

# Southern Arts Society in Kings Mountain, NC, Features Works by Stacey Pilkington-Smith

The Southern Arts Society in Kings Mountain, NC, is presenting *Hidden Places*, featuring a solo exhibit of works by Stacey Pilkington-Smith, through Sept. 28, 2018. A reception will be held on Sept. 16, from 2-4pm.

Stacey Pilkington-Smith works encompass a wide variety of mediums, including both two and three dimensional forms. She spends most of her time creating her own personal body of work which is inspired from folklore, mythology, and nature. Defining characteristics of her work include fanciful depictions of women and animals. Pilkington-Smith strives to create art that immerses the viewer in a wonderful atmosphere of enchantment, where viewers can connect with their inner child or remind them of a happy time.

Pilkington-Smith offers the following artist statement, "I am constantly intrigued by the creation of life, unspoken language that is evoked by all living things, the fragility of humans and all the emotions that create the human experience. I believe that in life, there is balance: good and evil, yin and yang, imagination and reality – these are all concepts that to me go hand-in-hand with each other."

"I create fun, whimsical, vibrantly colored, detailed works of art that comfort me. I feel that every time I finished a painting, I'm inviting someone into my world. I draw inspiration from childhood fairy tales, mythology, nature, and personal memories. I allow symbolism to inspire the worlds, objects, and every little detail I create in my art," adds Pilkington-Smith.

"Mixed media paintings combine my interest in the graphic qualities of two-dimensional art, drawing, gestural painting and the expression of line and form. Working in mixed media helps me create images with colors that leap off the canvas and textures that excite the visual and tactile senses."

"I believe art should be enjoyed by the masses. I create artwork that is not only



Work by Stacey Pilkington-Smith

relatable and enjoyable to the average consumer, but also affordable and can be purchased and enjoyed by everyone."

Southern Arts Society, Inc. is located in the historic Southern Railway Depot on the corner of N. Piedmont and Battleground Ave. on NC 216, just two blocks north of downtown Kings Mountain, NC.

Southern Arts Society, Inc. (SASi) is a non-profit organization founded in 1984 by A.B. Mauney Snow and local artists. Our mission is to promote the arts by training the artist and educating the public to the many talents available in the community. We provide visual art displays in the community, scholarships for local students, and workshops open to all. A variety of classes in the arts and ceramics are offered throughout the year. While based in Kings Mountain, NC, our membership extends throughout the Carolina's. We gladly welcome new members. All you need is a love and appreciation for the arts.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Society at 704/739-5585 or visit ([www.southernartsociety.org](http://www.southernartsociety.org)).

# Jerald Melberg Gallery in Charlotte, NC, Features Works by Roland Poska

Jerald Melberg Gallery in Charlotte, NC, will present *Deckle Edge*, a solo exhibition of paintings, sculptures and prints by master paper maker Roland Poska (1938-2017), on view from Sept. 15 through Nov. 3, 2018. A reception will be held on Sept. 14, from 6-8pm.

This will be Poska's first exhibition in North Carolina and will include over thirty works from his four-decade career. The Gallery is publishing a full color catalogue with an essay by Grace Cote to accompany this exhibition, available digitally and in print at the Gallery or by mail. Jerald Melberg Gallery is the exclusive representative of the Estate of Roland Poska.

Poska was a pioneer in the field of printmaking and papermaking and sought to extend and break the boundaries of his chosen medium. He landed on what he called "Papestries" or paper tapestries, which are featured in this exhibition.

His process involved preparing five-gallon buckets of moist cotton fibers mixed with pure powdered pigment to achieve his desired color palette. The texture of the paper pulp varied in consistency from apple sauce to bread dough. He laid handfuls onto plastic sheeting and added elements such as handmade sliced forms and coils. After drying, Poska would flip the panel over and reveal a flattened yet technicolor abstract composition. He would then assess and sometimes alter the surface by adding more pulp, peeling away or overpainting. A sizable work could take up to six months to complete. Many works consist of multiple panels with intentionally rough and unrefined edges, a nod to the signature deckled edges of handmade paper. Late in his career, he grew his oeuvre to include large sculptures, called Sentinels, made with a similar



Work by Roland Poska

process. These were formed into three dimensional free-standing columns before completely drying.

Roland Poska was born in Scotland in 1938 and immigrated to Rockford, Illinois when he was a child. He received degrees from Rockford College and Cranbrook Academy of Art, where he was introduced to the mechanics of paper making. He later cofounded the Milwaukee School of Art and Design and taught there while simultaneously running a lithography print studio, Fishy Whale Press.

His work was the subject of over thirty solo exhibitions in his lifetime, including the Rockford Art Museum, Rockford IL; Midwest Museum of Art, Elkhart, IN; Milwaukee Art Museum and The Neville Public Museum, Green Bay, WI. His works are included in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Fine Art in New York, the Art Institute of Chicago and the Milwaukee Art Museum.

Jerald Melberg Gallery was founded in 1983 and prides itself on enjoying a fine reputation based on years of honesty and

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integrity among our colleagues and collectors. We provide the professionalism, proper knowledge and expertise needed to place quality works of art in any public, private or corporate collection.

The gallery represents artists of such stature as Romare Bearden, the master American collagist of the twentieth century; Wolf Kahn, considered by many to be the premier living American landscape painter; and Robert Motherwell, one of the leaders of the American Abstract Expressionist movement.

Jerald Melberg Gallery is proud to have

# Mint Hill Arts in Mint Hill, NC, Features Works by Princess Cureton, Barbara Jimison, and Pat Kempisty

Mint Hill Arts in Mint Hill, NC, is presenting *Realism and Beyond*, featuring works by Princess Cureton, Barbara Jimison, and Pat Kempisty, on view at the Mint Hill Town Hall, through Sept. 25, 2018.

The paintings by three very talented and creative artists can be classified as realism, but go far beyond simply capturing subjects on canvas. The viewer is pulled into the scene and enveloped in the narrative of the painting. All three women painters came to the Matthews/Mint Hill area after spending much of their lives in other parts of the country, and we are indeed fortunate that they are now a part of our community.

Princess Cureton says her work in this show "is based on metaphors that reflect the very personal and spiritual landscape of my experiences and is narrated through the figure in surreal background." She adds that the technique of combining acrylic and/or mixed media with relief sculpting adds an element of surprise, designed to draw the viewer deeper into the narrative. She uses a variety of processes to coax the figure away from the surface of the canvas or paper, embedding materials that are "indigenous to the creative, spiritual and spatial environment."

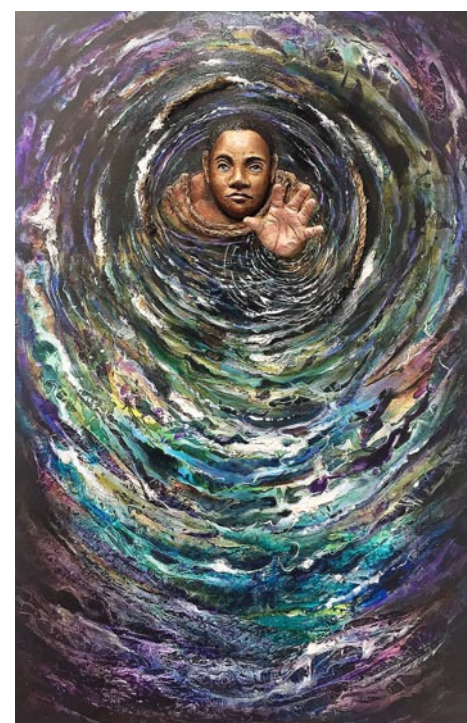
Cureton, a native of Washington, DC, taught and coordinated art programs in New York, in the US Virgin Islands, and in the Greenwich CT Public Schools before retiring locally in 2014. She says that "extensive travel has opened her eyes and heart to other cultures and experiences that continue to fuel and influence her creativity."

Barbara Jimison prefers painting watercolor in a realistic mode. While some of her most popular works are dog and cat commissions, most subjects come from her own photos and, like the work of Cureton, pull the viewer into the scene of the painting. Jimison graduated from The University of North Dakota with a degree in Art Education. She taught music appreciation and art to high school students for 12 years and found it a rewarding experience. Since moving to North Carolina she has exhibited her art across the region. She is a member of The Waxhaw Arts Council, Golden Pallet

worked with numerous prestigious institutions such as the Museum of Modern Art, the National Gallery of Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Butler Institute of American Art and the Mint Museums, among many others.

Jerald Melberg Gallery is located on South Sharon Amity Road near the intersection with Providence Road.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 704/365-3000 or visit ([www.jeraldmelberg.com](http://www.jeraldmelberg.com)).



Work by Princess Cureton

Society, Mint Hill Arts, and North Carolina Watercolor Society. She has won numerous awards for her work.

Pat Kempisty's award-winning watercolors are done in a realistic style and some of her most creative works were inspired by photos taken by her daughter and friends on mission trips to Haiti. Of her work, Kempisty says, "Although I do paint commissioned pieces, I prefer to get my inspiration from photos that grab my attention, uplift my soul and inspire my brush." Art was Kempisty's minor in college. She painted with acrylics in western New York for 25 years before turning to watercolors when she moved to North Carolina in 2008.

The Mint Hill Town Hall is located on Mint Hill Village Lane. The gallery, which is located on both the first and ground floors, is accessed from the front of the building.

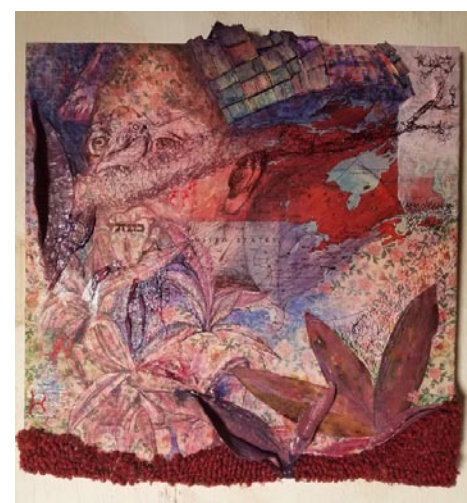
For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the gallery at 704/968-4345 or visit ([www.minthillarts.org](http://www.minthillarts.org)).

# Davidson College in Davidson, NC, Offers Faculty Related Exhibition

Davidson College in Davidson, NC, is presenting *Revisit: Artwork from Former Visiting Faculty*, featuring works by Tonya Clay, Debra Fisher, Darren Douglas Floyd, McArthur Freeman, Ray Kleinlein, Liss LaFleur, Lydia Musco, Nate Rogers, Clinton Sleeper, and Felicia Van Bork, on view in the Van Every/Smith Galleries, through Oct. 5, 2018.

Each year, the Van Every/Smith Galleries present a faculty-related exhibition. This year, in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Katherine and Tom Belk Visual Art Center, the galleries present the work of former visiting faculty members. The exhibition features work from 10 individuals who taught at Davidson in a short-term capacity between 1997 and 2016.

Tonya Clay (American, b. 1975) was born in Champaign, IL, and earned a BFA in Painting with honors from the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign. She was later awarded a three-year scholarship to the Graduate School of State University of New York, Stony Brook from where she



Work by Tonya Clay

earned her MFA with awards. Clay began her professional career as manager of a successful gallery in the West Chelsea Fine Arts Building in New York City.

After September 11, 2001, Clay spent the [continued on Page 22](#)