

Ackland Art Museum in Chapel Hill

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Some of the prints deal with Benton's memories of his own childhood in Missouri, of his family and neighbors and how they lived. Others deal with music - with the singing, foot stamping, and folk songs that shaped the character of rural life in the South and Midwest. However, by the 1940s, these songs were beginning to disappear. *Chords of Memory* examines Benton's attempt to record these songs and the way of life that they represented.



Work by Thomas Hart Benton

Two abstract oil paintings by Benton will be shown along with the exhibition. They represent the artist's early experiments in synchronism, a movement interested in creating harmonies with color just as musicians composed with sound.

While most recognized for his large scale, multi-media assemblages, Thornton Dial's drawings are his most prolific body of work, spanning from the early 1990s into

the present. Organized by the Ackland Art Museum, *Thornton Dial: Thoughts on Paper* will feature 50 of Dial's earliest drawings from 1990-1991, a pivotal moment in his artistic career.

The Ackland Art Museum is well known for its extensive collection of works on paper and in particular, its outstanding collection of drawings, making it a natural venue in which to explore this less-known but highly significant portion of Dial's oeuvre. The works in the exhibition - characterized by flowing lines, color washes, and images of women, fish, and tigers - provide a touchstone of Dial's creative process.

A fully-illustrated book, *Thornton Dial: Thoughts on Paper*, co-published by the Ackland Art Museum and The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, will be available. The book is edited by Bernard L. Herman, with contributions by Bernard L. Herman, Juan Logan, Glenn Hinson, Colin Rhodes, and Cara Zimmerman.

Piece by Piece: Quilts, Collages, and Constructions is centered on a quilt from the legendary Gee's Bend, Alabama, quilting community, this exhibition celebrates both the act of "piecing together" works of art from disparate elements and the influence of traditional women's fabric arts on modern and contemporary art.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 919/966-5736 or visit (<http://www.ackland.org/index.htm>).

The Mahler in Raleigh, NC, Features Works by Pete Sack



Work by Pete Sack

The Mahler in Raleigh, NC, will present the exhibit, *New Works by Pete Sack*, on view from Mar. 2 - 31, 2012. A reception will be held on Mar. 2, from 6-9pm.

In his new series of paintings, Sack continues to express his own human condition through the combination of watercolor and paint. The images that he uses are taken from a variety of places, both personal and public, and by removing the images from their context Sack is able to create a new personal narrative through his art.

The Mahler is a dynamic fine art gallery located in downtown Raleigh in the historic and newly renovated Mahler Building on Fayetteville Street. The Mahler is dedicated to significant art of our time, committed to offering the best in regional and national fine art by emerging and established artists.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call Megg Rader at 919/896-7503 or visit (www.themahlerfineart.com).

NC Museum of Natural Sciences in Raleigh, NC, Offers Wildlife Photography

The NC Museum of Natural Sciences in Raleigh, NC, is presenting the *2011 Wildlife in North Carolina Photo Competition*, on view through Mar. 31, 2012.



Work by Gene Furr the Grand Prize winner

Now in its seventh year, the *Wildlife in North Carolina Photo Competition* seeks to encourage high-quality nature photography and to identify talented wildlife photographers working in North

Carolina. This year's field totaled 3,689 photographs from approximately 1,000 photographers. Judges were: WINC art director Marsha Tillett, WINC photographer Melissa McGaw, Museum senior manager of outreach Mike Dunn, and Wildlife Resources Commission public information officer Jodie Owen.

"Sometimes you have to break the rules to get results," says Gene Furr, the *2011 Wildlife in North Carolina Photo Competition* Grand Prize winner, who did just that for his winning shot of the great egret. His photo, along with 30 other winning shots, are on display.

"Most of the time, you do not want to photograph birds from the rear, but breaking this rule gave me a special image," said Furr. "I am so honored to win the Grand Prize."

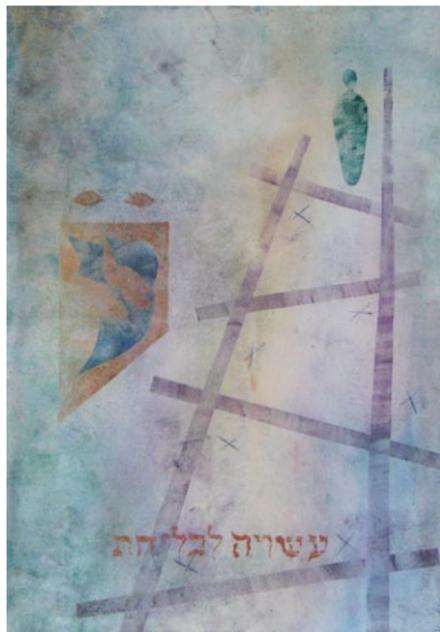
Furr is no newcomer to photography. During his 30 years at *The News & Observer* of Raleigh, he won more than 300 awards while serving as staff photographer, chief photographer and photography coach. He retired in 2002 and started photographing wildlife.

The Photo Competition is held in collaboration with the NC Wildlife Resources Commission. *continued above on next column to the right*

Commission, the NC Museum of Natural Sciences and the NC Division of Parks and Recreation, with support from JW Photo of Raleigh (Exhibition Sponsor).

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 919/733-7450 or visit (<http://www.naturalsciences.org/>).

The Rosenzweig Gallery in Durham, NC, Offers Works by Julie Klaper



Work by Julie Klaper

The Rosenzweig Gallery, part of the Judea Reform Congregation in Durham, NC, is presenting the exhibit, *A Journey*, featuring a print series exploring the meaning of each of the twenty-two

Hebrew letters by Charleston, SC, artist, Julie Klaper. A reception will be held on Mar. 4, from 2-4pm.

Klaper was inspired to do the work while studying for her Bat Mitzvah. Each print includes symbols which give the historical reference, numerical value and symbolism of the letters. In addition, as appropriate for this coming of age ceremony, the artist selected an attribute beginning with each letter, traits she is focusing on achieving as she grows older.

Klaper celebrated her Bat Mitzvah the day before her sixtieth birthday at a service at KKBE Synagogue in Charleston, SC. She describes the process of creating the work, "Each piece is a monoprint, an edition of one, requiring at least six to eight passes through the press. I paint the image, in reverse, on plexiglass and then transfer it to paper. I used some form of metallic ink on each one, a reference to the ancient manuscripts which gave me creative inspiration."

The framed prints are available for purchase.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings or call the gallery at 919/489-7062.

ENO Gallery in Hillsborough, NC

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Work by Donna Polseno

of Design. She is the recipient of two National Endowment of the Arts grants for individual artists. Polseno teaches ceramics at Hollins University, in Roanoke, VA.

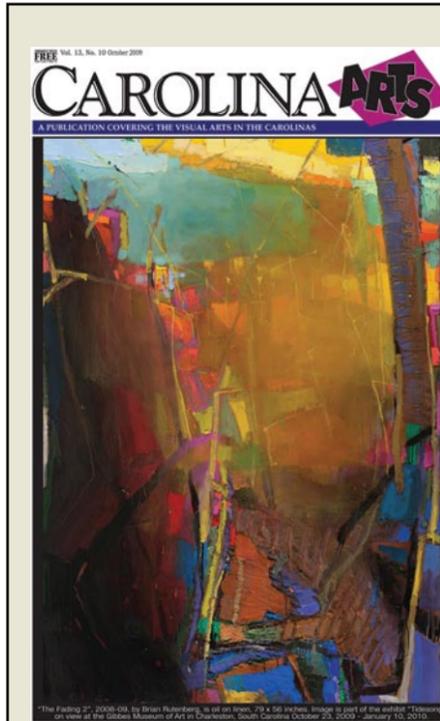
Wayne Higby, Chair of Ceramic Art, Alfred University, said the following about Polseno, "Artists contextualize and create a point of view that informs the viewer. They tell us what to think, to feel, to understand. They reveal. We know about the sunset because artists have revealed it to us. Likewise, we know about utility in this case because Donna Polseno reveals it so poetically."

Also on view at ENO Gallery through Apr. 22, 2012, is the exhibit, *Totems and Talismans*, a sculpture invitational, by eleven artists offering contemporary

interpretations of Totems and Talismans. Participating artists include: Alice Ballard (Greenville, SC); Lisa Creed (Durham, NC); Daniel Essig (Asheville, NC); John Geldersma (Santa Fe, NM); Virginia Gibbons (Wilmington, NC); Kelly Guidry (Breaux Bridge, LA); Tinka Jordy (Hillsborough, NC); William Moore (Pittsboro, NC); Hope Swann (Charlotte, NC); Kathy Triplett (Weaverville, NC); and Susan Wells (Hillsborough, NC).

ENO Gallery represent exceptional contemporary artists for both first time buyers and discerning collectors. The gallery is a unique and intimate exhibition space in the heart of the Hillsborough historic district, offering work from artists of exceptional quality and dedication. We are honored to represent some of the most creative individuals from both the regional and national communities. Our name is inspired by the Eno River that runs through downtown Hillsborough, which was laid out in 1754 by William Churton on 400 acres where the Occaneechi Indian Trading Path crossed the Eno River.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 919/833-1415 or visit (<http://www.enogallery.net/>).



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