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SATURDAY 10 AM - 6 PM
SUNDAY 12 PM - 6 PM

City Art Gallery in Columbia, SC, Features Works by Ed Shmunes

City Art Gallery in Columbia, SC, announces its newest exhibition of work by Ed Shmunes entitled, *Journeys: A Photographic Commentary*, drawn from a traveler opening Mar. 3, 2016, from 5 to 8pm. This solo exhibition will run through Apr. 2, 2016. "Whether it's to Timbuktu or deeply within ourselves the Journey shapes us along the way," says Shmunes.

Edward Shmunes has been photographing for twenty-six years and more recently creating mixed media pieces with the addition of pastels, watercolor and soluble ink pencils. During this period his work has received 124 awards from among 37 international, 287 national, and 136 regional juried art exhibitions.

Shmunes comments, "Whether I'm dealing with whimsy, abstract, serious, figurative, or landscape material, I try to present an honest yet somewhat surreal commentary, always pushing to achieve a fresh and engaging approach."



Work by Ed Shmunes

City Art Gallery is located on Lincoln Street in the historic Congaree Vista area in Columbia.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, contact Wendy Wells, City Art Gallery, at 803/252-3613 or visit (www.cityartonline.com).

if ART Gallery in Columbia, SC, Offers Works by Ashlynn Browning

if ART Gallery in Columbia, SC, will present *Building Blocks*, featuring a solo exhibit by Ashlynn Browning, on view from Mar. 11 through Apr. 2, 2016. A reception will be held on Mar. 11, from 6-9pm. This show will feature new paintings from the last two years.

"My work merges geometric forms with an intuitive, ever changing process of applying paint," says Browning. "Many of the forms in my work from 2009-2013 functioned as stand-ins for figures. These single figures represented implied narratives

as they stood hesitant, crooked and brooding or upright and boldly assured. Each one showed a different side of myself."

"Since 2013, I've become interested more in creating a sense of place, rather than a singular geometric form that is personified. I have been experimenting with stacking and aligning forms and exploring the relationships between them. There is still an element of the forms standing in for figures, but now they exist in groupings and in a more architectural context. The hexa-

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gons and webs of my work from several years ago still exist within the current paintings, but have been buried partially beneath chunkier, squared off forms that play with weight and architecture. The views into the underlying layers are more closed off and opaque now. These new paintings bring to mind urban architecture, grids, windows, bricks and walls, with a palette highlighting shots of vivid yellow," adds Browning.

if ART Gallery is a contemporary art gallery showing established, mid-career and young artists from South Carolina and beyond - including the Netherlands and Germany.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 803/238-2351 or e-mail to (wroefs@sc.rr.com).



Work by Ashlynn Browning

Susan Lenz Moves Her Studio to Mouse House on Park Street in Columbia, SC

Within eighteen months of declaring, "I want to be an artist when I grow up," Susan Lenz got a studio at Gallery 80808/Vista Studio, a cooperative studio setting with rental gallery space at 808 Lady Street in Columbia, SC's downtown Vista neighborhood. That was in 2002. Lenz was forty-three years old at the time. Her rental arrangement was tenuous. The other, more established artists accepted her rental application on a trial basis only. This seemed reasonable. Lenz really didn't have much of a portfolio, no formal studio arts training, no sales record, and had only shown what little she'd ever made a month earlier. What she did have, however, was perseverance, a strong drive, and the willingness to work hard.

"Almost everything I've ever made ... at least until recently ... was done in my studio," said Lenz. "I remember the first few months. It was scary. I stared at the four white walls wondering where all the ideas that had kept me up late into the night had gone. I had no idea what I was doing and thought maybe I'd made the biggest mistake of my life. Yet, I kept working". Annually,



Work by Susan Lenz

the group at Gallery 80808/Vista Studio exhibits together for Artista Vista in the spring and Vista Lights in November. These were big occasions, opportunities for Lenz to share her first ventures into art-making, gauge the public's reaction, and evaluate how she might improve her process, concepts, and even the way she used her time. "I learned plenty, like how to write an artist's statement and how to price my work. The other artists, whether they knew it or not, were my teachers."

Being at Gallery 80808/Vista Studio for
continued on Page 19

The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be Mar. 24th for the April 2016 issue and Apr. 24 for the May 2016 issue.