



City Art Gallery in Columbia, SC, Offers Works by Steven Whetstone

City Art Gallery in Columbia, SC, will present *Transcendent*, a solo exhibition by Steven Whetstone, on view from May 15 through June 21. A reception will be held on May 15, from 5:30-8pm, during the Third Thursdays in the Vista art walk.

As early as 1983 Steven Whetstone's passions have always been art and baseball. He grew up splitting his time between the two until 2004 when he took his love of art to the professional arena and left baseball behind. As a standout pitcher for the University of South Carolina and Brookland-Cayce High School, Whetstone took that success on to the minor league with the Chicago White Sox. But his USC art degree and love clouded with extensive training led to his professional career as a full time fine-artist.

Whetstone has sold over 50 paintings just last year. His clientele include local and national celebrities, interior designers, art collectors and art enthusiasts. He continues to create pieces out of his home in Columbia with his wife Jennifer and dog, Norman.

Whetstone's work is concentrated in oils, but also includes watercolor and charcoal drawings. His subject matter varies from Lowcountry life and style to more modern figurative pieces, period pieces, and landscapes, to family portraits. He also lends his knowledge to the Columbia community by holding art classes twice a week and sharing his skills to aspiring artists at City Art in the Vista. Whetstone has shown his works in galleries statewide and is sought after by the *SC Law Magazine* and The University of South Carolina's Football Hall of Captains. He currently has two shows a year reflecting his personality and passions for subject matter and his travels.

Whetstone comments about this exhibit, "These bodies of works showcase everything that I enjoy about being an artist and that I get to experience through opportunities and travel. There are several series in



Work by David Scheffler

this show ranging from Lowcountry landscapes, people, to plein-air, to a personal series that I haven't tackled before to which I hold close to my heart."

"This personal series explores the depths of watching a loved one go through cancer-exploring all the emotions, fight, grit, soles, solemnness, confusion, trial, beauty and love," adds Whetstone. "It's my most sensitive work to date. Water and darkness have many metaphors. These works include figures and fabric, although soft and delicate hold a much more symbolic state of reality compromised by darkness and uncertainty. The simplest thing in this life is to breathe and when we're knocked out of breath and swallowed by this life it's hard to find direction and control when all we need to do is find the surface. In one word my wife describes the last three years as transcendent. To rise above and find the surface, to show others the love in Christ she's found and to share it with others while being surrounded in darkness."

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

Commentary

continued from Page 4 / [back to Page 4](#)

mount to this competition, but continue to refuse to provide totals - how long will it be before artists think it is all decided in back rooms? Some artists already had that on their mind last year. This year's results will be more telling and have a major effect on next year's entries.

From what I've seen of the works entered this year online - the exhibit looks more like a SC Arts Commission show. Of course the fact that a university art professor won last year's top award may have attracted more fellow art professors to join this event. Sure they had to make the jury cut, but that's not hard when you are being judged by folks who are already in the "insiders" club we all know exist in the art world.

To enter you have to think you have a chance to win. And, when artists stop thinking that - look out Artfields.



The
GALLERY
at
Nonnah's

Offering works by local & regional artists

Serving Lunch M-F, 11:30am-2pm
Evening hours: M-Th., 5-11pm
Fri., 5pm-12:30am & Sat., 6pm-12:30am
803/779-9599 • www.nonnahs.com
923 Gervais Street • Columbia, SC

IN COLUMBIA'S VISTA

VISTA studios
gallery 80808

featuring **artists**

Ethel Brody
Eileen Blyth
Stephen Chesley
Heidi Darr-Hope
Pat Gilmartin
Robert Kennedy
Susan Lenz
Sharon C. Licata
Laurie McIntosh
Michel McNinch
Kirkland Smith
Laura Spong
David Yaghjian

Open weekdays.
Call for hours: 803.252.6134
808 Lady St., Columbia SC 29201
www.VistaStudios80808.com

gallery available for rental
modest rate | professional exhibition space
Call 803.771.7008

upcoming **exhibitions**

May 8 - 13, 2014
ArtFields Reprise
Entries from Vista Studios Artists

May 15 - 20, 2014
Corley Mill Artists' Annual Exhibition