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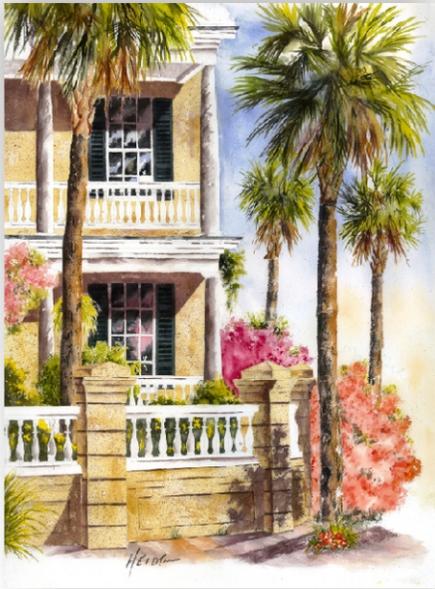
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Hickory Museum of Art in Hickory, NC, Features Works by Sally Fanjoy and James Labrenz

The Hickory Museum of Art in Hickory, NC is presenting *Scene Unseen*, an installation by Fanjoy Labrenz, on view in the Museum's Coe Gallery, through April 15, 2011.

Hickory artists Sally Fanjoy and James Labrenz transformed the gallery space through the use of digitally projected stills and video images on walls, LCD screens, as well as photographs printed on alternative materials such as aluminum.



Work by Sally Fanjoy and James Labrenz

Scene includes close details of the artists' immediate environment seen while walking or looking through a window. Scenes further develop in the staged poetry, music and dance responses to their visual findings. *Unseen* is presented through music, spoken word and dance as the art forms convey and give life to the things we miss. These non-two dimensional works give form to the symbolism present in the natural and the man-made local environment.

Fanjoy Labrenz see this work "as a call and response to our community." They invited other artists to contribute to the installation through spoken word, music and dance, including poets Rand Brandes and Adrian Rice; musicians Marin Fanjoy-Labrenz, Austin Labrenz and the members of the Kontras Quartet; performer Natalie Thomas; and filmmaker Brock Labrenz. They also asked the local community to speak a word or two on film for Visual Poems that play in the exhibition.

Sally Fanjoy and James Labrenz are photographers, filmmakers, artists and teachers who have lived and worked in Hickory for over 20 years. Their recent exhibits include *Pantone 278* at the Charlotte Trolley Museum, and *MAYDAY*, a collaborative event with poet

Dr. Rand Brandes made possible through an Innovative Artist Project Grant from the United Arts Council of Catawba County.

The Hickory Museum of Art is located in the Arts & Science Center of the Catawba Valley in Hickory.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 828/327-8576 or visit (www.HickoryArt.org).

Mesh Gallery in Morganton, NC, Features Works from Oak Hill Iron

An exhibit showcasing the work of Oak Hill Iron that includes both fine art and utilitarian wares titled, *Ironology*, is on view through Apr. 8, 2011, at Mesh Gallery located in Morganton, NC.

Oak Hill Iron was born out of necessity and driven by true talent and sheer determination to create beautiful products. Founded over a decade ago by Dean

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Curfman, Oak Hill Iron produces custom ironwork that meets the needs of countless utilitarian applications as well producing works of fine art that are at home in a gallery space. Both high art and craft are integral parts of a healthy arts community and with *Ironology* Oak Hill Iron will demonstrate it's ability to wear both those hats.

Oak Hill Iron is staffed by a team of

highly trained artistic craftsmen and offers a wide selection of ironwork for both residential and commercial projects. There is no job that is considered too big or too small.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/437-1957 or visit (www.meshgallery.com).

Providence Gallery in Charlotte, NC, Offers Works by Ann Watcher, Lita Gatlin, & Isabel Forbes

Providence Gallery in Charlotte, NC, will present, *The Everyday Extraordinary*, an exhibit featuring landscape compositions by three women: Ann Watcher, Lita Gatlin, and Isabel Forbes. The exhibition kicks off with an Artist's Reception, which will be held at the gallery on Friday, Mar. 11 from 6-9pm. The show will be on display through Mar. 31, 2011.

The gallery's newest artist, Ann Watcher, presents a series of paintings depicting rural Carolina landscapes harkening back to our agricultural roots, bringing attention to the fact that our past is rapidly being encroached upon by urban development.

Watcher says her choice of subject matter can be traced back to childhood, for even then she was fascinated by abandoned buildings, a prominent element found in many of her paintings, and the sense of isolation, nostalgia and personal connection she felt when discovering these forgotten places. The artist's attraction to "age of place" makes Tuscany, with its deep agrarian roots and rich history, a natural destination for exploration on canvas.

Lita Gatlin expresses her love of nature by using her canvas to capture the splendor of nature's colors and how those colors are always in flux due to changes in the atmosphere. Her paintings depict areas in the southeastern US and Europe.

Gatlin has earned her status as a leading regional artist and her work is included in a number of distinguished corporate art collections in Charlotte, NC, including,

Duke Energy, the North Carolina Dance Theater, Marriott Hotels, and Senior Living Communities. Gatlin is also an Associate Member of the Oil Painters of America.

Isabel Forbes began her art education at Ringling College of Art & Design in Sarasota, FL, where she earned a Bachelor of Fine Art Degree. Upon graduation, Forbes worked as a graphic designer and illustrator until 2007 when she devoted herself to fine oil painting full time.

Forbes' urban landscape paintings focus on the beauty that is often overlooked in everyday day. Her paintings include streetlights, signage, railroad crossings and other things we pass by on a daily notice without truly taking notice.

Forbes is a founding member of the Charleston Outdoor Painters Association (COPA), an Associate Member of Oil Painters of America (OPA), and a board member of the Artists' Guild of Spartanburg.

While these three diverse artists differ in their choice of subject matter and painterly technique, they have one important theme in common: each seeks to engage the observer and persuade them to look at the world surrounding them daily with fresh eyes, hopefully enabling the viewer to see the things in a new, more appreciative light.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call 704/333-4535 or visit (providencegallery.net).