

Greenville Center for Creative Arts

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tial portion of the painting is hidden, an apt metaphor for the hiddenness of much of women's valuable work of caring."

Traci Wright Martin is an award-winning charcoal and mixed media artist. The overall narrative in her portrait and figurative work addresses the idea of representation, weaving contemporary realism with abstract design elements. Her pioneering approach to mixed media utilizes charcoal as the foundation and brings in various combinations of paint, patterned paper collage and other experimental techniques to the finished design. The primary thematic focus in Martin's work is the legacy and evolution of the female experience and its influence on artmaking and cultural traditions. She ties an autobiographical visual philosophy to the broader, shared human experience through symbolic elements of nature in a unique, yet relatable style.

After graduating with a BA in Art from Southeastern Oklahoma State University, she spent her early career showing extensively in the Oklahoma and Texas art scenes, with artist teaching residencies in Oklahoma, Arizona and Alaska. Solo and group shows have included the Oklahoma State Capitol gallery, Oklahoma Contemporary, The Charles B. Goddard Center, IAO Gallery, 33 Contemporary Gallery in Chicago, the Wausau Museum of Contemporary Art, Brookgreen Gardens Museum, The Grand Bohemian Gallery, and both the Equity Gallery and the Salmagundi Club in



Work by Michelle Berg Radford

New York City.

Martin has received numerous awards and top accolades in international, national and regional juried shows, claiming multiple "Best in Show" titles. Her work has been featured in a number of publications including *Fine Art Connoisseur*, *Artist's Network: Best of Drawing*, *American Art Collector*, *International Artist*, *Pastel Journal*, *New Visionary Artist Magazine*, and a selection of titles for *Poets Artists*. Martin's first book, a retrospective of her work entitled "North/South", is being published in 2024 by Snap Collective in Copenhagen, Denmark.

The exhibition *Long Overdue* is generously supported by media sponsor TOWN.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 864/735-3948 or visit (www.artcenter-greenville.org).

Greenville Technical College in Greer, SC, Features Works by Jonathan Bolton and Sydnay Greene

Greenville Technical College in Greer, SC, will present *Home Sick*, featuring drawings by Jonathan Bolton and Sydnay Greene, on view in the Benson Campus Galleries, from Feb. 12 - 28, 2024.

Home Sick is an exhibition of large-scale drawings by Greenville Technical College alumni, Jonathan Bolton and Sydnay Greene. "Both of us are proud to return to a place we considered home during the early days of our formal education – a place that profoundly impacted our appreciation for technique, craftsmanship, and formal approaches to drawing." Bolton recently completed his MFA at Clemson University and Greene her BFA. Both were standout GTC visual art students and left GTC well prepared to continue their education.



Work by Sydnay Greene

thick, dark cloud runs throughout his drawings, and according to him, "The sparse visual cues ironically expand the range of implicit meanings or narratives. By situating viewers on the precarious edge of meaning, they are given the problem of negotiating an ambiguous image."

Greene chooses to create narratives of dilapidation and decay by combining carcasses of local wildlife with abandoned man-made industrial materials. Gore is not her subject but "...the sensitive rendering of such graphic imagery in a rapturous, revelatory light. While giving permanence to the impermanent, I allow my subjects a transfixed space to exist after loss claims their physical presence and subsequent memory, and in doing so, allowing myself to exist as well."

Jonathan Bolton lives in Greenville and is a drawing instructor at Clemson University. He is actively exhibiting his work across South Carolina and recently in Manifest Gallery's *DRAWN 2023* in Cincinnati, OH. His work has also been featured in regional and international publications. Sydnay Greene reports, "When I'm not cultivating

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my studio practice or prying a slipper out of my dog's mouth, I'm engaging in the world of fine arts through a variety of gallery, studio, and instructional roles in my hometown of Greenville, SC." She is also considering graduate school.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call Fleming Markel, Gallery Director, or Pat Owens, Gallery Assistant at 864/250-3051 or visit (www.gvltec.edu/dva).

Art & Light Gallery's Anchorage Exhibition Series in Greenville, SC, Features Works by Erin Hughes

Fragments, Erin Hughes' Anchorage exhibition will be on view through Apr. 6, 2024, in Greenville, SC. The exhibit is also on view during regular dining hours at The Anchorage. Join Hughes for a ticketed artist meet and greet and artist talk on Mar. 7, from 5-6:30pm.

Erin Hughes (Anderson, SC) will introduce a new year with *Fragments*, the first exhibition of 2024, in the Art & Light gallery partnership with The Anchorage restaurant in the Village of West Greenville.

Hughes received a BA in Biology from James Madison University and an MA in Science Education from Boston University. She began working with film photography in high school and started painting in 2015. Always motivated to learn and further her technical proficiency, Erin honed her skills with encaustic and oils under the tutelage of artists such as Lisa Pressman, Mark Russell, and Jeffrey Hirst.



Work by Erin Hughes

Hughes' work can be found in private and corporate collections including the permanent collection of the Anderson Arts Center and RiverOaks Charleston. Her work has been featured in *Faire and TOWN* magazine and has been included in group exhibitions including NYA in New York, NY, Photoplace in Middlebury, VT, and A Smith Gallery in Johnson City, TX.

In *Fragments* Hughes employs a variety of mediums including encaustic, graphite, pan pastels, and oils. With each layer of medium, a landscape evolves... a reminder



Work by Erin Hughes

of the importance of place and time.

Hughes shares, "I am constantly exploring the nuances of beauty and the influence of nostalgia and loss on our life experience. When I examine all of the elements of my personality, relationships, and life experiences, the predominating theme is the connection between great love and great loss. My work is an attempt to mark the moments of time when one is aware that the separation between joy and suffering is actually quite small. The idea that beauty can hurt and great love is often bound to great suffering fascinates me. I am in a constant pursuit to maintain our connection to beauty, awe, and wonder while also acknowledging the separation from these notions that occurs as we age and our daily responsibilities multiply. My most recent series, *Fragments*, seeks to represent our limited memory of a landscape and how we carry only a piece of that reality forward and thereby experience the ache of the loss of time itself."

During the Meet & Greet event on Mar. 7, from 5-6:30pm., a signature cocktail will be served along with small bites, making for the perfect culmination of fine art and fine food. Visit Anchorage Tickets at (<https://www.theanchoragerestaurant.com/store/event/meet-the-artist-erin-huges/>) to purchase tickets for the event.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call 864/252-5858 or visit (www.artandlightgallery.com).

Artists Collective | Spartanburg, SC, Features Works by Robyn Crawford and Lady Pluuto

Artists Collective | Spartanburg, SC, will present *Heart & Soul: A Celebration of Love and Spirit*, featuring works by Robyn Crawford and Lady Pluuto, from Feb. 6 through Mar. 2, 2024, in Gallery II. A reception will be held on Feb. 15, during the Spartanburg ArtWalk on the third Thursday each month, hours are extended until 8pm.

The heart and soul are two "essential aspects of humanity," says Upstate mixed media artist Robyn Crawford. That's why she and artist Lady Pluuto came together to present a joint exhibition.

Lady Pluuto's art includes acrylic and oil paints, digital paintings and murals. "We would like to invite our visitors into an immersive experience to explore how the heart and soul are interconnected and what it means to be human."

Crawford says, "When we met, we knew we had a lot in common with our subject matter, styles, colors and spiritual connections. Our work meshes quite well together."

"We know there is a profound link between these two essential aspects of humanity," she continues. "The heart, often associated with emotions, desires and passion, intertwines with the soul, representing our essence, spirituality and deeper consciousness. Through various media, we seek to depict the interplay between the heart and soul, unveiling the depth and complexity of their relationship. Each artwork in this

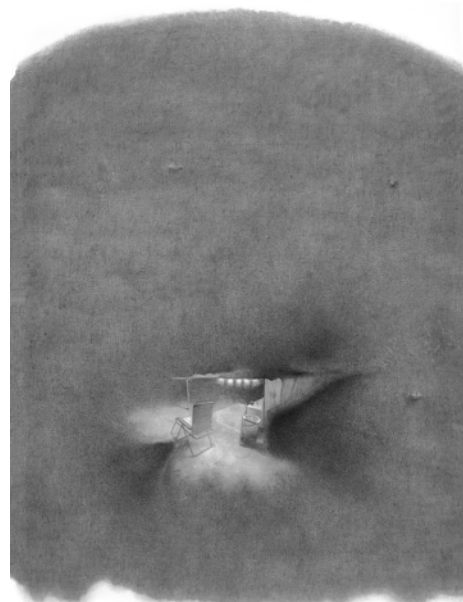


Work by Lady Pluuto

collection is an invitation to contemplate the intimate connection between emotional experiences and our spiritual journey."

Lady Pluuto says, "The heart is the vessel through which emotions flow, and it is closely tied to our experiences, relationships and personal growth. The soul often is considered the essence of who we are, our true self. It encompasses our deepest desires, purpose and connection to some-

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Work by Jonathan Bolton

Home Sick is a collection of moody, narrative drawings that speak of displacement and loss. By choosing to use the ancient, time-consuming, media of graphite, Bolton and Greene have given themselves time to meditate, time to remember, and to enjoy a respite from the current darting, hurtling images of our culture. They have chosen to size their works so that they create a space that wraps us in eerie comfort and immerses us in their intensive mark making and... "excruciating detail."

Bolton chooses images of people caught unaware and enveloped in a haunting or possibly protective, fog of memory. This