

# Crimson Laurel Gallery

continued from Page 27

Cleveland Institute of Art and her MFA from California College of Arts and Crafts. She has been the recipient of the North Carolina Arts Council Fellowship and the Virginia Groot Foundation Grant in 1999 and 2011. Clague's work has been exhibited at the Macon Museum of Art, Georgia; The DeCordova Museum & Sculpture Park, Massachusetts; The John Elder Gallery, New York and The Udinotti Museum of Figurative Art, Arizona. She participated in the *3rd World Ceramic Biennale, Trans Ceramic Art* in Korea and currently resides in North Carolina.

David Robinson's forms explore "shared human experience, especially the quiet struggles and obstacles we all face." Deepened by inspiration from the literature of Shakespeare, T.S. Eliot and Raymond Carver, abstracted human forms become the stage for unfolding human dramas. Family and other human relationships fascinate him and add a personal element to his work. Recently fascinated by the form of the human hand "as a kind of three-dimensional canvas from which figures and narratives emerge," his use of the hand brings to mind the connection between the act of making and processing stories and emotions. Robinson sometimes uses text in his work, which he says represents stream of consciousness.

Robinson says about his characters, "They long to find peace or consolation but this yearning is met with only a mixed degree of success. In spite of this darkness, or perhaps because of it, I also hope to inject a bit of a sense of humor as a counterpoint."

Robinson has also explored drawing and painting, but finds the most satisfaction in translating his "ideas and mental images" into permanent, three-dimensional forms, the way some people may keep a diary. His rich surfaces do justice to the emotional weight of subjects, through combinations of engobes, underglazes, and oxides/stains or layers of cold pigment applied after the firing.

Crimson Laurel Gallery will also be presenting the exhibit *New Work: by Shadow May and Jerilyn Verden*. Although each artist's work is quite distinct, both Shadow May and Jerilyn Verden create pieces that are quiet tonally, allowing the inventiveness of their forms to shine. Each artist is equally fluent in slab-techniques and wheel-throwing and carries a rich vocabulary of form and surface. Soulful, eggshell surfaces merge with vessels inspired by Japanese armor; deceptively light, organic, twisting forms lay ready to receive a meal or to change the character of a room. While much of the work in this exhibition is functional, it possesses a dual identity as sculpture.

May's style constantly evolves with a rare braveness born from technical

mastery through early apprenticeships and production work. Confidence with his medium allows him to work intuitively and expressively with bold gestures and inventive surfaces. May is a hard worker, doing numerous shows every year, which gives the rapid evolution of his work a steady, organic feel without sacrificing expressiveness. May continually asks himself, "Did I do enough in my life? Did I live in fear too often? Did I challenge myself to taste greatness?" This continual questing has led him to use 2-part car-epoxy as a surface and to mimic wood-fire techniques in a cone-6 oxidation environment. May's work has been seen in over a hundred juried fine arts shows nationally, and he currently assists in the Ceramics Department at the University of Tennessee,



Work by Jerilyn Verden

Chattanooga.

"Using the vernacular of the vessel," Jerilyn Verden uses "earthenware clay to create intimate spaces." Verden's sensual work plays with scale, "moving from intimacy to expansion, in the way one understands a landscape by knowing both the small stone at one's feet and the bulk of the mountain far away." Using layers of glazes and terra sigillata, she clarifies her forms without erasing the history of their making. Repeated scraping, sculpting, pinching, building up and excavating add depth and character to her functional and sculptural work. Before relocating to the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont, she was a studio artist in Mitchell County, NC, for 10 years.

In 2006 Verden received a North Carolina Arts Fellowship Grant. She was an artist-in-residence at Penland School of Crafts from 2001-2004. She received her MFA from Southern Methodist University in 2001. Before attending graduate school she completed a two-year assistantship at the studio of Silvie Granatelli, in Floyd, Virginia. She graduated with a BFA from West Virginia University in 1997 and has also studied abroad at the Jing-de-zhen Ceramic Art Institute in China. Verden's work has been exhibited at the Mint Museum of Craft + Design and she has work in the permanent collection of the Asheville Art Museum and NCECA.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/688-3599 or visit ([www.crimsonlaurelgallery.com](http://www.crimsonlaurelgallery.com)).

## The Bascom in Highlands, NC, Offers Works by Appalachian Pastel Society

The Bascom, a Center for Visual Arts in Highlands, NC, will present *2014 Appalachian Pastel Society National Exhibition*, featuring some of the finest examples of contemporary pastel art in the region, on view in the Bunzl Gallery, from Oct. 4 through Jan. 4, 2015. On Oct. 4, a demo will be offered by Stan Sperak, at 2pm; a reception will be held from 5-7pm; and at 6pm a curator's talk will be given.

The exhibition is a biennial event organized by the Appalachian Pastel Society to provide competition opportunities for fine pastellists around the country. The society was formed in 2006 to promote an understanding and appreciation of pastel painting throughout the Appalachian Region. For more info visit ([www.AppalachianPastelSociety.org](http://www.AppalachianPastelSociety.org)).

Stan Sperlak is the 2014 juror. He was trained at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts and continued his development with Patrick Arnold, Pennsylvania Academy, and Patricia Vanaman Witt, Barn



2012 National Exhibition award winner, by Kate Thayer

Studio of Art. He is a signature member of the Pastel Society of America, the Maryland Pastel Society, the Pastel Society of Colorado, the Mid Atlantic Plein Air Painters Association and The Cape May County Art League.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call The Bascom at 828/526-4949, or visit ([www.thebascom.org](http://www.thebascom.org)).

## Arts Council of Henderson County in Hendersonville, NC, Offers Annual Art on Main - Oct. 4 & 5, 2014

The Arts Council of Henderson County will present the 55th annual Art on Main fine art/fine craft festival along Hendersonville, NC's historic Main Street, Oct. 4 & 5, 2014. Festival hours will be 10am-5pm both days.

One of the region's most popular outdoor arts festivals, Art on Main will feature fine arts and fine crafts from local and regional artists, as well as many artists from states beyond the southeast region. More than 70 artists will participate in this juried and judged festival.

Among the new artists for this year is jeweler Ivy Solomon. She comes to Art on Main from Oak Park, MI, where she creates her silver and resin jewelry. Solomon has won recognition for her colorful pieces from publications and art fairs across the country.

Also new to Art on Main, Keith Berner uses up-cycled materials to create his metal art. His work includes wall pieces and wrist cuffs that make an unusual and visual statement. Berner is a Hendersonville resident, and a recent Regional Artist Project Grant awardee.

Amy Perrier, new to Western North Carolina, brings her acrylic paintings of nature to us from Michigan.

Brian Kuehn, local pastel artist has had one of his images chosen as Art on Main's marketing image for 2014. His pastel painting, "The Pond," will be seen on postcards, posters and T-shirts promoting this year's show.



Work by Ivy Solomon

Nancy Straley, of Columbia, SC, will return to Art on Main with her wildlife drawings. She uses colored pencils on exotic handmade papers to achieve the visual richness of her drawings.

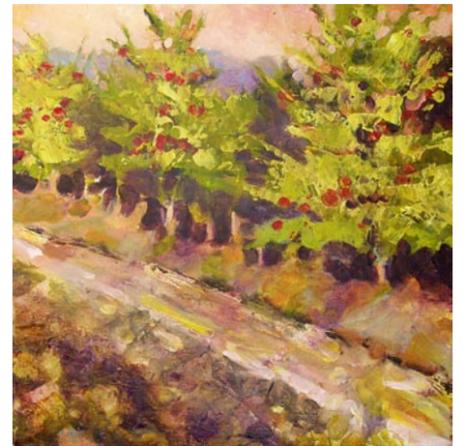
The Art on Main committee has also gathered a diverse group of artists for live arts demonstrations which will be interspersed throughout historic Main Street this year. Demonstrations will include raku pottery, journal crafting, calligraphy, blacksmithing, basket making, pastels, and painting. Artists will take time to explain their processes and motivation and many will have finished work for sale.

Three distinguished judges will be judging the artist's work and booths to determine winners for \$3,000 in prize money. In addition to the \$1,000 Best of Show Award, first place (\$500), and second place (\$300) prizes will be awarded in both categories of fine art and fine craft. Four Honorable Mentions of \$100 each will also be awarded.

## Art League of Henderson County in Hendersonville, NC, Features Works by Kimberly Walton

The Art League of Henderson County in Hendersonville, NC, will be presenting an exhibit of works by local abstract artist and teacher Kimberly Walton, on view in the Sylvia Campbell Room, from Oct. 11 through Nov. 6, 2014. A reception will be held on Oct. 12, beginning at 1:30pm.

Walton will present her new abstract paintings inspired by motherhood and demonstrate her spontaneous process of abstract painting with non-traditional materials. She is presently exploring art



Work by Amy Perrier

The Art on Main committee is honored to have three distinguished judges for the 55th Art on Main. Stephanie Moore is the Executive Director of the Center for Craft, Creativity and Design, a nationally recognized nonprofit based in Asheville, NC, that advances the understanding of craft by supporting research, critical dialogue, and professional development. Moore, now an Asheville resident, lived in Washington, DC, for over 20 years and last served as the Director of Visual Arts for VSA, an affiliate of The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Joel Smeltzer is School Programs Coordinator for the Mint Museums. He holds a BS in art education from Trenton State College and an MA in American History with a concentration in Museum Studies from UNC Greensboro. Smeltzer collaborates with local and regional artists to create and implement museum and studio programming for teachers and students.

Susan Buser has had a life-long love for the arts in a wide variety of activities and pursuits. She has worked in costume design and construction for grand opera and Shakespearean plays, run her own embroidery business, explored textile and paper arts, and developed programs as Director of arts organizations. Buser is currently the Director of the Tryon Arts and Crafts School, where she is working to provide a strong new direction for the school as it develops into a regional school for teaching of traditional and contemporary craft.

Art on Main is presented by the Arts Council of Henderson County with major support provided by Morris Broadband. In addition, the festival is supported by the Henderson County Visitors Information Center, the Dr. Minor F. Watts Fund at the Community Foundation of Henderson County, the City of Hendersonville, Mast General Store, and *Bold Life Magazine*.

The Arts Council of Henderson County is a community organization that promotes, advocates for and nurtures the arts in Henderson County and western North Carolina. The Arts Council is supported in part by the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the Department of Cultural Resources; funds administered by the Community Foundation of Henderson County, Henderson County, and Henderson County Travel and Tourism.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Council at 828/693-8504 or visit ([www.acofhc.org](http://www.acofhc.org)).

materials and non traditional surfaces. She "paints" with oil sticks, spray paint, charcoal, acrylic paint. Walton has exhibited throughout the southeast with group, juried and solo exhibits, and has won a number of awards for her work.

Also the Art League members will exhibit their response to a challenge to create paintings that include some type of reflections. The members' exhibit will be displayed in the hallways.

continued on Page 29