

## USC Upstate in Spartanburg, SC, Features Works by Glenda Guion

The University of South Carolina Upstate in Spartanburg, SC, is presenting From Seed to Mandorla, featuring new ceramic sculptures by Glenda Guion, on view in the Curtis R. Harley Art Gallery, through Feb.

"I am interested in the contrast between the modern and the ancient, the organic and the synthetic, and the psychological and physical challenge to translate ideas into clay," says Guion. "I hope to communicate that which surrounds me, both physically and mystically-- from earth gardens, and manmade forms to archetypal symbols and theories."

"Many of these new works are inspired by mandorlas, (Italian for almond). The form refers to a shape used in religious art as the large oval behind the representation of a single sacred figure. It is the shape created by overlapping two circles, and is se in spiritual terms as the overlap between heaven and earth, or dark and light. It is the space that contains the conflict of opposites."

"The abstract figures in my work are represented as shadows," adds Guion. "They are at times the sculptural form itself, and at other times the portal where the figure has been transformed in the mandorla. For years I have been interested in psychoanalyst Carl Jung's notion of the 'Shadow'. He describes the shadow as the place between the conscious and subconscious, and not good and evil. Jung also believed that for humans "the shadow is the seat of creativity."

Guion earned her Master of Fine Arts degree in clay from Clemson University, and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Middle Tennessee State University. She was Chair of the Art department at the Fines Arts Center of Greenville County from 1991 to 2010 where she served as lead ceramics instructor from 1988 – 2013. Beginning Spring 2020 she will teach ceramics at Converse College in Spartanburg. Having an active studio practice, Guion has exhib-



ited widely including Lander University, Pickens County Museum of Art, Anderson University, Francis Marion University and the Greenville County Museum of Art. Her work is included in numerous publications including Making an Ocean of Clay, 500 Teapots, and Handbuilt Ceramics.

'We are pleased to open our Spring 2020 continued above on next column to the right season at the Curtis R. Harley Art Gallery with the sculptural works of Glenda Guion. The mix of surface and form blended with the spiritual and psychoanalytic, gives visual and conceptual depth to this body of work," says Jane Nodine, University Gallery Director.

The University of South Carolina Upstate is a regional comprehensive university offering more than 40 undergraduate and graduate programs in the liberal arts and sciences, business administration, nursing, and education. Located along the I-85 corridor in Spartanburg between Greenville and Charlotte, USC Upstate is ranked by US News & World Report at #2 among Top

Public Schools. It serves as a major talent producer for the region, with more than 6,000 students, approximately 1,300 new graduates a year, and nearly 30,000 alumni, many of whom live and work in the state. The USC Upstate Spartans compete in 17 NCAA Division 1 sports as a member of the Big South Conference. USC Upstate sponsors three galleries, two on campus, one on Main street in Spartanburg and a campuswide collection of monumental sculpture.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call Jane Nodine at 864/503-5838 or visit (www.uscupstate.edu)

## USC Upstate in Spartanburg, SC, **Features Exhibition of Jewelry**

The University of South Carolina Upstate in Spartanburg, SC, is presenting Jewelry Edition, Volume 5, featuring recent metal-smithing and sculptural jewelry by six nationally recognized artists, along with Jewelry Edition co-founders, Kat Cole and Laura Wood, on view at the Upstate Gallery On Main in downtown Spartanburg, through Mar. 28, 2020.

Jewelry Edition was created by Kat Cole and Laura Wood in 2012 as a new opportunity for early career artists in the medium of metals and art to wear to gain national exposure. The project has evolved to include a range of makers at varying points in their careers. Begun as a catalyst to give emerging artists more visibility and a means to explore new ways of sharing this art form with a diverse audience, as of 2020 Jewelry Edition has worked with 28 jewelry artists in over 20 different venues. Locations range from the street in Yuma, Arizona, a collaboration with a culinary team in Atlanta, GA, a converted bus in Kalamazoo, MI, to more formal gallery spaces such as Form and Concept Gallery in Santa Fe, NM, and exhibitions at conferences such as the ECU Metals Symposium and the Society of North American Goldsmiths.

Contemporary jewelry is simultaneously



Work by Aric Varrastro

sculpture, fashion, and science; Jewelry Edition works with artists who merge these areas to make one-of-a-kind wearable artwork. Showcasing jewelry as art form with the ability to enhance and transform daily experience, this work has impact beyond mere functionality and adornment. The Jewelry Edition, Volume 5 collection spans continued on Page 13