

RIVERWORKS Gallery

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hands of whatever hierarchical/authoritative body might be governing the individual." In *Sights Unseen*, Larsen's art thematically no longer speaks to perceived forms of slavery but to the actual, historical physical enslavement of black people at the hands of white people and the inordinately high rate of black incarceration within our current judicial system.

Sights Unseen contains paintings of pristine, white shells on white sand paired with black faces. The shells are presented in their entirety and the faces only partially. The viewer sees these objects as if she too were lying in the sand with the objects at eye level. Larsen continues her meditation on slavery with monotypes of African American bodies peacefully released and suspended in water after their confident final choice of drowning over enslavement during their voyage from Africa to America.

Among the paintings and monotypes are beautifully crafted mixed media sculptures that challenge our current notion of blind justice. As a white woman, Larsen expresses some discomfort in presenting work about black enslavement but unfortunately white people also own the slavery questions, not as the enslaved but as the enslavers. Larsen's colors, forms, composition and craft lure us to consider her message, "In a broad sense we are all in bondage to enslaved ways of thinking and reacting, and maybe this is our common humanity."

Larsen is a printmaker, sculptor and painter. She currently lives and works in Asheville, NC, where she has exhibited at Front Gallery of the Community Arts Council, Zone One Contemporary Gallery and Flood Gallery Fine Arts Center. Most recently *Sights Unseen* was on view at Upstairs Artspace in Tryon, NC. Larsen, and her husband have lived in Asheville since 1983, first raising their sons and now enjoying their grandson's visits there.

Sights Unseen is a single exhibition on



"Dreams Deferred" by Linda Larsen view in two Greenville Technical College locations, RIVERWORKS Gallery in downtown Greenville and in the Benson Campus Galleries in Taylors.

RIVERWORKS Gallery and the Benson Campus Galleries are operated by and for the faculty and students of the Visual and Performing Arts Department at Greenville Technical College. RIVERWORKS gallery is located on River Street, Suite 202, along the scenic Reedy River in downtown Greenville. The Benson Campus Galleries are located on Locust Hill Road (Hwy 290) continued on Page 24

REAL
TIME
Holly Hanessian

LEE GALLERY
1-101 Lee Hall
August 17 — September 24

Artist Talk Monday, September 21 I 6 p.m.
Room 1-100, Lee Hall

Clemson University
323 Fernow Street
Clemson, S.C.