

Opening Reception Friday, April 12, 2013 6-8pm Gallery Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9am-5:30pm; Saturday 10am - 5pm



House of Frames and Paintings 2828 Devine Street • Columbia, SC • 803.799.7405 www.hofpgallery.com

## Cíty Art Gallery in Columbia, SC

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well as message for the viewer. Aretz is concerned with the many layers of paint that contribute to the magnificent surface quality of the work which sometimes may overshadow the figurative realities within the subject matter, The process of understanding his work can be as easy as merely seeing the colors or more in depth by seeing through the layers.

City Art Gallery is proud to be able to show a body of work with this significance for the artist himself and the USC, MFA Program. Aretz says of his own work, "My work is composed of largescale paintings and is derived through applying oil on canvas in a realistic but expressive manner. The paintings are large in scale and the figures are mostly life-like and larger. The surroundings are dark and often obscure which keeps the focus on the subject matter. Multiple realities are forced to coexist in the same space. Human suffering is the main subject and visual experience in my work. Beauty is experienced through the rich surface and strategic composition. I appropriate real imagery and contemporary events, not to



Work by Bernard Kruseman Aretz

disillusion the viewer with illusionism, but overwhelm them with reality. My work evokes the idea that beauty is derived through compassion where human suffering is the foundation. Through my artwork I scrape up the remnants of human behav-



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# CHTYART Bernard Kruseman Aretz

ior and dispose of them on the canvas."

Aretz will give an artist's talk on Sat., Apr. 27 at noon.

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

### Aiken Center for the Arts in Aiken, SC, Offers Works by Mary McCullah

The Aiken Center for the Arts in Aiken, SC, will present *Diversity*, a solo exhibit presented by award winning artist Mary McCullah, on view in the Aiken Artist Guild Gallery, from Apr. 2 - 30, 2013.

The exhibition celebrates the artist's experiences as artist in residence at the Cheraw and Poinsett, SC state parks. The exhibit will feature acrylic and watercolor paintings representative of the parks' plants, animals, and scenery. "The diversity of Cheraw and Poinsett is exciting—from swamps to beautiful lakes to high vistas. It was thrilling to discover the different ecosystems of each park." McCullah expresses.

The artist is a native of MO but has lived from coast to coast. She and her husband retired to the N. Augusta area in 2006. During her travels, McCullah has worked closely with zoos and nature preserves giving conservation related programs and doing hands on work with animals including gray wolves and birds of prey. These experiences have provided *continued on Page 18* 



#### MFA Oil Painting Exhibition April 18 - May 4, 2013

Opening reception for the artist April 18, 5 - 8 pm

Artist Gallery talk Saturday April 27 at HIGH NOON

1224 Lincoln Street - Columbia, SC 29201 - 803.252.3613 - cityartonline.com

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