

for his painting *Late Summer Afternoon*. The judge for the competition was award-winning artist Camille Przewodek. He also received the “Best of Show” award at the Arts Mount Holly Plein Air Paint Out in September 2022, a 3-day plein air painting festival in Mount Holly, NC. The awards were judged by NC’s own award winning plein air painter Jeremy Sams.

Even when working on location, most of Bowers’ paintings are completed in less than two hours. Smaller canvases, and water based acrylic paint call for fast paced brushwork. Bowers uses his commercial art training to accurately draw the foundation of the painting, then using as few brushstrokes and details as possible, he quickly captures the feeling and atmosphere of the scene. An accomplished artist, Bowers takes great satisfaction in mixing colors on his palette to match what nature presents in front of him. Prominent light/shadow patterns, reflections, natural colors, a good sense of depth and strong drawing are essential ingredients to his paintings. While painting in the “impre-



Work by Jeffrey J. Bowers

sionist” style, he concentrates on light and color over detail, painting locations and objects that are easily recognizable to the viewer.

Bowers is currently a member of the North Carolina Plein Air Painters and Southern Arts Society.

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)).

## Mint Museum Randolph in Charlotte, NC, Features Works by Jackie Milad

The Mint Museum Randolph in Charlotte, NC, is presenting *Buscando la sirena* (*Searching for the siren*), featuring works by Jackie Milad, on view through Oct. 5, 2025.

A Baltimore City-based artist, Milad’s paintings, collages, and sculptures explore global migration inspired by her identity as a first-generation American citizen. She creates layered two-dimensional works that are primarily paintings but that also incorporate collage elements, such as found and stenciled fabrics, notions, and pieces of paper.

Though Milad’s father is Egyptian and her mother is Honduran, there is a shared relationship to outsiders who excavate and exploit cultural artifacts, exporting primarily to Europe and the United States where it is often presented out of context. This exploitation fascinates Milad. In her words, she is “omnivorous” in her inclusion of objects and images from museum collections and academic papers.

Milad has previously focused on her father’s Egyptian roots. Her father’s family came from stability and money, enabling them to preserve their history with photographs, keepsakes, and documents dating back to the 19th century. Her mother, in Milad’s words, had a “gap in resources,” yielding very little physical material for Milad to investigate, making it difficult for her to explore her Honduran maternal heritage. Ironically, Tiger Island, where her mother was born, represents a unique convergence of cultural styles and exchanges that mirror Milad’s larger



Jackie Milad, “La Cueva de la Sirena: Amapala”, 2023. Acrylic, paper, canvas, chiffon, collage on hand dyed canvas (hung with brass curtain rod) 77 x 66 inches

artistic project.

In *Buscando la sirena*, Milad explores her mother’s homeland of Honduras through created works and selected objects from the Mint’s permanent collection that connect to the Gulf of Fonseca geographically or stylistically.

Located in what was the original branch of the United States Mint, Mint Museum Randolph opened in 1936 in Charlotte’s Eastover neighborhood as North Carolina’s first art museum.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 704/337-2000 or visit ([www.mintmuseum.org](http://www.mintmuseum.org)).

## Mint Museum Uptown in Charlotte, NC, Offers Works by Romare Bearden

The Mint Museum Uptown in Charlotte, NC, located in the Levine Center for the Arts, is presenting *Ever Present: Romare Bearden and Music*, on view through Nov. 9, 2025.

From his earliest paintings to his final collages, music was a recurring theme in Romare Bearden’s art. This selection of more than a dozen examples of Bearden’s work, drawn entirely from The Mint Museum’s rich holdings, highlights some of the many ways that the artist explored musical subjects in drawings, prints, and collages.

Music was a foundational part of Bearden’s life. His father, Howard, was a pianist and organist, and other members of his extended family had musical talents as well. A grand piano enlivened their apartment in Harlem, which was visited by a variety of musicians who were close friends of the family, including Fats Waller and Duke Ellington. One of  
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Romare Bearden (American, 1911–88). “Guitar Magic”, 1986, collage and watercolor on board. Gift of Bank of America. 2002.68.6 © 2025 Romare Bearden Foundation / Licensed by VAGA at Artists Rights Society

Bearden’s memories of visiting relatives in Maryland as a teenager involved delivering cakes made by a family friend accompanied by her husband, a blind folk artist, who strummed a guitar as they  
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made their rounds.

Bearden also enjoyed listening to music while he worked and likened the process of making art to that of playing jazz: “You do something, then you improvise,” he would say. In this installation, many types of musical performances are featured, ranging from impromptu porch jam sessions to the immersive world of clubs and lounges. Sometimes the instruments and performers are easy to identify; in others the visual equivalent of the sounds and experiences they are creating is more prominent, abstracting the scene.

The seductive power of music is sug-

## Mint Museum Uptown in Charlotte, NC, Offers Works From the National Gallery of Art

The Mint Museum Uptown in Charlotte, NC, located in the Levine Center for the Arts, is presenting *Across the Nation*, featuring masterpieces from the National Gallery of Art, on view through Mar, 22, 2027.

As part of the “Across the Nation” initiative, works by Edgar Degas, Georgia O’Keeffe, and Alma Thomas will be on display, offering a unique lens into the American experience through art. These iconic pieces explore themes of beauty, movement, and abstraction, providing a compelling dialogue on the nation’s cultural legacy. The Mint Museum is honored to be one of 10 institutions throughout the United States selected to participate in the unprecedented program.

“This partnership is a remarkable opportunity for our community to experience firsthand some of the most celebrated works in the National Gallery’s collection,” says Todd Herman, PhD, president and CEO of The Mint Museum. “We are incredibly proud to be part of this national effort to bring art to communities across the country, and we look forward to welcoming visitors to experience these national treasures.”

The “Across the Nation” program serves to bring exceptional works of art to museums and communities that might not have direct access to such collections, making cultural treasures more available to Americans, says Kaywin Feldman, director of the National Gallery of Art.

Featured works include: *Dancers Backstage* by Edgar Degas: A powerful portrayal of ballet dancers, capturing grace, movement, and the intimacy of backstage life; *Jack-in-Pulpit – No. 2* by Georgia O’Keeffe: A vibrant abstraction of nature, celebrating the delicate forms of flowers and the American landscape; and *Autumn Drama* by Alma Thomas: A

gested in a scene from “The Odyssey,” Siren’s Song, and there is even an example of Bearden’s own talent as a composer in the sheet music and record for the hit he composed with Larry Douglas and Fred Norman, “Seabreeze” (1954). Visitors can even scan a QR code and listen to the tune!

The exhibition is generously presented by J.P. Morgan Private Bank.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 704/337-2000 or visit ([www.mintmuseum.org](http://www.mintmuseum.org)).



Georgia O’Keeffe (American, 1887–1986). “Jack-in-Pulpit - No. 2”, 1930, oil on canvas. National Gallery of Art, Alfred Stieglitz Collection, Bequest of Georgia O’Keeffe. 1987.58.1

dynamic, colorful abstract work reflecting the changing seasons, embodying the artist’s innovative approach to modern American art.

The National Gallery of Art welcomes all people to explore art, creativity, and our shared humanity. Nearly four million people come through its doors each year - with millions more online - making it one of the most visited art museums in the world. The National Gallery’s renowned collection includes nearly 160,000 works of art, from the ancient world to today. Admission to the West and East Buildings, Sculpture Garden, special exhibitions, and public programs is always free.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 704/337-2000 or visit ([www.mintmuseum.org](http://www.mintmuseum.org)).

## Mint Museum Uptown in Charlotte, NC, Features Works by DaRemen J

The Mint Museum Uptown in Charlotte, NC, located in the Levine Center for the Arts, is presenting *DaRemen J.: the longest way home*, on view through Sept. 21, 2025.

DaRemen J. composes the seen and unseen in his photographic and filmmaking processes, creating visual matter that reveals subtleties and depth of character. His practice and presence exist as co-conspirators in what he describes as “method shooting,” capturing sight, sound, and sentiment that echo of emotional attunement and resonance beyond media. Spanning two decades, and clarified by lineages of afro-surrealists, futurists, and image-makers, DaRemen has honed his artistry into a vehicle for deeper connection, Black liberation, and imaginative world-building.

Since childhood, the artist displayed a keen sensitivity to detail and the world’s visual textures, nostalgically noting the warm and fuzzy feelings seen in fast-food packaging and classic 90s commercials. His early experiments with Polaroid and VHS cameras found lying around his grandmother’s home initiated his innate creative curiosities. Later, popularized for personalizing profile photos for classmates and shooting YouTube skits with his cam-



DaRemen J. (American, 1994–). “Self Portrait (I’ve gotta magic charm that I keep up my sleeve, I can walk the ocean floor and never have to breathe.)”, 2023, digitally-manipulated photograph (this is not AI). Courtesy of the artist.

era phone, realization struck that image-making was his sacred strong suit.

Technology advanced and in November 2013, DaRemen acquired his first camera, a Canon T3i, and what followed is history. Forging ahead, he co-founded a motion picture company, dream studios©, alongside Terry Suave in 2019. Maintaining an ethos of giving back, in all senses, the collective continues to produce work worldwide.

Weaving a rich visual tapestry, Da-  
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