



Clemson University & The Arts Center in Clemson, SC, Features Exhibitions of Works from State Arts Collection

The State Art Collection: Contemporary Conversations Part II, an exhibition of nearly 52 pieces of original art produced by notable South Carolina artists, will be on view throughout the City of Clemson, SC, beginning Jan. 10 and continuing through Feb. 16, 2011. The free exhibition can be seen at three locations: The Arts Center in downtown Clemson, Clemson University's Lee Gallery, and Brooks Center for the Performing Arts. As part of the month-long exhibition, a free public reception will take place on Saturday, Jan. 15, from 10am-2pm, at all three venues. The Clemson Area Transit (CAT) will provide transportation to drive patrons to each exhibition location.

"The exhibition is designed to suggest both the quality and diversity of the state's cultural heritage," said exhibition curator Eleanor Heartney.

Contemporary Conversations Part II is composed of work by 47 artists. "The exhibition includes everything from hard-edge geometric abstractions to surrealist tinged landscapes. Works are inspired by social issues, memory, local and national history, imagination, art of the past and aesthetic theory," added Heartney, an independent cultural critic, author, and contributing editor to *Art in America* and *Artpress*. Heartney has also written for major cultural publications, including

Sculpture magazine, the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times* and many others.

The art is drawn from the South Carolina Arts Commission's State Art Collection, a comprehensive public collection of works by contemporary South Carolina artists. Established in 1967 as one of the first programs of the commission, the State Art Collection includes nearly 500 works in a variety of media and styles produced by almost 300 artists.

The exhibition features by Tarleton Blackwell, Phillip Mullen, Gunar Strazdins, Edwin Lewandowski, and others. Upstate artists included in the exhibition are David Detrich, Sydney Cross, Cecile Martin, Robert Silance, and Carl Blair.

Exhibition curator Eleanor Heartney will discuss her recently published survey of contemporary art, which examines the complex diversities of work being produced today. Her presentation "Art Today: Tales of Plastic Surgery, Genetically Altered Rabbits, and Other Acts of Art" is at 5pm on Thursday, Feb. 3, 2011, in Lee Hall, room 111. The discussion is free to the public. Following her presentation, all three venues will be open for extended viewing 6-7:30pm.

For further info check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, contact Denise Woodward-Detrich, Director, [Lee Gallery](#) by calling 864/656-3899 or e-mail to (woodwaw@clemson.edu).

Skyuka Fine Art Opens in Tryon, NC

Skyuka Fine Art in Tryon, NC, is a premier art gallery owned by Kim Nelson and her husband, artist Richard Christian Nelson. There will be an Open House to celebrate the new gallery on Jan. 1, 2011, from 1-5pm. That's 1-1-11 @ 1! It's free and all are invited.

Tryon is a picturesque town nestled in the Foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, with a long history of notable artists and artisans.

Skyuka Fine Art specializes in traditional styles of landscape, still life and figurative painting. In addition to Nelson, the gallery features artists who have reached a high level of success in their careers such as Richard Oversmith, Linda Cheek, Kelly Welch, and Anne and William Jameson. No-

table artists of the past from the collection of Tryon art dealer Nowell Guffey will also be on display.

Often the artists featured have significant relationships with the locale. The Nelsons have also gotten to know many nationally known artists through Rich's career as a portrait and gallery artist, and they hope to bring many of these friends to Tryon for exhibitions and workshops. Eventually they would like to represent sculptors, fine art craftspeople, and all sorts of artists.

Along with original artwork, the gallery will have gift items such as greeting cards and books featuring some of the artists.

In addition to traditional shows and open-

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ings, Skyuka Fine Art will host art-related events such as workshops, lectures, and performances. They intend to grow with the community of local galleries and businesses to make Tryon a destination for art lovers by co-hosting events such as gallery strolls and combined openings. Their ultimate goal will be for art lovers to find the gallery, its website, and the area to be a creative place where they can enjoy, discuss and purchase fantastic artwork.

Check out their website at (www.SkyukaFineArt.com). Be sure to sign up for the gallery's email newsletter.

Skyuka Fine Art is located at 133 North Trade street in Tryon. Hours are 10am-5pm, Tuesday through Saturday, and by appointment anytime.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call Kim Nelson at 828/817-3783, or e-mail her at (kim@richnelson.com).

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