

Hillsborough Gallery of Arts

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that *Present Tense* would be an appropriate title for any current show of her art. "My work is constantly moving, changing, evolving. I try new things; some become part of my regular process, some don't." Her paintings for this show explore different surfaces and different methods of applying paint. Some of the paintings are on canvas or linen, some are on wood panel and some are done on clayboard.

"Each of these surfaces accepts paint differently so that combining their specific properties with different types of brushes, painting knives and painting mediums produces entirely different results," says Graebner. "A great deal of thought goes into each piece long before I actually apply paint to surface. After I select the image I want to work with, I must decide the painting's size, the surface I want to work on, the color palette and the types of brushes and mediums I will use. I then map out a direction and begin, but I find that as I work, the painting finds its own course and often flows in channels I had not anticipated."

Graebner is a night person. She says, half-jokingly, that the only time she sees the dawn is just before she goes to bed. "My biological clock has always tilted in that direction and my creativity doesn't usually flow until after 6pm. It's not surprising, therefore, that I've painted dozens of sunsets and night-themed paintings." This show features a number of both. *Under the Moonlight*, painted on panel, is of the ocean in moonlight. "Last winter my husband and I spent a week in a high-rise on the beach. The moon was full and watching the play of the light on the waves, simply magical. I used mop brushes and many thin layers of paint to capture my sense of that light."



Work by Pringle Teetor

According to glassblower Pringle Teetor, *Present Tense* is the perfect title for an exhibit featuring an artist who works with a material that is a liquid at 2100° Fahrenheit. She explains, "You can't just stop what you are doing, put it aside and come back to it later. You have to work in the moment."

In discussing her work for *Present Tense*, Teetor explains that she found herself working in the present tense in two major ways. The first resulted from a suggestion made by her studio partner, Dana Smith, to make some changes in one of her main lines of work, pieces containing colloids or particles of precious metals suspended in glass which create colors. Says Teetor, "The change was a major step outside of my comfort zone but I think the results are fabulous!"

"I love playing with colloids! My favorites are colors containing copper, silver and gold," adds Teetor. "For years I've been making pieces containing gold and silver colloids that produce luscious shades of blue and red combined in just the right way



Work by Linda Carmel

to create beautiful hues. At Dana's suggestion, I researched the chemistry of the various glass colors produced by the two German companies who supply the glass-blowing industry. I wound up choosing two colors that are undoubtedly the softest and most difficult colors to work with! When using them, it is critical that the piece be heated slowly and carefully because by the time it is hot enough to blow and manipulate, it can easily end up as a puddle on the floor. Another danger is that uncontrolled shifts in temperature can cause changes in oxidation that alter the colloidal coloring. Furthermore, if you let these colors get too hot, the tiny particles of gold will coalesce into large aggregates that take on a disagreeable 'liver color.' You must layer the colors in a very particular way in order to get the best results. It required a lot of practice tests, but I am really amazed by the results."

Teetor underwent cataract surgery in January. "While I had heard from many people that my color vision would be very different after surgery, I was still surprised," she remarked. "I had no idea how much I had been missing. Since the surgery, colors appear much brighter and more intense than before. One day I noticed the beautiful array of color rods in my supply of glass and decided to try something I've wanted to do for many years – a multiple incalmo piece using all hues of the spectrum."

Incalmo is the technique of constructing an object, usually a vessel, by fusing two or more blown glass elements. "It was a long process of designing and blowing each section, cutting, cooling and grinding them until the edges were clean and polished, heating them back up to 1050° F in an oven, and then picking up each section one at a time and fusing them together. The results were thrilling. I made two pieces, one using twelve sections and another using eighteen!" says Teetor.

The Hillsborough Gallery of Arts (HGA) is owned and operated by 22 local artists and represents these established artists exhibiting contemporary fine art and fine craft. HGA's offerings include acrylic and oil paintings, sculpture, ceramics, photography, textiles, jewelry, glass, metals, encaustic, enamel, and wood.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 919/732-5001 or visit (www.HillsboroughGallery.com).

FRANK Gallery in Chapel Hill, NC, Offers Two New Exhibitions

FRANK Gallery in Chapel Hill, NC, will present two new exhibits including: *Natural Alliances* and *Renaissance: A Book Arts Exhibition*, both on view from Aug. 11 through Sept. 6, 2015.

A pencil, bit of clay, a pure silver wire, and a camera are the tools used by artists Jean LeCluyse, Aggie Zed, Ippy Patterson and Alan Dehmer to translate nature into works of art for *Natural Alliances* at FRANK Gallery. Though their chosen media and the art they make are very different, their commonalities make them a 'natural alliance' for this magnificent exhibit. They are all inspired by the natural world; all

work with a subtle, limited palate and their art requires a closer look to fully appreciate it. This newest show at FRANK Gallery, brings these artists together to celebrate their unique views and interpretations of the natural world through their art.

Jean LeCluyse, FRANK member artist and curator for *Natural Alliances*, draws inspiration from the flora and fauna in her backyard garden, a microcosm of the larger natural world. Her richly detailed drawings reflect her background in scientific and botanical illustration. LeCluyse says working on her drawings is a "slow, meditative

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process that allows me to think about my subjects in depth. I hope the detail in my work invites a viewer to take a closer look at my imagery and stimulates a sense of curiosity about the content."

Ippy Patterson draws flowers, the human figure and strange creatures. She is best known for her stunning botanical illustrations. She feels "gratitude to plants for the complete joy they have given me. Drawing them always makes me feel better." She is the recipient of the National Academy of Sciences Illustration Award, she worked for the *New York Times* as an illustrator and completed 160 botanical illustrations for *Montrose: Life in a Garden*, a biography of the renowned gardens in Hillsborough, NC.

Ceramicist and sculptor Aggie Zed's sculpture ranges from intimately-scaled ceramic figures of human-animal hybrids to copper wire and ceramic horses to ceramic and mixed-metals contrivances she calls "scrap floats". Her humor and delight in these small beings is infectious. She has been recognized with both National Endowment of the Arts and Virginia Commission for the Arts fellowships.



Work by Jean LeCluyse

something more that cannot be explained solely by the multiple layers of pigment applied. The final image seems to carry an archetypal quality, like something from an old memory or a dream one can't quite remember.

Dehmer says, "I'm interested in the Japanese aesthetic called wabi-sabi. Wabi-sabi expresses itself in the simple, natural, ever-changing, decomposing world we live in."

In addition to *Natural Alliances*, FRANK is very pleased to be the third and final venue for *Renaissance: A Book Arts Exhibition*, an outstanding book and print arts exhibition. The show is a collaboration between member artists from Asheville's Book and Print Arts Collective, Chattanooga's Book Arts @ The Open Press, and Raleigh's Triangle Book Arts group. The Renaissance is a period known for change and innovation; it is also synonymous with rebirth. The participants in the show have created an exciting variety of artist books and prints to explore this theme. The exhibition includes a wide range of book forms from contemporary to more traditional forms. The prints include a variety of techniques; aquatint, drypoint, etching, lithography, monotype and woodcuts.

Together, these exhibitions offer gallery goers a "slow art" experience with smaller art works, the intimate experience of books and detailed reflections on nature that are sure to be stimulating and a joy see.

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Work by Steve Godwin

Alan Dehmer's work is a hybrid of photography and printmaking. The gum bichromate print process he uses transforms his photographs into something new and decidedly different from the original camera image. It bears the mark of that first photographic moment, but it also achieves