

# Toe River Arts Council Burnsville

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The Toe River Arts Council is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to connecting art and the people. They are funded, in part, by grants and by people who understand the benefit of art to a

thriving community.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/682-7215 or visit ([www.toeriverarts.org](http://www.toeriverarts.org)).

## Toe River Arts Council in Spruce Pine Features Annual Juried Show

The Toe River Arts Council in Spruce Pine, NC, will present the *Toe River Juried Art Show*, on view in the Spruce Pine TRAC Gallery, from Oct. 1 through Nov. 5, 2016. A reception will be held on Oct. 7, from 5-7pm.

Over 150 works were submitted for consideration and 80 pieces in all mediums were accepted and will be on display. These works were juried by Sherry Masters. Masters has been a buyer for the Allanstand Craft Shop of the Southern Highland Craft Guild and manager of the Grovewood Gallery. Currently she owns and operates the ArtsConnections that connect art lovers and art makers in custom designed tours.

This is TRAC's second annual artist competition. Artists were invited to submit work from the surrounding states of SC, TN, VA, and GA. Denise Cook, the Arts Council's Executive Director offered, "This second response was welcoming. This is an opportunity for our artists to showcase their work, and by opening up the competition to other states, we are inviting those outside our community to visit our counties' mountainous beauty and limitless talent."

The Toe River Arts Council is a non-profit organization founded in 1976 with a mission to connect the community with



Work by Ingrid Carson

the arts. It is sustained in part by grants from regional and national organizations, local governments, and from memberships and donations from people who believe that arts are vital to a community's growth and a child's development.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/765-0520 or visit ([www.toeriverarts.org](http://www.toeriverarts.org)).

## Caldwell Arts Council in Lenoir, NC, Features Group Exhibition

The Caldwell Arts Council in Lenoir, NC, will present *2 SQUARED*, featuring works by Jon Sours (Asheville, NC), Mercedes Jelinek (Penland, NC), Tamie Beldue (Black Mountain, NC) and Rob Amberg (Marshall, NC), on view from Oct. 7 through Nov. 19, 2016. A reception will be held on Oct. 7, from 5-7pm.

Jon Sours spent his formative years in New York and Nebraska, where he received his BFA in 2006 at the University of Nebraska, Omaha. He has worked as a landscaper, film projectionist and obituary clerk, but currently works as an art handler and gallery curator in Asheville, NC. He considers painting his main preoccupation. Sours' work has been exhibited across the country, and extensively in North Carolina. He was awarded an Artist Residency at the Kimmel Harding Nelson Center in 2013.

Sours says, "I paint figures but try to avoid literal depictions of people. A common theme in my work is the act of judgment or appraisal. Reference materials such as photographs, film stills or magazine clippings serve as a jumping off point. The details inherent in these materials are essential to making a convincing picture, but tend to be distorted or made inaccurate in my depiction."

Mercedes Jelinek is a photographer who is currently a Resident Artist at Penland School of Crafts in Penland, NC. She received a BFA in photography from the State University of New York at Purchase and an MFA from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. Her work has been exhibited both nationally and internationally including exhibits at the Ogden Museum, Gaston County Museum, Soho Photo Gallery and numerous private collections. She was also recently shown in the the *30 Under-30* exhibit at the Vermont Center of Photography, the *This is a Photograph* exhibit at the Penland Gallery, and was chosen as an artist for the NEXT Gala at the Asheville Art Museum.

Jelinek's Neighborhood Photo Booth Project, "began with a goal: to try and



Work by Rob Amberg

make a new home more inviting by meeting and photographing all those that live in my neighborhood. I have continued this project for the past four years in three separate locations: Baton Rouge, LA; Brooklyn, NY; and now to my new home as a Resident Artist at Penland School of Crafts. My tools of choice consist of multiple film-based cameras, a homemade photo booth backdrop, and a sign that reads, *Photographs for Neighborhood Photo Project*, announcing the project to everyone who passes by. In return for helping me build a sense of community, I give a silver gelatin filmstrip print to every one of my neighbors in person or by mail. I see this as a chance to break away from today's digital media, and a way to give a tangible gift that can be passed down for generations. This project will always remain free to all the people who sit for me. Print sales go towards funding film, photo chemicals, and postage for the project."

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THERE'S A FINE LINE BETWEEN PRICELESS AND WORTHLESS.



Artist Diane Falkenhagen's Texas studio — destroyed by flooding during Hurricane Ike, 2008

What would you do if you lost your work, your tools, your images, and a lot more to a flood? Metalsmith Diane Falkenhagen knows what five feet of contaminated saltwater can do to a jewelry studio. CERF+ can help you learn how to protect your career from crossing that fine line.

**CERF+**  
THE ARTISTS'  
SAFETY NET

[CraftEmergency.org](http://CraftEmergency.org) + [StudioProtector.org](http://StudioProtector.org)



Work by Mercedes Jelinek

photographing about the evolving culture and environment of his adopted county. His first book, *Sodom Laurel Album*, was published in 2002 by the Center for Documentary Studies at Duke and the University of North Carolina Press. It won the Thomas Wolfe Memorial Literary Award from the Western North Carolina Historical Association. His second book from Madison County, *The New Road: I-26 and the Footprints of Progress in Appalachia*, was published in 2009 by the Center for American Places at Columbia College Chicago and the University of Georgia Press. To complete the trilogy, a third book, tentatively titled *Little Worlds*, is in progress.

Throughout his career Amberg has been on staff or done assignment work for non-profit organizations and philanthropic foundations. His work has largely focused on rural communities, family farms, and the environment. His work is regularly published in books, magazines, and journals and is exhibited internationally. He is the recipient of awards from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Endowment for the Arts, the North Carolina Humanities Council, the North Carolina Arts Council, the Center for Documentary Studies, and others. Amberg's photographs are in

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