (www.greenhillcenter.org).



by Rhonda McCanless

The month of June is off to a great start in Seagrove, NC, with big pottery events at Bulldog Pottery and Donna Craven Pottery. "Cousins in Clay" at Bulldog Pottery



Work by Michael Kline is June 1 & 2. Potters Bruce Gholson and Samantha Henneke will host the event, along with their mountain pottery "cousin" Michael Kline. "Cousins" is a contem-

porary pottery show and sale that invites nationally well-known potters to join in the fun. This year's guests are David MacDonald from Syracuse, NY, and Jack Troy, from Huntingdon, PA.

The event will be held in the white house at Bulldog Pottery, 3306 U.S. Highway 220 in Seagrove. Visitors can enjoy live bouzouki music performed by Chronis and throwing demonstrations by Gholson and Kline on Saturday. The two will discuss how they became potters.

Everyone is invited to join in the fun for a potters' potluck on Sunday at noon. Jack Troy will discuss his pottery life through poetry. For more information, call (336) 302-3469 or visit (www.CousinsInClay.com).

Donna Craven Pottery will hold a Spring Kiln Opening on June 1, from 9am to 5pm. The opening will feature wood-fired and salt glazed decorative and functional wares. Donna Craven Pottery is located at 2616 Old Cox Road in Asheboro. For more information, call (336) 629-8173 or e-mail at (donnacraven@embarqmail.com).

Pottery by Frank Neef will celebrate three years in Seagrove on June 8, from 10am to 5pm. Neef will give studio tours and demonstrate his unique process of

Eck McCanless Pottery



Demonstrations available anytime!

Eck is a second-generation Seagrove potter who has spent nearly 20 years perfecting his craft. He specializes in **Agataware, Crystalline and Stoneware.**

6077 Old US Hwy 220
Seagrove, NC 27341
(336) 873-7412

www.EckMcCanless.webs.com

Discover the Seagrove Potteries

Seagrove is a Community of Working Potters & home to the North Carolina Pottery Center

You're invited....

to visit the Seagrove potters at their workshops & studios nestled in the countryside.

Experience a diversity of pottery from contemporary, one-of-a-kind art pottery, to traditional utilitarian forms, & folk art

It's an Adventure....

Pick up a free colored map at any of the pottery shops

Seagrove is located in the Center of North Carolina 40 miles south of Greensboro on Hwy. 220 (future I-73, I-74)

www.discoverseagrove.com



Ikebana dish by Frank Neef

call Martha Graves at (336) 873-7887.

The North Carolina Pottery Center welcomes Lindsey Lambert as the center's new executive director. He is the former director of the Brock Historical Museum and College Archives at Greensboro College. Lambert is also president of the North Carolina Museums Council, an all-volunteer not for profit organization comprised of several hundred museum professionals across the state.

Currently on display at the pottery center is *Big Red: Chrome Red and Other Red Glazes of the North Carolina Piedmont*.

The exhibit will be on display until July 27. The NCPC is located at 233 East Avenue in Seagrove. For more information, call (336) 873-8430 or visit (www.ncpotterycenter.org).

Coming in July

Coming up in July is Latham's Pottery's 20th Year Open House Celebration on July 13. Christmas in July at the NC Museum of Traditional Pottery is July 19-21. Michèle Hastings & Jeff Brown Pottery and Eck McCanless Pottery will celebrate shop anniversaries with a special event July 20.

Rhonda McCanless is editor and publisher of *In the Grove*, a monthly newsletter about Seagrove, NC that focuses on pottery news. Click the link to see the latest issue. Rhonda works full-time for Central Park NC in Star and can sometimes be found at her husband's pottery shop, Eck McCanless Pottery, located at 6077 Old U.S. Highway 220 in Seagrove, NC. She can be reached at (336) 879-6950 or e-mail to (professional_page@rtmc.net).

piercing porcelain. Drawings for two wine goblets and an Ikebana dish will be held at 1pm and 4pm.

Frank and his wife, Cindy, invite visitors to join them for iced tea and cookies, and check out the latest work in the gallery, located at 258 East Main Street in Seagrove. Neef specializes in crystalline pottery with intricate hand-cut designs. Visit (www.PotteryByFrankNeef.com) to learn more about Neef's work. Call (336) 872-4013 for more information about the anniversary celebration.

"Seagrove Summerfest" will be held at the Museum of NC Traditional Pottery on June 14 & 15. Pottery demonstrations and refreshments will be available. A list of participating potters can be picked up at the museum. Participating shops will feature new summer wares. For more information,

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