### CURTIS R. HARLEY A R T G A L L E R Y

# PERSISTENCE MANA HEWITT



### January 11 - February 15 Artist Reception: January 31 @ 4:30 p.m.

### West Main Artists Co-op

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and everything is art. I usually begin a new painting with random brush strokes of color, or I sling paint onto the canvas to create violent and uncontrolled responses to the music. The work's unpredictability and intuitively create a responsibility to the rhythm of the music and emotional connection I have with the content of the music. I connect sound to emotion, and I see colors when I hear the music. The music gives me a sense of direction when I create. Nothing is ever planned! I guess it takes the fun out of creating. Most of my most recent work has been influenced by taking a big risk and finding new combinations that I had not done before. It excites me to see my experiments come alive. Sometimes I think my paintings have a mind of their own. The way they speak to me while I meditate. I listen and the vibrations of the music in the room help me connect to my abilities and allow me to surrender to the canvas become one with the art. As a musician, everything I create is full circle. When I create, life makes way more sense." Dewi Maya said, "Good work in my opinion is art that does not imitate the work of others. Good material and leather selection also support the beauty of a work of art. I am learning to be better and more honest in my art. Thank you for appreciating my creativity." West Main Artists Co-op is a non-profit arts gallery located on West Main Street in Spartanburg. It has about 50 members



JIK by Dewi Waya

whose work spans the visual arts spectrum. It also has performance artists. Now in its tenth year, the Co-op routinely has three exhibitions each month, often showing the work of non-member guest artists. It is housed in a 20,000-square-foot converted church that includes studio space for the members, four galleries, two stages, and the largest collection of "for sale" art in the county. For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (www.WestMainArtists.org). printmaking, ceramics, and sculpture. Each artist has grown in artistic practice since graduating from Converse College, taking on new media and shifting subject matter that progressed from their original course of study. In addition to their campus connection, the work of these artists shares overarching themes of memory, nostalgia, storytelling and the idea of their work being more than what meets the eye at first glance. Participating artist Linda Hudgins '61 said, "I am grateful to be selected for this exhibition as an alumnae and also to have the opportunity to share my visual voice with Spartanburg."

Featuring glass walls on two sides, Milliken Art Gallery provides an exhibit space with visual access to exhibitions around the clock. During much of the year, the gallery is filled by the work of a wide variety of professional artists. In addition to exhibiting, visiting artists present workshops and lectures that are open to the public. In April and May, the gallery displays exhibits by Converse students.

Converse College was founded in

The USC Upstate Visual Arts Program includes Bachelor of Arts programs in: Art Studio (graphic design emphasis) Art Education Art History (minor)

#### Harley Gallery:

The Gallery, located on the first floor of the Humanities & Performing Arts Center, is free and open to the public from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

#### To learn more:

Find Us Online: www.uscupstate.edu/harleygallery f curtisrharleyartgallery @HarleyArtGallry

Or Contact:

Mark Flowers Gallery Coordinator (864) 503-5848 mflowers@uscupstate.edu

Jane Nodine *Gallery Director* (864) 503-5838 jnodine@uscupstate.edu



University of South Carolina Upstate

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Work by Linda Gritta

beyond traditional boundaries to make a quality, educational experience available to every student who seeks it – both at the undergraduate level for women and at the postgraduate level for male and female students. Converse College's mission is to help students develop their unique voice, a sense of value, and a vision for the future.

For further information check our SC

## **Converse College in Spartanburg, SC, Offers An Alumnae Exhibition**

Converse College in Spartanburg, SC, will present, *NEXT: Art & Design Alumnae Exhibition*, featuring the works of five alumnae spanning five decades in a group exhibition, on view in the Milliken Gallery, from Jan. 10 - 31, 2019. A reception will be held on Jan. 10, beginning at 6:30pm. Page 12 - Carolina Arts, January 2019

NEXT: Art & Design Alumnae Exhibition will showcase the work of alumnae Carly Drew '11, Mandy Ferguson '15, Linda Gritta '04, Linda Hudgins '61 and Caren Stansell '15. The artworks will include drawings, paintings, mixed media, *continued above on next column to the right*  1889 by citizens of Spartanburg, SC, who aimed to create an educational experience that enables women to see clearly, decide wisely, and act justly." Today, Converse is a visionary liberal arts college pushing Institutional Gallery listings, contact Kathryn H. Boucher, Gallery Director by calling 864/596-9181 or e-mail to (kathryn.boucher@converse.edu).

### University of South Carolina Upstate in Spartanburg, SC, Features Works by Cuban Artists

The University of South Carolina Upstate in Spartanburg, SC, will present *Selections from the Clyde Hensley Collection of East Cuban Art*, on view at the Upstate Gallery on Main, in downtown Spartanburg, from Jan. 10 through Feb. 23, 2019. A reception will be held on Jan. 17, from 5-8pm, held during the Spartanburg ArtWalk.

During the late 1990s and early 2000s, Clyde Hensley collected over 500 pieces of art from the semi-isolated, easternmost region of Cuba called Oriente, formerly referred to as Oriente Province. Upon Hensley's first trip to Oriente as part of a cultural exchange and humanitarian aid project, he found the local artists constrained yet energized by shortages of art supplies and thus creating inspired improvisations. "When I met them," Hensley recalls, "they were painting on sugar and flour bags. They needed supplies. So I began taking them everything I could: canvas, paint, brushes, you name it. These are artists who paint because they have to. It's in their hearts."

Soon after discovering these artists of continued on Page 13

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