

NOELLE BRAULT FINE ART

See my other works at: Over the Mantle Gallery (Columbia, SC)



lina State Museum has been committed to collecting, preserving and showcasing the rich culture, art, and natural history of the Palmetto State. Through a comprehensive collection of over 1.1 million objects and four floors of stimulating exhibitions and displays housed within the historic Columbia Mills Building, the State Museum

provides educational environments that entertain, inspire imagination and creativity, and enrich the lives of millions of visitors and generations of students from across South Carolina.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (scmuseum.org).

University of South Carolina in Columbia, SC, Features Works by Nina Rastgar

The University of South Carolina in Columbia, SC, is presenting Chicken Factory, featuring works by Nina Rastgar, on view in the McMaster Gallery, through May 2, 2025.

Rastgar offered the following statement, "Materials profoundly shape both my daily life and artistic practice—not only as tools for personal expression, but as mediums carrying social weight. I begin each work by recording gestures, emotions, and fragments of lived experience - not out of nostalgia or reaction, but as a way to process the present. My sketches emerge from the tension between being ethical and expressive-an inner duality shaped by the environments I move through. Objects, for me, are never static. They are dynamic carriers of human ingenuity-bridges between problem-solving, cultural identity, and shared memory."

Growing up in an ethnic community in Gilan, northern Iran, under a totalitarian regime, I witnessed firsthand how social norms could suppress individual identity. In that context, crafting and performing were not just creative acts; they became ways of living. They were subversive gestures - acts of personal knowledge, subcultural expression, and communal resilience."

"Rooted in object-based making, my distance between Iran and the United States.

visual research navigates the intersection of craft, performance, and pedagogy," adds Rastgar. "Over the past three years, my practice has evolved between two worlds the duality of time and space shaped by the This torn existence reflects the tension between imposed and reclaimed identities. Through installations and performative en-

lution but for questioning. Within this visual language, the body-my body-becomes a site of inquiry inside a rigid binary structure that governs how we are expected to move, appear, and exist."

Nina Rastgar was raised in northern Iran among the Gilaki-speaking community in Gilan's lush, green province. They are currently pursuing an MFA in Studio Art at the University of South Carolina, Columbia, where they also serve as a Graduate Assistant. As a Presidential Fellow, Rastgar's research explores the conceptual strength of art in relation to socio-political climates and cultural contexts. Drawing from lived experiences both within and outside Iran, their work investigates how systems of power shape perceptions of human value in the modern world.

Rastgar's artistic practice has received both national and international recognition, with exhibitions across Turkey, France, Italy, Canada, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Iran. Their sketchbooks and creative process are featured in an interview with the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM), with a forthcoming publication by Yale University Press. During their time in the United States, Nina has received multiple scholarships from esteemed craft institutions, including the Penland School of Craft, Center for Metal Arts, Peters Valley School of Craft, Pocosin Arts School of Fine Craft, and the John C. Campbell Folk School.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call Olga Dickey, Gallery Director, at 803/422-4289 or e-mail to (yukhno@mailbox.sc.edu).

701 Center for Contemporary Art

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social and environmental context of the South. The exhibition considers how the forces of climate, geography, culture, and economy intersect to shape the future of rural spaces.

Through this lens, we ask: How can new planning strategies and architectural imagination foster resilience and economic growth? How can rural spaceslong defined by their isolation and often by poverty- become dynamic centers of innovation and cultural preservation?

The exhibition is being presented in partnership with Clemson School of Architecture and Partners of Place.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (www.701cca.org).

South Carolina State Museum in Columbia, SC, to Host Major **Exhibit from Walt Disney Archives**

The South Carolina State Museum in Columbia, SC, will present a fan-favorite blockbuster exhibition created by the Walt Disney Archives, Heroes & Villains: The Art of the Disney Costume, on view from May 3 through Oct. 26, 2025.

This critically acclaimed showcase features more than 70 costumes from beloved characters such as Cinderella, Maleficent, and more, highlighting the innovative ways iconic characters are brought to life through the artistry and imagination of their costumes.

"We are thrilled to bring this exhibition to South Carolina," said State Museum Executive Director, Amy Bartow-Melia. "Guests will be able to enjoy an up-close look at some of Disney's most memorable costumes and learn about the skilled artisans who helped bring them to life."

Representing nearly six decades of film and television production at The Walt Disney Company, the exhibition showcases costumes worn by the likes of Bette Davis, Glenn Close, Angelina Jolie, and Disney Legend Julie Andrews. Guests will also be able to get insight into how costumes evolve from concept to reality with quotes and detailed written accounts featured throughout the exhibition from some of Holly wood's preeminent designers, including Academy Award® winners Sandy Powell and Disney Legend Colleen Atwood, as well as Emmy® winner Ellen Mirojnick and Emmy® nominees Eduardo Castro and Penny Rose. "Costumes are a significant and memorable element of building a character and telling a story," said Becky Cline, Director of the Walt Disney Archives. "The exhibition explores the craftsmanship required to produce these amazing costuming elements, as well as the immense talent and creativity that goes into every stitch.' The exhibition is organized into three Disney archetypes: heroes, villains, and the spaces between - a category reserved for the antiheroes whose fascinating journeys make them among some of Disney's most complex characters. Here, guests can get an up-close look at the artistry on display in some of the iconic costumes of Disney live-action characters such as Mary Poppins from Mary Poppins Returns (2018), Queen Narissa from Enchanted (2007), and Jack Sparrow from *Pirates of the Caribbean:*



Belle's costume from "Beauty and the Beast"

Dead Man's Chest (2006).

The "Cinderella's Workshop" gallery examines how several designers have applied their own unique style and artistry to different interpretations of the fairy tale heroine from Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella (1997) and Into the Woods (2014) to the ABC hit series Once Upon a Time (TV, 2011-2018), and the 2015 live-action reimagining of Walt Disney's animated classic

starring Lily James.

Tickets are currently on sale exclusively to State Museum members via the museum's website at (scmuseum.org). Plus, museum members will have the opportunity to enjoy a sneak peek event. General public tickets went on sale beginning in January 2025.

For more than 50 years, the Walt Disney Archives has carefully safeguarded the most treasured items from The Walt Disney Company's history, including original scripts, movie props and costumes, Walt Disney's correspondence and script notes, theme park artifacts, merchandise, millions of archival photographs, and many of Walt's personal effects. Founded by Disney Legend Dave Smith in 1970, the Walt Disney Archives is a vital resource for every part of Disney, as well as an important research center for Disney scholars, researchers, and writers. The Archives also shares its countless pieces with Disney fans everywhere through its exhibitions and close association with D23: The Official Disney Fan Club.

Over the past 35 years, the South Carocontinued above on next column to the right

counters, I aim to create spaces not for reso-



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