

Blowing Rock Art & History Museum

continued from Page 30

Tweetsie Railroad Wild West theme park, which opened in 1957, making it the first theme park in the Carolinas. Among various attractions, the park allows visitors to take a ride on the original engine No. 12, an authentic narrow gauge steam locomotive, which turns 100 years old in 2017. No. 12 - also known as "Tweetsie" (which references the "tweet, tweet" sound of its steam whistle) - is the last operating locomotive of the ET&WNC. It was a mainstay of the ET&WNC Railroad, winding through rugged terrain and steep grades. When you step onto a train pulled by No. 12 at Tweetsie Railroad, you are truly experiencing a bit of mountain history. It was locomotives like No. 12 that spread commerce and spurred settlement across the frontier.

This exhibition is made possible with support from Tweetsie Railroad®.

Finally we have the exhibit *In the Evening West: Boone's Revolutionary Drama*, on view through July 23, 2017.

As the sun hangs low on summer evenings over the Blue Ridge Mountains, a ritual practiced for 66 years plays out on

the stage at *Horn in the West*. High above Boone, NC, sits the Daniel Boone Amphitheatre, home to *Horn in the West*, an outdoor drama. Since 1952, the Southern Appalachian Historical Association, in partnership with the Town of Boone, Watauga County, Appalachian State University, and the community has come together to put on a Broadway-quality theatrical production. The show focuses on Daniel Boone, the American Revolution, and those who set out to make a new life for themselves in the Blue Ridge Mountains. This exhibition pulls the curtain back on the High Country's oldest theatrical production.

The Blowing Rock Art & History Museum seeks to provide cultural enrichment to the High Country communities by promoting the arts and Southern Appalachian heritage and history through educational programs, exhibitions, activities, and permanent collections.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 828/295-9099 or visit (www.BlowingRockMuseum.org).

The Art Cellar Gallery near Banner Elk, NC, Features Works by Herb Jackson

The Art Cellar Gallery in Banner Elk, NC, will feature the works of nationally acclaimed artist Herb Jackson throughout the month of July. *Paintings and Drawings*, an exhibition of textural abstracts will be featured in the main show space of the gallery. This collection of new works will be available for viewing from June 29 through July 29, 2017. Jackson will be in attendance at the gallery from 2-4pm on July 2, for an artist talk and book signing. This will be an excellent chance to meet one of the most prominent artists of our state.

Jackson's creative process started early in life, around the age of 7 and by 12 he was painting. Following his graduation from Davidson College, he obtained his MFA from the University of North Carolina. Jackson became a professor at Davidson College and remained there until his retirement in 2011, serving as the chair of the art department and shaping the department for many years. In 1999 he was awarded the North Carolina Award, the highest civilian honor in the state and in 2015 Jackson was also given the North Carolina Award for extraordinary contributions to North Carolina's cultural heritage. Jackson is the only visual artist to be awarded this honor.

Jackson's vibrant and richly textured paintings get an immediate reaction from anyone who views his artwork, created with layers of acrylic paint on canvas, sometimes more than one hundred layers. His process involves removing some of the layers of paint, revealing the colors of the underpainting and creating unique shapes on the canvas surface. "I just put color over color over color," said Jackson, "that gives me plenty



Work by Herb Jackson

of time to begin to understand the surface of that particular painting. At a certain point, there is enough material for me to begin carving out shapes and the painting, at that point, creates itself."

Opening in 1993, the Art Cellar Gallery is celebrating its 25th summer season. This season will be filled with exciting shows, gallery openings, artist talks, and book signings. Visit the Art Cellar Gallery's website at (www.artcellaronline.com) for a full line up of events.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/898-5175 or visit (www.artcellaronline.com).

Burroughs-Chapin Art Museum in Myrtle Beach, SC, Offers Retrospective of Douglas Balentine

The Franklin G. Burroughs-Simeon B. Chapin Art Museum in Myrtle Beach, SC, is presenting *Beyond the Horizon*, a retrospective of 43 works including studies, sketches, paintings in progress and finished paintings, by Douglas Balentine, on view through Sept. 30, 2017.

After years of painting in classical style, Charleston, SC-based artist Douglas Balentine felt the need to step away from the work he had been doing.

"So I went out to the beach [Sullivan's Island, SC], somewhere I hadn't painted before, except maybe when I was very young," Balentine said. "In classical art you have your verticals and horizontals, structure and geometry, but out there it's just this big empty space, this expansiveness."

Many of the works he created while painting en plein air on Sullivan's Island



Work by Douglas Balentine

contained images of cargo ships, which he observed "reference something that's be-

continued on Page 32

Fine Art at Baxters in New Bern, NC, Features Works by Jean Grunewald

Fine Art at Baxters in New Bern, NC, presents *Into the Wild: Animals in Art* by artist Jean Grunewald. The exhibit will be on view from June 9 through July 7, 2017. A reception will be held on Friday, June 9, 2017 from 5-8pm during the downtown Art Walk.

Grunewald's oil paintings celebrate the form and natural beauty of the wild species living in open spaces surrounded by the complementing light of their environments. *Into the Wild* celebrates the vast spectrum of living species and makes the viewer think about who we are in relationship to animals in all forms. The show will delight through the breadth of subject and the beauty portrayed in these paintings. Perhaps it will make the viewer stop and think about the wonder of nature and how



Work by Jean Grunewald

In her professional life, Grunewald has taught art, been a cartoonist, designed commercial art renderings and neon signs, painted portraits, executed large wall murals and exhibited and sold paintings throughout the East Coast and California. Moving to North Carolina, she has gone back to portraiture and figures, inspired and honored to have won two awards for the 2015 Portrait Society of America Members Show.

Grunewald is a member of PAINTNC.org, Portrait Society of America and has been juried into Oil Painters of America, American Impressionist Society and Women Painters of the South East.

Fine Art at Baxters Gallery is located on Pollock Street in downtown New Bern.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 252/634-9002 or visit (www.fineartatbaxters.com).



Work by Jean Grunewald

we might help preserve it.

Grunewald was born in New Orleans, LA, and was inspired by her father, a talented classically trained artist. At an early age she started painting, winning numerous awards before college where she received a degree in Fine Art. When not painting, she studies art, lately the old illustrators and colorists.

Sunset River Marketplace in Calabash, NC, Offers Works by Ginny Lassiter & Raine Middleton

Sunset River Marketplace in Calabash, NC, will present several new exhibits including: *POV: Abstraction*, featuring works in acrylic by gallery owner Ginny Lassiter, on view from June 7 through July 8, 2017, and *Tarheel Wandering: a Journey in Black & White*, featuring sgraffito pottery by Lincoln County artist Raine Middleton, on view from June 7 through July 29, 2017. A reception for both exhibits will be held on June 7, from 5-7pm.

Middleton follows a path of creativity originally taken by her ancestors. She refers to herself as a "master doodler." She throws porcelain on the pottery wheel, painting the piece in black slip. She paints her designs freehand on each piece and then carves out the background. The ancient pottery decorating technique is known as Sgraffito and Middleton is indeed a master.

According to Middleton, "Tarheel Wandering refers to the physical wandering of a traveler as well as the more esoteric wandering of a native North Carolinian. As an artist, my pottery designs are inspired by the beauty of the state from mountains, piedmont, and coastal regions."



Work by Raine Middleton

Fresh from showing at the Arts Council in Wilson, NC, Ginny Lassiter brings her exhibition of abstract acrylics back to the



Work by Ginny Lassiter

beach in an exhibition titled *POV: Abstraction*. She has a keen eye and uses a limited palette adeptly, the result being a body of work with rich coloration and an architectural feel.

Although she graduated from East Carolina University with a major in art, Lassiter didn't start painting seriously until 2013 when she sat in on a workshop with North Carolina artist Sterling Edwards. "He really pushed me to develop my own voice, my own art," she says. She also credits her design instructor at East Carolina, the late Warren Chamberlain. "With his help, I learned the importance of spontaneity and the value in limiting my palette. It keeps the work from becoming too busy."

Sunset River Marketplace showcases work by approximately 150 North and South Carolina artists, and houses some 10,000 square feet of oils, acrylics, watercolors, pastels, mixed media, art glass, fabric art, pottery, sculpture, turned and carved wood and artisan-created jewelry. There are two onsite kilns and four wheels used by students in the ongoing pottery classes

continued on Page 33

Carolina Arts, June 2017 - Page 31