

Black Mountain College Museum

continued from Page 32

1940s and 50s were open to, and these artists, composers and writers became associated with the New York School. The title also lends insight to Tworok's philosophy to balance the spontaneous and automatic with the conscious and the planned.

Accident of Choice features work by Tworok spanning the time period of 1948-1952 with a particular focus on a single series of paintings that began from a sketch made at Black Mountain College. The artist titled the series *House of the Sun*. Various examples of the series, which, as a subject the artist describes he did not choose, "but he came to know" derived from a series of paintings inspired by the theme of Odyssey. Important paintings and drawings from the series are included.

The focus of the exhibition quickly broadens beyond the artist's process to include his interactions and friendships with other artists of the time who together embraced the overall experimental nature that was Black Mountain College.

Jason Andrew is an independent curator, producer, and archivist. A prominent figure in the Bushwick art scene, Andrew is the founding director of Norte Maar, which encourages, promotes and supports collaborations in the arts and whose mission is to create, promote and present collaborations within the disciplines of visual, literary, and the performing arts. His imaginative projects include exhibitions of visual art and unique performances of dance. Andrew is also the co-owner / co-director of Storefront Gallery in Bushwick. The gallery has been critically

reviewed in *The New York Times* and *Art in America*.

Guarding against special interests in any particular style or genre, his curatorial projects bridge gaps left in art history and reflect the creative imagination of the past, present and future. Recent curatorial projects include the retrospective exhibition *Jack Tworok: Against Extremes / Five Decades of Painting* (2009); *Jack Tworok: Accident of Choice, the artist at Black Mountain College* (2011).

Andrew was recently cited by *L Magazine* as one of the important people making the new Brooklyn.

A fully illustrated catalogue will accompany the exhibition including an essay by the exhibition curator, Jason Andrew; a never-before printed interview with Jack Tworok conducted by the historian Irving Sandler in 1957; and a re-print of the article *Tworok Paints A Picture* written by Fairfield Porter and published in *Art News* in 1953.

Exhibition curator Jason Andrew will give a special lecture about Jack Tworok on Saturday, June 18, 2011, beginning at 11am. Admission is free.

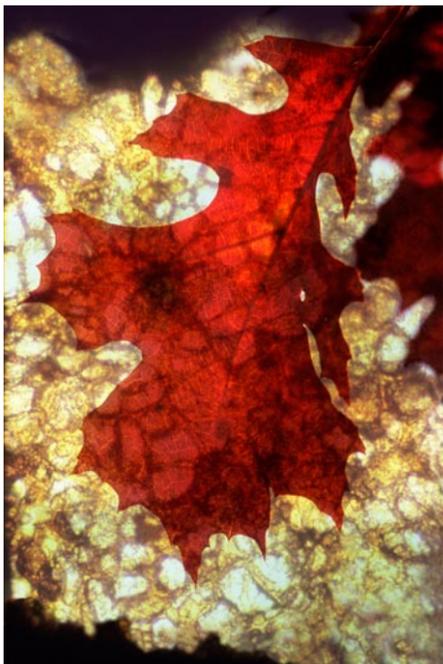
The Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center (BMCM+AC) preserves and continues the unique legacy of educational and artistic innovation of Black Mountain College. We achieve our mission through collection, conservation, and educational activities including exhibitions, publications, and public programs.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call Alice Sebrell at 828/350-8484 or visit (www.blackmountaincollege.org).

The NC Arboretum in Asheville Offers Exhibits for the Summer

The North Carolina Arboretum in Asheville, NC, is presenting two new exhibits for the Summer including: *Botanical Chords* by Terry Ashley and *The Fine Art of Wood: An International Invitational Exhibition of Woodturning*. Both exhibitions are on view in the Baker Exhibit Center's Exhibit Hall, through Sept. 5, 2011. The two exhibitions will take center stage at the Arboretum this summer, both giving unique and awe-inspiring perspectives on how artists utilize plants in their work.

Botanical Chords by Terry Ashley blurs the line between science and art. A former research scientist at Yale University School of Medicine, Ashley developed her technique while pursuing her hobby of photographing plant parts under the light microscope. Ashley termed her art "chords" because they connect two separate images, one traditional plant photograph and one image taken at a cellular level.



Work by Terry Ashley

To create the microscopic image, Ashley carefully peels a single layer of cells from a plant leaf, stem, or petal and

photographs it under high magnification. She then places a picture of the plant's exterior on top of the picture of its cells, creating a textured, multi-layered piece of art. Aesthetically stunning and scientifically accurate, the images encourage an understanding of plants at a cellular level.

Science was Ashley's first passion. After receiving her PhD from Florida State University in Genetics, she indulged her curiosity and pursued her search for beauty and order by studying meiotic chromosome behavior under the microscope. Now retired, Dr. Ashley considers her mission as an artist to raise awareness for and appreciation of the beauty that lies just below the level of resolution of our own eyesight.



Work by Harvey Fein

The Fine Art of Wood: An International Invitational Exhibition of Woodturning will feature the work of more than 40 artists from across the country and around the world. The exhibit will showcase a wide variety of style and presentation, from pedestal and tabletop pieces to wall hangings. The American Association of Woodturners, along with their local chapter, the Carolina Mountain Woodturners, helped facilitate this exhibit.

As evidenced by their work, woodturners are passionate about what they do. Participating artist Harvey Fein states one joy of woodturning is "to find what's inside and then over the design to complement

continued above on next column to the right

and enhance what goes on in the wood, and incorporate surprises into the design." Dennis Elliot, whose wall sculpture will be featured in the show, likens the art form to another delicate process involving a natural wonder. "Pondering a burl that was once a living part of a tree, I treat the cutting of it like a diamond, knowing this piece of wood was once, and can be again, a thing of beauty."

During the exhibit run, the Carolina Mountain Woodturners will host demonstrations to illustrate the basics of woodturning. The demonstrations will take place from 10am until 3pm, Friday through Sunday during the weekends of June 10, July 1, and August 12. Chapter members will have work for sale during these events, and will be available to answer questions about woodturning.

To broaden the visitor experience, an exhibit called *Into the Wood* will be featured in the Baker Exhibit Center Greenhouse. Designed and produced by Arboretum staff, the exhibit will explore the differences between hardwood and softwood, as well as the many variables

that can affect the appearance and health of a tree. *Into the Wood* is supported by Asheville Hardware, Community Partner of The North Carolina Arboretum.

The Fine Art of Wood is one of three shows this summer bringing the best of woodturning art and craft to the region. Blue Spiral 1, located on historic Biltmore Avenue in downtown Asheville, is hosting *Wood Moving Forward*, featuring the work of 14 premier Southern artists from July 1 through Sept. 30, 2011. Grovewood Gallery, located near the Grove Park Inn Resort & Spa, in Asheville, will present *A Wood Collector's Home*, featuring work by 19 top wood artists from across North America from July 1 through Oct. 2, 2011.

The central mission of The North Carolina Arboretum, an affiliate institution of the 17-campus University of North Carolina system, is to cultivate connections between people and plants.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Arboretum at 828/665-2492 or visit (www.ncarboretum.org).

Center for Craft, Creativity & Design in Hendersonville, NC, Showcases Environmental Project

Western North Carolina is joining a global effort to crochet a coral reef. As part of the unique project, the "Hyperbolic Crochet Coral Reef" by the Institute For Figuring (IFI) in Los Angeles, CA, which unites non-Euclidean hyperbolic geometry with ancient craft techniques, area artisans are working to create beautiful and lifelike models that will raise awareness of threats to the world's coral. The Asheville Reef, organized by UNC Asheville's Center for Craft, Creativity & Design, will involve crochet groups in Brevard and Hendersonville, as well as UNC Asheville, Appalachian State University and Western Carolina University. The project will be ongoing through Aug. 12, 2011.



The Institute For Figuring, *Hyperbolic Crochet Coral Reef*, with urchins by Christine Wertheim and sea slug by Marianne Midelburg. Photo © The Institute For Figuring (by Alyssa Gorelick)

The Asheville Reef is a "satellite reef" of the IFI's "Hyperbolic Crochet Coral Reef" project. The satellite reef will feature brightly colored, healthy-looking crochet reef, and several sub-reefs that dramatize environmental threats to coral, inspired by the "Hyperbolic Crochet Coral Reef" which was first exhibited in 2007 at the Andy Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh, PA, and was most recently on view in the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History.

The "Hyperbolic Crochet Coral Reef" is the brainchild of two sisters from Australia, Christine and Margaret Wertheim, co-founders of the Institute for Figuring in Los Angeles. Margaret Wertheim, a

science journalist, first began crocheting with her sister to try to create models of hyperbolic geometry, which, unlike conventional geometry, considers shapes on a curved surface. Only after stepping back from their cloth creations did the Wertheims see the strong resemblance to coral reefs. Hyperbolic shapes are frequently found in nature, including sea life like kelp and coral.

The Wertheim sisters intend to someday display all of the satellite reefs, including the Asheville Reef as part of the People's Reef. More than 5,000 people on four continents have already created satellite reefs. Christine and Margaret Wertheim will speak about the project at UNC Asheville this coming fall.

Creators of the Asheville Reef will gather at five locations. Each group is seeking participation from the public and will be led by an experienced crafter. Additional locations will be added as the project evolves.

Crochet group locations include: Asheville – men's crochet group led by Mark Koven, assistant professor of Art, Owen Hall, UNC Asheville, e-mail (mkoven@unca.edu) for details; Hendersonville – 1-4pm on Thursdays, Center for Craft, Creativity & Design, call 828/890-2050 for details; Brevard at Charlotte's Fibers, call 828/862-6886 for schedule; Cullowhee at Western Carolina University, call 828/227-3591 for details; and in Boone at Appalachian State University, call 828/262-5268 for details.

To accompany the local reef-making, the Center for Craft, Creativity & Design will display and add to the Asheville Reef as it is being created, through Aug. 12.

To learn more about the "Hyperbolic Crochet Coral Reef" project, visit (www.crochetcoralreef.org).

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 828/890-2050 or visit (www.craftcreativitydesign.org).

Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC, Offers New Exhibitions for the Summer

Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC, is offering several new exhibits this Summer including: *5th Anniversary Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition*, on view through Oct. 31, 2011; *Boundless: Selections from the Book Arts Collection*, on view through June 24, 2011; *Vitreographs: Highlights from the Collection Gift of Harvey K. and Bess Littleton*, on view from July 11 through Nov. 4, 2011;

and *Rough and Tumble: Landscapes and Cityscapes from the Collection*, on view through Aug. 5, 2011.

The *5th Anniversary Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition* features pieces by five Southeastern sculptors. From Deborah LaGrasse's symbols of human existence and identity to Robert Winkler's large-scale works that seem to defy gravity,

continued on Page 34