# USC Upstate - Jewelry

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materials including silver, resin, vintage tin types, enamel, powder coat, aluminum, and 3D printed technology. We showcase jewelry as art form with the ability to enhance a daily experience.

Exhibiting artists in *Jewelry Edition*, *Volume 5* include:

Tanya Crane's artwork dwells within a liminal existence between prejudice and privilege. Reared in a white middle class suburb of Los Angeles, Crane's experience with blackness was limited to visiting her father in South Central Los Angeles. Her dual existence has deeply informed her practice and has led to three bodies of work, A Gathering of Instance, African and American, and Seeing Through.

Taylor Zarkades King is a multidisciplinary artist and jeweler originally from Seattle, WA. Formally trained as a metalsmith her craft based practice sways between a jeweler's bench and a studio that finds its form through larger configurations of wood, textile, print, & re-contextualized objects. At the bench her material considerations place emphasis on innovative strategies of reuse, favoring process and the labor of transformation over raw material value. Her current of limited-edition / one-of-akind wearables are made of re purposed aluminum and wood offcuts collected from neighboring wood shops. Made with an awkward sense of humor, her work has an affinity for everyday contradictions, asymmetry, and murky weathered color.



Works by Megan McGaffigan

Megan McGaffigan states: "I find great interest in tradition, sentiment, and longing, and it is through the melding of the antiquated method of tintype photography and traditional jewelry making techniques that I create objects of adornment that reflect intimate awareness of these human experiences. This shift in my work has been markered by my heavy-hearted relocation from Montana to the Pacific Northwest and the devastation of my family's home in the 2017 California wild fires. I am interested in creating intimate objects that attribute sentiment to things, place, or time that no longer exist. I am drawn to the idea of an unexceptional material being laced with something precious. Tintypes being historically common and affordable set into precious materials that become objects of adornment are the result. Materials, like memories and sentiment, are an ordinary part of the human condition yet uniquely of value to the individual wearer."

Jillian Moore claims: "I'm not fit for any thing else anymore. I'd be a disappointment in any day job, doodling schematics for pieces during office meetings or cultivating mold in restaurant kitchens. This is what I'm good at." "I make weird jewelry that's big, and bright, and makes you feel sort of grossed out and turned on and hungry all at once. There needs to be room in this world for things that give you that tense push-pull feeling where lines are crossed and categories are blurred. I could make a lot of different kinds of things that operate in that aesthetic space, but the best part about making jewelry is that it goes on bodies. And bodies can gross you out, turn you on, and make you hungry all at once too. Plus, art that you wear infiltrates a lot of places you wouldn't expect," adds Moore. Amelia Toelke's diverse art practice draws on her training in jewelry and metalsmithing yet transcends traditional disciplinary boundaries. A combination of sculpture, collage, and installation, Toelke's work lies at the intersection of the twodimensional and the three-dimensional, and



#### Work by Taylor King

challenges given conceptions of object, image, reality, and representation. Toelke was selected as an artist in residence at Lanzhou City University in Lanzhou, China in 2015 and in 2016 was an artist in residence at the Brush Creek Center for the Arts in Saratoga, WO. Most recently, Toelke participated in an international exhibition and art symposium in Tbilisi, Georgia. Toelke currently lives in Chatham, NY.

Aric Verrastro says, "Our world has become over synthesized, from our biologically enhanced food to our filtered existence on social media. Even though we are fully conscious of this fabrication, the beauty the veil creates seduces us. Bloom presents an echo of floral qualities often utilized amongst historically documented 18th Century cut-steel jewelry produced in France. Painted structural forms conceal and reveal materiality and process, which simultaneously speak a past and present language. While thread and stitching acts to metaphorically and physically strengthen individual works, I seek to highlight sentimental notions of place while connecting with my audience."

Jewelry Edition Co-Founder Kat Cole states, "I find meaning through the observance and intimate awareness of the places I inhabit. With each geographic change, I have become more attuned to the natural and man-made attributes that make a location unique. I look to the built environment of the city where I live for the formal qualities of my work: materials, forms, color and surface quality. The steel and concrete structures that surround us are evidence of human inhabitants- past and present. Monumental structures are interpreted into the intimate scale of jewelry and are completed when worn on the landscape of the body. My work is made from porcelain enamel and steel, both predominantly used on an industrial scale. These materials are used to make small, one-of-a-kind objects- allowing for unusual and light-weight forms in jewelry and makes the translation into sculpture more achievable. The use of vitreous porcelain enamel fired onto the surface of hollow fabricated steel creates unique surfaces, color and depth." Jewelry Edition Co-Founder Laura Wood is a full-time jewelry artist living in Penland, NC, where she is a current resident artist at Penland School of Crafts. Her work has been selected for many exhibitions throughout the United States, including The Contemporary Jewelry Show at the Penland Gallery (NC), Shift: Makers that Define, Expand, and Contradict the Field of Art Jewelry at the Grunwald Gallery (IN), and the Lydon Emerging Artist Exhibition (LEAP) at the Society for Contemporary Craft (PA) and as a 2015 SNAG Emerging Jewelry Artist at the annual Sculpture, Objects, Functional Art and Design Expo (SOFA) in Chicago, Illinois. "I am thrilled to showcase the curated works of Jewelry Edition, Volume 5 at our Main Street gallery in Spartanburg. As the first exhibit of this kind in Spartanburg, I hope to reach a broader and more diverse audience. Jewelry is no longer limited to continued above on next column to the right



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grandmother's broach or solitaire engagement rings. Science and technology are now a main-stream factor of the designer's studio and contemporary materials create illusions that now boggle the imagination. Please join me in celebrating these artists and their new generation of ideas!," 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



Work by Jillian Moore

NCAA Division 1 sports as a member of the Big South Conference.

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

## Artists Collective | Spartanburg in Spartanburg, SC, Feature Works by Sally Y. and Jim Weber

The Artists Collective | Spartanburg (formerly known as West Main Artists Coop) in Spartanburg, SC, will present *Mud Magic*, featuring works by husband and wife potters, Sally Y. and Jim Weber, on view from Feb. 4 - 29, 2020. A reception will be held on Feb. 20, from 5-9pm.

After spending 30 years as full-time potters in Georgia, husband and wife, Sally Y. and Jim Weber have returned to their Carolina roots.

Jim's pottery is wheel-thrown, functional, and simply elegant; Sally's is hand-shaped and highly decorative. They produce their craft and art separately, however, they do on occasion collaborate with Jim making basic vessels and Sally adding artistic elements.

"Jim and Sally are new members of Artists Collective | Spartanburg, and they



Work by Sally Weber

have brought great talent and top-quality work to Upstate South Carolina," Artists Collective | Spartanburg President Beth Regula said.

"Individually, their work is very differcontinued on Page 14

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