

Artists' Guild of Spartanburg

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that awesome world we so often pay little attention to.”

“We came from nature. To nature we will all return. In the meantime, we should be paying attention to her – the Mother of us all,” says Thayer. “We should appreciate her more. That’s what I try to do.”

“I try to capture her beauty, her power, her mysteries, in all of her nuanced awesomeness. If it comes through to my viewers, I feel I have been somewhat successful in portraying nature for the shaman she is.”

“I relish endlessly the real thing. If you can relish what I have tried to capture in pastels and in oils, then my enchantment

with my subjects has been as well rewarded as you have been.”

Thayer adds, “It may be some evidence of the breadth of appreciation of my work to note the many shows into which my work has been juried, the active galleries in which my work is featured, and the many awards my work has won, including being recently selected to appear in Vol X (2015) of International Contemporary Artists.”

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, e-mail Caitlin Boic at (ArtistsGuild@SpartanArts.org), or call 864/764-9568.

Spartanburg Art Museum in Spartanburg, SC, Offers Exhibit Focused on the Playful Nature of Art

The Spartanburg Art Museum in Spartanburg, SC, is presenting the exhibit, *Pot Boiler*, the perfect Summer exhibition on view through Sept. 17, 2015.

Pot Boiler is a group exhibition featuring the work of nine artists. This varied and playful exhibition includes a collection of images and objects that range from surreal photographs of toys to large installations to performance-based work that activates viewer participation. What appears to be an almost childlike innocence in imagery and objects has metaphorical undertones that resonate in our personal and collective imaginations.

“This is the perfect summer exhibition,” says Elizabeth Goddard, Executive Director. “This exhibition is more about enjoying the playful nature of art and less about trying to decipher intricate concepts or abstract notions. This is not to say this work is less serious than previous exhibitions, but as a whole *Pot Boiler*’s references to childhood imagery and the fanciful combinations of materials and colors within the sculptures and installations offer viewers moments of pure aesthetic amusement and joy.”

Participating artists include: Daniel Perry, Dylan Collins, Jonathan McFadden, Linda Wilson, PJ Mills, Tommy Taylor, Angela Carbone, David Bogus and Charmaine Ortiz.

There are several thematic threads that run through *Pot Boiler*. The first is the depiction of objects from childhood from the paintings of PJ Mills to the surreal tintype photographs of toys created by Linda Wilson to the cartoon figures in Tommy Taylor’s mixed media pieces. These iconic references are immediately recognizable, although each artist’s approach is varied from highlighting a single object to the juxtaposition of several objects to create personal and collective narratives. The second thread seems to be a faint hint at nostalgia for everything simple; from the

simpler non-electronic toys, to our intuitive response to the graphite sticks in the Alcove Gallery and our desire to express ourselves, to the unexpected use of everyday materials in McFadden’s large “Semi-Submersible” piece.

This notion of unfettered and uncomplicated permeates even the more visually complex works. The wonderful sculptures and drawings of Dylan Collins are fascinating hybrid works that combine human, animal and mechanical components. The sculptures of Daniel Perry combine unusual materials and forms that are humorous and unexpected. Within his work things appear to balance with an air of mystery, like visual riddles that beckon individual resolve.

One of the marketing strategies for *Pot Boiler* included the deployment of over 50 toys downtown. Over 50 small toys were placed within walking distance of SAM; each toy includes a tag with exhibition information on it. Children and adults alike could keep an eye out for these toys and bring them into the museum during the *Pot Boiler*’s opening reception to be eligible for some really great prizes from community businesses.

This innovative marketing strategy was developed by SAM’s Exhibition Coordinator and Graphic Designer Ashleigh Payne. “I started looking into guerilla marketing campaigns while studying graphic design at USC Upstate. With pretty limited marketing dollars I was really interested in trying a guerilla marketing campaign for SAM and *Pot Boiler* seemed like a great exhibition to start with. Our main goal was to engage the community with SAM in a fun and unique way, and this strategy also brings what SAM is doing at the museum out into the community.”

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 864/582-7616 or visit (www.spartanburgartmuseum.org).

The Arts Partnership of Greater Spartanburg SC, Features Works by Jimmy N. Gibson

The Arts Partnership of Greater Spartanburg SC, is presenting *Through the Lens Photography* by Jimmy N. Gibson, professional photographer and retired Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, on view in the Student Galleries of the Moseley Building of the Chapman Cultural Center, through Aug. 14, 2015.

Gibson’s interest in photography began early in his Marine Corps career. He recalls snapping photos of locals halfway around the world living their daily lives. One day, he came upon a Buddhist temple where it was forbidden to take photographs, but a

Korean soldier offered a guided tour of the shrine. Gibson still has those slides, as they are a “happy reminder of [his] first attempts at being a photographer.”

Throughout the years, Gibson has tried multiple types of photography, but his favorites are MACRO, still, and portrait. “I am always trying to see things in new ways and love innovating and working on new techniques.”

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or call Steve Wong, Marketing Director at 864/278-9698.

The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be Aug. 24th for the September 2015 issue and Sept. 24 for the October 2015 issue.

After that, it’s too late unless your exhibit runs into the next month. But don’t wait for the last minute - send your info now. And where do you send that info? E-mail to (info@carolinaarts.com).

Don’t forget about our website:
www.carolinaarts.com



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