Charleston Artist Guild in Charleston, SC, Offers Works by Muriel B. Lanciault

The Charleston Artist Guild in Charleston, SC, is presenting *Driven to Abstraction*, featuring works by Muriel B. Lanciault, on view in the Charleston Artist Guild Gallery, from June 1 - 30, 2014. A reception will be held on June 6, from 5-8pm.

This new collection of work, reflects a sharp turn in Lanciault's art journey from representational realism to abstraction.

A retired educator originally from upstate New York, Lanciault moved to the Charleston area to escape New York's harsh winters. Once here, she discovered an ability to paint, plus had the opportunity to study with outstanding teachers and affiliate with other artists through becoming a juried member of various area art guilds. Lanciault became known for her representational watercolors. Her award-winning work is now in private and municipal collections in 18 states, Canada, Germany and England.

Eighteen months ago, Lanciault began exploring abstract themes in several media, including oils, acrylics, collage and textures. She made use of her former work experience by incorporating some themes from the classroom into her art, like a five painting series in oil of Abstract Nouns. Several watercolors explore the effects of various techniques to achieve intriguing



Work by Muriel B. Lanciault

patterns and shapes. Mixed media paintings depict nature, family and musical themes. Lanciault's soon-to-be-unveiled collection includes large and small canvases, tabletop paintings and miniatures, all abstract interpretations of subjects that intrigue her.

For further information check or SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Guild at 843/722-2454 or visit (www. charlestonartistguild.com).

Coastal Discovery Museum at Honey Horn on Hilton Head Island, SC, Offers Work by Amiri Geuka Farris

The Coastal Discovery Museum at Honey Horn on Hilton Head Island, SC, will present *Heart of the Lowcountry*, featuring works by Amiri Geuka Farris, on view in the Hilton Head Regional Healthcare Gallery, from June 21 through Aug. 11, 2014. A reception will be held on June 26, from 5-7pm. Two paint parties with the artists will be offered on July 2 from 10am-noon and July 19, from 10am-noon.

The exhibition illustrates and exemplifies the historic lifestyles and experiences of the Sea Islands and the Gullah/Geechee American experience in the Lowcountry. Farris will transform the Discovery House of the Coastal Discovery Museum at Honey Horn into a fabulous artistic vision of color and design, blurring boundaries between traditional and contemporary modes of representation. Vibrant layers of paint and installations transform the Gallery. The bold use of color, along with designs, patterns and Adinkra symbols, let you know the painting is an original work by Farris.

Farris transforms his personal visions into public displays in a flurry of brush strokes, and is carving his own niche among the noteworthy artists of the 21st century. He attend Savannah College of Art and Design, earning a Bachelor's degree in Illustration and a Master of Fine Arts in painting. His formal education solidified his undeniable natural gift. When asked about his inspiration Farris explains, "I like to see artwork that will take one medium and use it to do something else. Artwork that is bold, expressive and completely different."

Farris applies this philosophy to his own art, combining unique designs and bold colors. Also apparent is an affinity for shadow effects and an interest in abstraction, while making sure he doesn't stray too far from realistic elements. Farris is a firm believer that art should be fun. Like most artists, he is motivated by the organic need to express himself creatively, proving the mantra that success is "1 percent inspiration and 99 percent perspiration", Farris follows up an inspired idea with the tedious process of transforming his mental musing into a sketch. The sketch then becomes a finished drawing and, finally, a painting - then comes the "fun part."

Filling in the designs allows the artist to expound upon his original ideas, engaging in a beatific barrage of impromptu inclusions. Farris' use of layers requires an extensive time commitment, but the Page 10 - Carolina Arts, June 2014



Work by Amiri Geuka Farris

results are phenomenal. Despite the long hours devoted to his creations, this consummate perfectionist has yet to complete a piece with which he is totally satisfied. His meticulous eye focuses not only on the stunning creation but on the details that could be added to make it better. His ever-increasing fan base speaks to the appeal of his work. Original pieces consistently sell for \$1,000 to \$20,000.

Farris' thriving career and loyal following have created a high demand for his work. He has a steady influx of art show invitations, was the recipient of the prestigious "Emerging Artist Award" from the historic Penn Center and received a preservation co-award from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and his work is also exhibited internationally. In the meantime, he will continue to produce paintings that he hopes change common views about the modern world. His views parallel those of his inspirational role models which include Romare Bearden, Yinka Shonibare and Keith Haring. "Yes, they were artists, yet they were also involved in their communities and very politically active." Farris notes. "They created art to change people's views about the world. I want to do the same thing."

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 843/689-6767 ext. 224 or visit (www.coastaldiscovery.org).



