

Aiken Artist Guild in Aiken, SC

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Today, the artist works only in the photographic arts.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, contact Mary

McCullah by e-mail at (mmcmagic@comcast.net) or visit (www.aikenartistguild.org).

701 Center for Contemporary Arts in Columbia, SC, Offers Works by Diana Farfán

701 Center for Contemporary Arts in Columbia, SC, is presenting the exhibit, *Diana Farfán – The Toy Republic and The Dream Life of Broken Toys*, on view through July 31, 2011.

The Toy Republic installation consists of works Farfán created while in residence at 701 CCA. *The Dream Life of Broken Toys* is Farfán's MFA thesis work.

Farfán is known for her surrealistic ceramic toys, marionettes, puppets and dolls. Her pieces illustrate her observations about our ambivalent human condition – manipulated, fragile, impotent, vulnerable and isolated – countered by the ability to find hope.



The Toy Republic, Farfán explains, is "my perception of the world as a child, when I imagined a three-tiered hierarchy of social order. In my vision, there were rulers who issued commands from high altars, dutiful servants sitting in oversized chairs who enforced those orders and, at the bottom of society, the vulnerable masses constantly searching for the place where they belong. This is a portrait of an imaginary nation." She welcomes the public to participate in the life of her

nation, picturing themselves as one of the characters and thinking about their role in society, their influence on the people around them and the impact of power on all of us.

The idea for *The Dream Life of Broken Toys* began when a young boy showed Farfán an old toy plane he had repaired and referred to it as "a powerful sky-flier." Farfán says of the occasion: "That day I realized that a broken toy is not necessarily an obstacle to play; rather, it is possibility for creativity, for imagining new ways of playing." She continues: "The years have passed swiftly, but still this single memory persists for me. If only it was possible to turn back time and rebuild toys, not only theirs but also my own, then the lives and dreams of many, many toys might be renewed."

Born in Bogotá, Colombia, Diana Farfán received her BFA at the National University of Colombia and her MFA in Ceramics at the University of South Carolina. Her 2D and 3D works have been shown and received awards in a number of exhibitions in places that include Colombia, the United States and Taiwan.

701 CCA is a non-profit visual arts center that promotes understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of contemporary art, the creative process and the role of art and artists in the community. The Center also encourages interaction between visual and other art forms.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listing, call the Center at 803/238-2351 or visit (www.701cca.org).

McKissick Museum in Columbia, SC, Presents Annual Fundraiser Exhibit


The University of South Carolina's McKissick Museum, in Columbia, SC, invites the public to celebrate the summer season with the annual art exhibit, *Under an August Moon*. The exhibit is on display now until Aug. 19, 2011, in the museum's South Gallery and will culminate with the 17th annual gala art sale on Friday, Aug. 19, 2011, from 7:30-10pm.

Tickets to the gala are \$50 for museum members, \$60 for non-members and can be purchased by contacting the museum office.

Under an August Moon features painting, photography, sculpture, ceramics and basketry by more than 50 local and regional artists. Sponsored by the McKissick Museum Advisory Council, the gala provides an opportunity to meet the artists and purchase their works while celebrating with food and wine and supporting McKissick Museum.

Artists participating in this exhibition include: Ann Baker, Eileen Blyth, Jeri Burdick, Clay Burnette, Jackie Eadon

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Cultures around the world commemorate the arrival of the August moon with merriment and festivities represented in the exhibit: Cherokee Fruit Moon,

Choctaw Women's Moon, Chinese Harvest Moon and Nigerian Igbo New Yam Festival.

Coordinated by McKissick's Advisory Council, the gala is one of two annual fundraisers held by the museum to support acquisitions and public programs.

Located on the university's historic Horseshoe, McKissick Museum features two permanent exhibitions, a number of rotating temporary exhibits and provides educational and cultural programming. Many of McKissick's offerings are available through grants and private funding.

McKissick Museum is now in its fourth decade of collecting, exhibitions, public programs, and research. The Museum was established to serve as a general University museum and to engage in education, research, and collections development as well as campus and public service.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 803/777-7251 or visit (<http://www.cas.sc.edu/mcks/>).



Diana Farfán
The Toy Republic and
The Dream Life of Broken Toys
June 16 until July 31, 2011

Wed 11-8, Thur-Fri 11-5,
Sat 9-5, Sun 1-5
Free and open to the public.
Donations appreciated

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