

Furman University in Greenville, SC, Features Works by Nishiki Sugawara-Beda

Furman University in Greenville, SC, will present *HANA*, featuring works by Nishiki Sugawara-Beda, on view in the Thompson Gallery, Roe Art Building, from Nov. 20 through Dec. 12, 2017. A reception will be held on Nov. 29, from 6-7:30pm.

The exhibition is free and open to the public and is sponsored by the Furman Department of Art.

Sugawara-Beda was born and raised in Japan, where all schoolchildren learn calligraphy. This craft and the art of Japanese ink painting “Sumi-e” provide the foundation and inspiration for her practice. In her current series of work, she explores the relationship between written language and image on paper substrate.

Sugawara-Beda, whose work is supported through a grant from Arts Idaho, says, “My paintings begin as densely layered linguistic compositions expressing a particular theme. For a native Japanese speaker, occasionally characters can be glimpsed and read in the literal sense. Yet more often, these layers explore possible nuances of a phrase or phrases, introducing complexity and contradictions.

“I use watercolor paper for its ability to capture the ink of a brush; calligraphy is a dance, frozen in time, which once executed



Work by Nishiki Sugawara-Beda

cannot be revisited. As in the Japanese tradition of the craft, I am a performer on the surface of the paper as I choose those aspects of the language I wish to reveal, and those I may wish to wash away in ambiguity.”

A resident of Moscow, Idaho, Sugawara-Beda holds a Master of Fine Arts in Painting from Indiana University (Bloomington) and a Bachelor of Arts in Fine Arts from Portland State University (Oregon).

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or call the Furman University Department of Art at 864/294-2995.

Furman University in Greenville, SC, Features Annual Juried Show

Furman University in Greenville, SC, is presenting *Various Selves: Identity and Identities*, the 4th annual juried art exhibition by students and faculty of Furman University’s Undergraduate Evening Studies (UES), on view in the Baiden Gallery of the Herring Center for Continuing Education, through Nov. 20, 2017.

Thirty works of art, of various media, were curated by Furman Associate Professor of Art Michael Brodeur who says, “The theme of this year’s exhibition, *Various Selves*, lends itself to many approaches and interpretations. In my deliberations, I aimed to embody the concept of self and ‘the other’ implied in the theme either through metaphorical expression, exploration of self, or portrayal of others.”

UES Director Beth Crews says students, alumni, staff and professors are

fortunate to have a community showplace in the Herring Center for displaying their collective creative work. “Evening students are working adults, none of whom are art majors or professional artists. 70 works were submitted for consideration. It’s remarkable to be able to curate so many high-quality pieces from this group,” she says.

Participating artists in this year’s exhibition are: Erin Albrecht, David Bernardy, Ashton Godwin, Jennifer Grissop, Bryan Hiott, Tammy Moore, Tiffany Murphy, Scott Murr, Raven Ostlind, Pamela Rastatter, Sam Tisdale, David Williams.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call Media Relations Office at 864/294-3107 or visit (furman.edu/ues).

Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC, Offers Look at Its Collection

Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC, is presenting *In the Service of Teaching and Learning: An Inaugural Exhibition of the Wofford Fine Arts Collection*, featuring some 50 selections of this vast fine arts collection, on display on both levels of the Richardson Family Art Museum in the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts, through Dec. 18, 2017.

With more than 1,200 pieces – paintings; prints, watercolors and sketches on paper; Chinese ink rubbings; and Asian, Middle Eastern and African artifacts and objects – Wofford College’s Fine Arts Collection has served as a valuable educational, historical and cultural treasure-trove throughout the college’s history.

Acquired from the college’s foundational days in the mid-19th century to today, the collection includes 300 works – almost a complete collection – by American Southern artist Julia Elizabeth Tolbert, some 200 pieces of Chinese ink rubbings, a collection of Hungarian paintings donated by the late Sandor Teszler and Drs. Francis and Livia Robicsek, and a variety of other artworks and objects.

“The Wofford Fine Arts Collection has served as a valuable educational resource that strengthens, supports and contributes to academic research on campus in a variety of disciplines,” Dr. Youmi Efurud says. “The primary focus in selecting the works for the exhibition was given to the mission of the collection – their use in teaching



Dr. Youmi Efurud, curator and cultural events coordinator, prepares the latest exhibition in the Richardson Family Art Museum in the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts. In the foreground is a metal “Seated Buddha” from the 19th century, a gift to the college from Edwin Thomason. (photo by Mark Olencki / Wofford College)

and facilitating learning.”

Dr. Karen Goodchild, professor and chair of the Department of Art and Art History, notes that Dr. David Efurud, associate professor of fine arts, is teaching a survey of Asian art, a course required for every art history major and one many non-majors take to fulfill their cultures and peoples or fine arts requirement. “The 48 students in his classes will be working with the objects on display in this exhibition, bringing their classroom-gained knowledge about Asian objects to shed light on actual works of art. Also, Dr. Peter Schmunk (professor of humanities) is teaching an upper-level course on 19th

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century art, and his students will work with the Impressionist paintings from the permanent collection being shown.”

Goodchild notes that descriptions for a number of the works will provide visitors with information about student research from past years into those works.

The works provide “a unique opportunity for students to work with artifacts and art objects – paintings, sculptures, ceramics, tapestries – something that rarely happens with undergraduates, even at larger institutions,” Efurud adds. “Their employment enhances the level of students’ research as well as facilitates a deeper engagement of historical and cultural settings beyond what is stated in textbooks.”

Many of the works in the college’s Fine Arts Collection were donated by benefactors, art lovers and sometimes the artists themselves, Efurud says. “While the collection goes back to the college’s foundational days – collecting portraits of significant figures, such as our founder, Benjamin Wofford – as an art collection, the major landmark was during the early 1990s when the late Sandor Teszler donated a group of Hungarian impressionist and post-impressionist works,” she says. That collection inspired the donation in recent years of additional Hungarian paintings by the Robicsek family of Charlotte, NC.

Wofford became the largest holder of Julia Tolbert’s art in 2011 when two generations of the family donated nearly the entire life-work corpus – including paintings in oil, watercolor and gouache as well as drawings, prints, jewelry and ceramics.

Chinese stone rubbings – 285 of them – collected by the late German diplomat Karl-August Balsler in 1911 in Xian, China, were donated by his family to the Wofford permanent collection.

The exhibition includes a wide variety of the important works donated to the



college, Efurud says. “I wanted to show the broad span of selected works the college has been collecting, and this exhibition is a great opportunity for us to show how the collection is being displayed and employed for the betterment of the college community and beyond,” she says. “I also wanted to emphasize how donated works of art facilitate education at a liberal arts college.”

Efurud says guided tours and children’s education programs can be arranged at the Richardson Family Art Museum on request; contact Miriam Thomas, arts administrator, by e-mail at (thomasmh@wofford.edu).

Wofford College, established in 1854, is a four-year, residential liberal arts college located in Spartanburg, SC. It offers 25 major fields of study to a student body of 1,650 undergraduates. Nationally known for the strength of its academic program, outstanding faculty, study abroad participation and successful graduates, Wofford is home to one of the nation’s 283 Phi Beta Kappa chapters. The college community enjoys Greek Life as well as 19 NCAA Division I athletics teams.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call Laura H. Corbin, Director of News Services Office of Marketing and Communications, at 864/597-4180 or e-mail to (laura.corbin@wofford.edu).

The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be Nov. 24th for the December 2017 issue and Dec. 24 for the January 2018 issue. After that, it’s too late unless your exhibit runs into the next month. But don’t wait for the last minute - send your info now. And where do you send that info? E-mail to (info@carolinaarts.com).