

Bender Gallery in Asheville, NC

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Haverkamp attended Cleveland Institute of Art and Memphis College of Art before earning his BA degree in painting from Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, TN, in 2003. In 2004, he studied at Studio Incamminati with acclaimed artist Nelson Shanks who is known for his commissioned portraits of Princess Diana and Bill Clinton, among other notable figures. Haverkamp later studied with another renowned portrait painter, Robert Liberace, who had a profound influence on him. With Liberace, he felt the freedom to develop his own methods and style as an artist. Haverkamp is an accomplished teacher himself and regularly holds workshops throughout the United States.



Work by Seth Haverkamp

Haverkamp received the Portrait Society of America's International Competition Draper Grand Prize in 2019 for *Mars Rising*, a painting of his son in front of a full-length mirror holding a string of origami birds. A portrait of his daughter Echo earned him Best in Show in the 2008 competition. Haverkamp was awarded a Certificate of Excellence in the Portrait Society's 2011 show. He won the "People's Choice Award" in the 2013 for a painting of his daughter



Work by Seth Haverkamp

Essie as well as "Top Honors" in the same competition in 2013 and 2014. Haverkamp was also a finalist and received an award from the 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 Art Renewal Center's international painting competition in the portraits category.

Bender Gallery is a contemporary fine art gallery in downtown Asheville, NC. They specialize in figurative and abstract work by regional, national, and international painters and sculptors.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call 828/505-8341 or send an e-mail to (Info@bendergallery.com).

Asheville Gallery of Art in Asheville, NC, Features Works by Bill George

The Asheville Gallery of Art in Asheville, NC, will present *Collections*, featuring works by Bill George, on view from Nov. 1 - 30, 2021. A reception will be held on Nov. 5, from 5pm-8pm.

George's paintings for this show compile a variety of subjects, done in a series form. He will be displaying 2-3 paintings of six different series he has completed. His "Realism/Naturalism" style portrays the subject as it actually appears in real life, but stops just short of looking like a photograph.

George has been interested in art from an early age, and worked as a Graphic Designer and Illustrator. He owned his own graphic design firm in New York City, and began painting in 1999 as a creative alternative to graphic design, which is digitally produced.

He works in a variety of mediums... pastel, watercolor, gouache, charcoal, pen & ink, etching, and fresco, however, his main focus remains on painting in oils. His process is an indirect method, in which the final effects in a painting are built up gradually by placing several layers of paint, one over the other. The upper and final layers modify but do not altogether conceal the lower layers.

One of his paintings from the Antique Car Series, *1957 Cadillac Eldorado* is a 30" x 40" oil-on-wood. "From my first visit to the Estes-Winn Antique Car Museum, I was immediately inspired to recreate these cars in paint with visual impact." The vintage cars were unique, originally bold and beautifully styled, with many featuring



Work by Bill George

luxurious to sporty details, becoming sleek in silhouette by the 1950s.

Picasso, from the Icon Series is a 30" x 24" oil-on-canvas. "This painting of Pablo Picasso is one of the 'Icon' series of reimagined and abstracted celebrity portraits which I translate into color squares, usually with a definite color palette in mind. I like to find new ways to interpret a traditional genre such as portraiture to make it fresh and interesting."

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/251-5796 or visit (www.ashevillegallery-of-art.com).

Mark Bettis Studio & Gallery in Asheville, NC, Offers Group Exhibit by Select Artists

Mark Bettis Studio & Gallery in Asheville, NC, will present *Little Boxes Where We Dwell: Habitats, Spaces, and Reflections*, on view from Nov. 13 - 27, 2021. A reception will be held on Nov. 13, from 4-7pm.

The exhibit is a curated collection of

works by a group of artists that examine and expand upon the concept of "home." The works chosen for the exhibit reflect the fact that home means many things, and that the conceptual framework is complex and excitingly open-ended.

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Home can be a peaceful sanctuary, offer shelter from the literal and figurative storms of life, and serve as an arena for hospitality, gathering, and laughter. It's a place where we celebrate, heal, struggle, create, and contemplate, yet each person's "little box" is utterly distinct to them. And what of the little boxes that are homes away from home? Hospitals, hotels, and campsites are all little boxes — for a time.

The group of artists contributing works to the exhibition is as varied in their approach to the show's concept as the diverse range of media they use to create. Viewers will see that the artists' imaginations house unbounded ideas that are expressed through their work.

The contributing artists celebrating their notions of home are: Jacqui Fehl (mixed media artist), Deb Williams (glass artist), Samantha Edmiston (painter and sculptor), Michael Hofman (porcelain clay artist), Phil DeAngelo (painter), Carrie Cox (bookmaking and mixed media/found object artist), Terri Foland (fiber artist), Grant Penny (contemporary paper collage artist), Andrea Kulish Wilhelm (mixed media artist, graphic designer, and Ukrainian pysanky egg creator), Mark Bettis (oil and cold wax painter), and Nabil El Jaouhari (oil and mixed media artist).



Work by Deb Williams

Bettis typically honors nuance and multiple meanings in the exhibitions he curates, and his trademark approach is apparent



Work by Mark Bettis

in *Little Boxes* as well. "I'm consistently interested in making the gallery a stage for creativity that expands the viewer's vision through presenting diverse interpretations of a theme, and hopefully inspiring and provoking critical thought," he says.

Though his home base is now Asheville, Mark Bettis is a Chicago native who later attended the Ringling School of Art and Design in Sarasota, FL. His educational and professional history includes experience with computer animation and advertising, but it's his love of fine art that he decided to fully pursue, and one of the most intentional steps in his journey as an artist was his move to the creative mecca of Asheville. Bettis' work is known for its stylistic eclecticism, bold energy, rich color, and texture augmented with natural materials. Bettis himself is recognized as an enthusiastic teacher who shares his knowledge and processes — like using cold wax in the art making process — during his studio workshop classes, an active member of the community-at-large, and a proponent of local artists who has created a connected and energetic community of peers.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call 941/587-9502 or visit (<https://www.markbettisgallery.com/>).

You can contact us by calling 843/693-1306 or by e-mail at - but do it before the 24th of the month prior to our next issue. That's if you want to advertise or send us a press release about an exhibit.

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