University of South Carolina Upstate in Spartanburg, SC, Features Works by Leah Cabinum

The University of South Carolina Upstate in Spartanburg, SC, is presenting EMERGE, a sculptural installation and spatial experience exhibition, featuring works by South Carolina artist Leah Cabinum, on view at the Upstate Gallery on Main, in downtown Spartanburg, through Nov. 3, 2018. A reception will be held on Sept. 20, from 5-8pm, during the Spartanburg ArtWalk.

Cabinum creates immersive installations, sculptural objects, and drawings made from diverse materials not necessarily associated with art. Holding degrees from Winthrop University and Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Georgia. Born in Athens, GA, where she grew up, Cabinum’s work has been widely exhibited, including nationally at the Stone Quarry Hill Art Park and Marlin MOCA. Often derived from repurposed objects that link the physical to the conceptual, her materials mimic the visceral and link material associations with inherent attributes. Cabinum’s organic abstractions celebrate the complexity of both the growth process and our intuitive understanding of inevitable change. Using effervescent color and playful biomorphic forms as visual conduits for emotive discovery, her pulsating, sculptural installations gently challenge the viewer to find their own center in our ever changing universe. Often derived from repurposed objects that link the physical to the conceptual, her materials are chosen for their inherent attributes.

Cabinum’s practice is in the vein of Arte Povera, the radical Italian art movement from the late 1960s whose artists explored a range of unconventional processes and nontraditional ‘everyday’ materials. “I am a link,” said Cabinum. “My work is a process of exploring the cyclical relationship between ideas and things. Sculptural objects, installations, mark-making, performance and video are the product. The combination of touching a thing and looking beyond its surface (or vice versa), enables me to discover connections. Media and materials range from trash to gold and are chosen for their corporeal and conceptual value alike. Often, the subtlety of a thing is what lures me in, like an aesthetic’s journey to and germination of materials mimic the visceral and link material associations with inherent attributes. 

EMERGE exhibition the artist says, “This emotive body of work was created as a response to my personal journey. My perspective continues to evolve from one of reckoning to one of reveling. Biomorphic, curvaceous, voluptuous, and bulging forms made from a variety of materials mimic the visceral and link my physical and psychological beings. In keeping with established personal practice, this exhibition relies upon natural references, such as flora, fauna, and physiology to symbolize various phases and emotions that I have experienced in my youth until the present.”

Leah Mulligan Cabinum (born 1967, USA) creates installations, sculptural objects, and drawings made from diverse, often unconventional materials. Cabinum received her Master of Fine Arts from Winthrop University and Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Georgia. Born in Athens, GA, where she grew up, Cabinum’s work has been widely exhibited, including nationally at the Stone Quarry Hill Art Park and Marlin MOCA. Often derived from repurposed objects that link the physical to the conceptual, her materials mimic the visceral and link material associations with inherent attributes.

Work by Leah Cabinum

Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC, Features Works from the Johnson Collection

Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC, is presenting Scenic Impressions: Southern Interpretations from the Johnson Collection, on view at the Richardson Family Art Museum, located in the Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center, through Dec 20, 2018.

In its presentation of some forty paintings created between 1880 and 1940 including landscapes and genre scenes, Scenic Impressions traces an international aesthetic’s journey to and germination in the American South. Featured artists include Wayman Adams, Colin Campbell Cooper, Elliott Daingerfield, G. Roger Donohoe, James Herring, Alfred Hutton, Blondelle Malone, Lawrence Mazanovich, Paul Plaschke, Hattie Saussy, Alice Ravenel Huger Smith, Anthony Thieme, Helen Turner, and Ellsworth Woodward, artists who explored local color to produce, in the words of the popular and prolific American Impressionist Childe Hassam, “some things that are charming.” After opening at the Dixon Gallery and Gardens in Memphis, TN, the exhibition was on view at the Morris Museum of Art in Augusta, GA, the McKissick Museum in Columbia, SC, Telfair Museums in Savannah, GA, and the Knoxville (TN) Museum of Art. The Rosalind Sallenger Richardson Center for the Arts at Spartanburg’s Wofford College will be the show’s final venue.

The Richardson Family Art Museum accommodates Wofford College’s permanent collection.