

CONTAINMENT

October 3 - November 7, 2012 Lee Gallery, Clemson University

The CU Center for Visual Arts is pleased to present the first Clemson Ceramics National. Our inaugural exhibition asks artists to explore "containment" through the lens of functional ceramics.

"Containment" may be used literally or conceptually in the works, according to the artist's individual interpretation. The goal of this year's Clemson Ceramics National is to showcase a diverse collection of ceramic tableware and functional objects and bring a broad range of contemporary voices from across the country to the Upstate.

> - Valerie Zimany Assistant Professor of Art, Ceramics Clemson University

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Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC, Features Works by David Efurd & Eastern European Posters

Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC, will be presenting two new exhibits including: *Legacy of Ancient Caves in India: Photographs by David Efurd*, on view in the Martha Chapman Gallery, from Sept. 3 through Oct. 28, 2012, with a reception on Sept. 7, from 4-6pm, and *Film Art from Behind the Iron Curtain*, on view in Sandor Teszler Library Gallery, from Sept. 3 through Oct. 28, 2012, with a reception on Sept. 13, from 4-6pm.

In ancient India, monastic communities lived and worked in elaborate cave complexes. Dating as early as the 3rd century B.C., caves were hewn directly into mountainous outcroppings of stone, complete with architectural ornament and embellishments, with sculptures carved into solid rock and paintings covering their interior walls. These sites were abandoned with the decline of Buddhism in India. New communities and religious orders appropriated many of these cave complexes. Furthermore, India experienced a revival of Buddhism in the 20th century, and new generations of the Buddhist faithful flock to see ancient expressions of piety carved directly into the living rock.

David Efurd, assistant professor of art history at Wofford College, spent a year in India on a Fulbright- Hays Fellowship documenting and photographing ancient cave sites. He has returned to India several times to continue his research, often with camera in hand. Recently, he served as research fellow at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland, on a project related to archaeology in the British Empire. This exhibition of photographs highlights how these ancient cave complexes negotiate the contemporary world and continue to serve diverse populations.

The group of film posters from Eastern Europe, on view in Sandor Teszler Library Gallery, showcases the graphic design and aesthetic of the culture of that region. Often, Western films and the American designs of the posters used to advertise and interpret the films undergo remarkable transformations when presented to their European audiences. The posters are on loan from the collection of Dr. Matthew Johnston of Spartanburg. For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or call 864/597-4300. ture, his artwork contains thematic elements of profound whim and visual pun.

"Humor plays an important role in my art. I like to think that my artistic style is unique and self-derived, however, I am sure many influences converge to create my own particular form of expression. I try not to commit to either realism or abstraction - lurking somewhere between surrealism and distorted reality," says Weaver. He adds that the juxtaposition of two or more relatively familiar objects can create unique relationships, coaxing the eye and mind to unfold all the possible riddles that lie in the artwork.

Weaver admits that it is difficult to define the influences that have impacted his artwork. He credits his ceramic teacher Masako Miyata as being the most influential, passing on "a deeper understanding of the Japanese tradition in both lifestyle and creation of art forms." Also important was his conservative upbringing in the Mennonite community in Appalachia, which stresses "responsibility, a self-sufficient attitude, and a common-sense mentality." His background enabled him to learn various skills and trades - carpentry, plumbing, electricity, masonry - that are reflected in his work as well.



Work by Herb Weaver

Institutional Gallery listings, contact Jane

USC Upstate in Spartanburg, SC, Features Works by Herb Weaver

USC Upstate in Spartanburg, SC, is presenting an exhibit of ceramic sculpture by Herb Weaver, on view in the Curtis R. Harley Art Gallery, located on the first floor of the Humanities and Performing Arts Center at the University of South Carolina Upstate, through Sept. 21, 2012. An artist lecture and reception will be held Sept. 13, starting at 4:30pm.

Raised in a Mennonite community in

Harrisonburg, VA, Weaver earned degrees from Eastern Mennonite University (BS Art Education) and James Madison University (MFA Ceramics), and taught on the secondary school level before accepting college positions in Tennessee, Kentucky, West Virginia, and currently in Georgia at Georgia Gwinnett College. While concentrating his creative efforts in the area of ceramic sculpcontinued above on next column to the right For further information check our SC

Nodine, gallery director, at 864/503-5838 or e-mail to (jnodine@uscupstate.edu), or, Michael Dickins, gallery manager, at 864/503-5848 or e-mail to (mdickins@uscupstate.edu).

Furman University in Greenville, SC, Offers Works by Daniel Marinelli

CLEMSON CERAMICS NATIONAL JURIED EXHIBIT

Furman University in Greenville, SC, is presenting, *Instruments*, an exhibition featuring drawings, paintings and sculpture by Daniel Marinelle, on view in the Thompson Gallery in the Roe Art Building through Sept. 29, 2012.

For his sculptural work, Marinelli alters, combines and presents common, everyday materials (wood, steel, paper, thread, paint) into a format that evokes a sense of familiarity, either to the materials themselves or to the alluded content.

Drawn to the idea that art is a metaphor, Marinelli echoes Martin Puryear's "value of the referential quality of art, the fact that a work can allude to things or states of being without in any way representing them."

Marinelli's more recent works include drawings and paintings of a variety of tools, devices, and hardware. He says the subject matter in these works could easily be labeled as mundane, but to Marinelli, the objects are of utmost importance as they play an integral part in creating his sculptures.

Marinelli has recently completed a threeyear residency at Penland School of Crafts in Penland, NC. He has relocated with his wife and children to the Greenville area and is setting up his shop and studio in the Old *continued on Page 8*

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