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Southern Highland Craft Guild at the Folk Art Center, in Asheville, NC, Offers Works From Tryon Arts & Crafts School

The Southern Highland Craft Guild at the Folk Art Center, in Asheville, NC, is presenting *Thermal Belt: Artists of the Foothills*, presented by Tryon Arts & Crafts School, on view in the Center's Main Gallery, through May 9, 2021.

The Southern Highland Craft Guild opens its first exhibition of the 2021 year. The exhibit features artists working in the foothills in and around Tryon, NC, who are affiliated with the school. Disciplines represented include bladesmithing, copper textured bronze, hand-built and wheelthrown ceramics, glass lampwork, jewelry, quilting, weaving, wooden furniture, woodcarving, and woodturning.



Work by Doug Dacey

in a retrofitted public-school building situated adjacent to Harmon Field parks and recreational lands and the Pacolet River.

Asheville Gallery of Art in Asheville Offers Group Show by Member Artists

Blooms marks Asheville, NC's Asheville Gallery of Art's second new member show of the new year and celebrates the early signs of spring through the beauty of nature, new life, and of course, florals! Viewers can expect to see a variety of work from this month's featured artists: Kate Coleman, Cynthia Llanes, Jacqueline Oliver, and Claire Simpson-Jones. From figurative work to still lifes, every piece connects with the "Blooms" theme. . . and brings a preview of what's to come. The exhibit will be on view from Feb. 1 - 28, 2021.

Kate Coleman has been a professional artist for more than 18 years. She is best known in the gallery for her large, whimsical bird portraits, and her most recent work employs her signature style of acrylic paint and collaged vintage book pages to create a unique, textured image. For *Blooms*, Coleman turns from fauna to flora, creating layered paintings of plant life that have personal and biographical meaning.



Work by Cynthia Llanes | paintings for *Blooms* are inspired by some



Work by Madision Greer

Tryon Arts & Crafts School (TACS) is an Education Center Member of the Southern Highland Craft Guild and located in Tryon, approximately 40 miles southeast of Asheville in Polk County. The town has a rich history in the arts since its establishment as an artists' colony during the craft revival at the turn of the twentieth century. The town's accessibility to Asheville by rail and its mild, "thermal belt" climate made it a desirable destination for affluent lovers of arts and literature. Today, the climate and beautiful scenery still team with the arts to uphold Tryon's historic charm.

Tryon Arts & Crafts School is housed h Page 22 - Carolina Arts, February 2021

The school is host to an artisan retail shop, gallery, 200-object Heritage Collection, and seven independent studios, covering a range of media – Blacksmithing, Clay, Enameling, Fiber, Glass, Silversmithing, Welding, and Wood.

TACS' mission is to provide creative opportunities for everyone through education, instruction, and expression of heritage and contemporary arts and crafts in a friendly, stimulating and enriching environment.

The Southern Highland Craft Guild is a non-profit, educational organization established in 1930 to bring together the crafts and craftspeople of the Southern Highlands for the benefit of shared resources, education, marketing and conservation. The Southern Highland Craft Guild is an authorized concessioner of the National Park Service, Department of Interior.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 828/298-7928 or visit (www.southernhighlandguild.org).



Work by Kate Coleman

Cynthia Llanes has created art from a young age, starting with designing clothes for her dolls and then working as a textile designer in the Los Angeles fashion district before moving to the Blue Ridge Mountains and pursuing an art career. Llanes is a mixed media artist, creating vivid depictions of nature's beauty with color and texture. Her of her favorite poet's descriptions of flowers and are exclusively painted using alcohol ink, which creates especially bright, saturated colors perfect for florals.

Jacqueline Oliver creates narrative paintings and ink drawings inspired by the natural world, depicting plants, animals, and people in her illustrative style. Her work often contains hidden details to reward the curious viewer. She works in a variety of mediums, from acrylic to papercutting, and her artwork for *Blooms* celebrates the new life that emerges in springtime.

Claire Simpson-Jones works primarily as a watercolorist, painting landscapes and women in nature to capture the important role of nature in our lives. Her paintings reflect her deeply rooted passion for the natural environment and are inspired by her extensive travels near and far. *Blooms* features Simpson-Jones' watercolor figures in a new context, mingled with soft florals in a peaceful, serene environment.

For more info check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call 828/251-5796 or visit (www.ashevillegallery-of-art.com).

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