

# Artists Collective | Spartanburg

continued from Page 15 / [back to Page 15](#)

Virginia. By 2007, she became committed to be a full-time artist. In addition to the Artists Collective | Spartanburg she has exhibited at 80Six Gallery and Tryon Painters and Sculptures, both in Tryon, NC, and has had one-woman shows in the Hyatt Hotel Gallery in Greenville and in the Carri Bass Gallery in Tryon. She has sold paintings nationwide to collectors and patrons of the arts. She has an associate’s degree in graphic design and advertising from Guilford College.

Cato credits her husband, David Cato, as

a supporter and motivator in her art. “He has a keen eye for perspective and love for my work and gives me time to create.”

The Artists Collective | Spartanburg is located on W. Main Street, provides a forum and home for the arts and creative population of Spartanburg, providing facilities and services to artist members for exhibits, performances and creation.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or visit ([artistscollectivespartanburg.org](http://artistscollectivespartanburg.org)).

## Artists Collective | Spartanburg, SC, Features Works by Jim Weber

Artists Collective | Spartanburg in Spartanburg, SC, will present *Pottery with a Twist*, featuring works by Jim Weber, on view in Gallery III, from May 6 - 31, 2025. A reception will be held on May 15, from 5-8pm, as part of the Spartanburg ArtWalk. Weber will give an artist’s talk and a potter’s wheel demonstration from 6 to 7pm.

Spartanburg artist Jim Weber’s traditional and functional pottery has remained his mainstay throughout his 53 years as a potter, but today, his repertoire includes unique lidded teapots and jars.

Most of the pottery Weber has made through the years has been “of a functional, even traditional range of forms,” he says. “They were the first types of pottery I ever saw as a young child and eventually became the sort of pieces I wanted to make when I got the chance.”

That “chance” came when his parents offered him a pottery class for his 13th birthday, and he continued those classes regularly for the next couple of years.



Work by Jim Weber

At 15, “fortune” struck again, Weber says, when a fine arts high school opened in his county-wide school system in Greenville, SC. The Greenville County Fine Arts Center came “just in time” to give a “centering theme to my life,” he says, adding that he participated in the 50th anniversary alumni exhibit there in April.

The exhibition at the Artists Collective “has much of the same type work I’ve done for years, but for the first time I will feature several lidded pieces that will have lids that I’ve designed to ‘twist’ on and off,” Weber says.

He explains that lids for such things as urns or jars typically are secured with a high-temperature wax, “such as a letter



Works by Tom Dimond

may be sealed with.” A customer, though, requested a funerary urn with a lid “screw-on” lid. At first Weber explained he couldn’t make such an urn.

“I couldn’t quit thinking about it,” he says, and he began to work on making one. “That first urn with my ‘twist-lid’ was almost a disaster several times.”

The final product only fit in one position, but he perfected the technique and now makes ones that go on and off more easily.

“I had to make tools that helped to make my work more symmetrical,” Weber says, noting the “cheap coat hanger wire,” a sheet of “thin cork” and a “couple of drill bits” from his tool box as instrumental in the production of the 150+ twist-lidded pots he’s made since. “Most of them teapots,” he adds. “You can practically invert the teapot and the lid will never fall off and break. It doesn’t actually screw on. There’s more of a slight twist as you lift the lid, or settle it back in place.”

Weber says it is quite simple, and he was amazed to find from multiple ceramics professors that they’d never seen the design. “Lidded vessels go back thousands of years, and I knew a half dozen ways to help secure a lid to its vessel,” but it appears that no one before him ever did it the way he does.

Weber’s exhibition will include “as many teapots and jars as I can get made” along with “an assortment of my ‘regular’ pots.”

The Artists Collective | Spartanburg is located on W. Main Street, provides a forum and home for the arts and creative population of Spartanburg, providing facilities and services to artist members for exhibits, performances and creation.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or visit ([artistscollectivespartanburg.org](http://artistscollectivespartanburg.org)).

## The Galleries of the Cabarrus Arts Council, in Concord, SC, Offers Works by Karina Noël Hean & Michael O’Neill

The Galleries of the Cabarrus Arts Council, in Concord, SC, will present *Walking Through Light*, featuring works by Karina Noël Hean and Michael O’Neill, from May 30 through Aug. 2, 2025. A reception will be held on June 6,

from 10-11am.

Karina Noël Hean lives in the Galisteo Basin between Cerrillos and Galisteo, NM on the San Marcos arroyo, where the high desert light, skies, and land provide daily

continued above on next column to the right

## Carolina Arts

[www.carolinaarts.com](http://www.carolinaarts.com)



You can find [past issues](#) all the way back to August 2004!

You can find [past articles](#) all the way back to June 1999!

History is the gateway to the future.

Send us your email address to be added to our list to receive notice of each monthly issue.

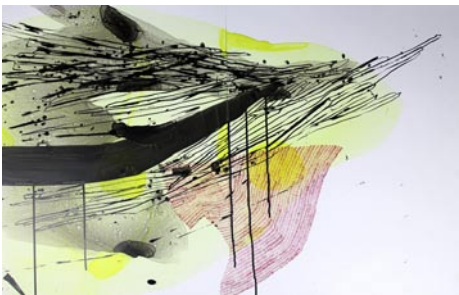
[info@carolinaarts.com](mailto:info@carolinaarts.com)

inspiration. By contrast, Hean was born and raised in Mayo, MD, along the Rhode River on the Chesapeake Bay’s western shore. Her artwork is grounded in drawing and amalgamates responses to landscape, which aim to transmit the power and impact of place. A significant inspiration in Hean’s work is found in watching storms and cloud structures. The drawings are a way to viscerally connect with the untouchable sky structures she daily observes, the immeasurable and compelling southwest architecture of canyons and rock, or the dramatic cliff edges of various seashores.



Work by Michael O’Neill

Michael O’Neill is a full-time instructor of Art History and Studio Art at Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, NC. He has an MFA in photography from New Mexico State University in Las Cruces and a BA in Psychology from Wake Forest University in Winston Salem, NC. He previously taught photog-



Work by Karina Noël Hean

raphy and visual literacy at Queens University in Charlotte where he designed the new darkrooms at the Sarah Belk Gambrell Center for the Arts and Civic Engagement; he has over 15 years of experience teaching art and photography.

O’Neill is a board member of the OBRA Collective; he has exhibited his artwork across the country and has work in the permanent collections at the Betchler Museum of Modern Art, the Palace of the Governors in Santa Fe, New Mexico and Queens University in Charlotte. His photographs have been published in the *Pinhole Journal*, *Len’s Journal*, and the *Poetics of Light* by Eric Renner and Nancy Spencer.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Council at 704/920-ARTS or visit ([www.cabarrusartscouncil.org](http://www.cabarrusartscouncil.org)).

## Southern Arts Society in Kings Mountain, NC, Features Works by Jeffrey J. Bowers

The Southern Arts Society Gift Shop & Gallery, located in the old Southern Railway Depot in Kings Mountain, NC, is presenting *Jeffrey J. Bowers – Wanderings in Acrylic*, on view through May 31, 2025.

All the paintings shown in this exhibit are painted “en plein air” or “in the open air” on location. Bowers considers himself an artist in the Modern Impressionist style. Working in acrylics, he paints landscapes, cityscapes, still life, pets, buildings, and vehicles in and around the

Piedmont area of western North Carolina. There are over 40 paintings in this exhibit, with the majority featuring landscapes and city scenes in Gastonia, Dallas and Kings Mountain. Artwork in the exhibit is available for sale.

To keep his artistic skills sharp, Bowers paints outdoors, “in the open air” as often as possible. Bowers was recently awarded the Winner of Best Plein Air Acrylic for April 2022 in Plein Air Salon competition

continued on Page 18