

## The Johnson Collection

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in 2022. Guests are advised to check Wofford's museum and gallery web page prior to their visit to review public visitation hours and the latest campus health protocols at (https://www.wofford.edu/student-experiences/arts-culture/museum-gallery).

We Speak of Exchange: Immigrant and Expatriate Artists in the Johnson Collection opens at TJC Gallery on Sept. 15, 2021.

Curated by TJC summer graduate fellow Mary Kathryn Alexander (Georgetown University, Master of Arts, Art and Museum Studies), We Speak of Exchange presents the work of more than twenty artists from the Johnson Collection - all first-generation immigrants and expatriates - who have made significant contributions to the art landscape of the American South. The exhibition will be on view from Sept. 15 through Dec. 10, 2021.

A gallery talk with Alexander is scheduled for Sept. 16, beginning at 6:15pm during Spartanburg ArtWalk. The event is free and open to the public.

Hailed by *The Magazine Antiques* with having staged a "quiet art historical revolution" and expanding "the meaning of regional" through its "exhibitions, loans, publications, and institutional partner-



"The Toiler" by Aaron Douglas

ships," the Johnson Collection seeks to illuminate the rich history and diverse cultures of the American South.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (the-johnsoncollection.org).

## **Artists Collective | Spartanburg, SC, Offers Works by Carol Story**

The Artists Collective | Spartanburg, SC, is presenting ... For Spacious Skies, featuring works by Spartanburg painter Carol Story, on view in Gallery II, through Sept. 25, 2021.

"Ralph Waldo Emerson said the sky is 'the daily bread of the eyes,'" says Story, a native of Georgia who moved to the Upstate in 1981. "It is true that as finite beings, tethered to the earth, we never get

tired of looking at the skies and pondering its spacious realms. Is it too much to hope that viewing this body of paintings would be for some viewers a feast for the eyes and food for their souls?"

Spending more time outdoors during the restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic made Story more aware of the varied skies and how they affect the land and

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waters under them. "As the sky is never the same twice, I just kept taking photos from which to paint. I could have painted a hundred. I tried to choose for this show a variety of skies and landscapes, with colors ranging from clear royal blue to snowy ash gray to the reds and oranges of burning embers."

Story says she hopes the show, which features 20 of her works produced over the past year, "will convey the beauty of the ever-changing, free-to-all part of God's creation under which we all live. That the sky is available to all and free to enjoy no matter where one lives. These paintings are just an attempt to capture some of that beauty to bring similar pleasure to our indoor spaces." The works will be offered for sale, with prices ranging from \$275 to \$550.

The exhibition is characteristic of the landscapes Story usually paints, she says, "however with a focus on the sky and devoting a larger portion of the canvas to it. On several pieces I used the technique of combining a small amount of cold wax with my regular oils, some even using a palette knife instead of or in addition to a brush."

"Being able to paint during the 'age of the pandemic' has been a blessing to keep me moving and for my mental health, especially with restricted activities," Story says. "The fear and anxiety over whether my show last September would even happen and planning ahead for this one have been impetus to paint, paint, paint, more regularly than prior. But I've always said, 'It keeps me off the streets'"

As a painter in oils, Story considers herself representational in style. "I like to push the bounds of what I realistically see. Many of my works are the product of



Work by Carol Story

ramblings in Georgia and the Carolinas. Others are from travels further afield. I also enjoy painting still life because, as a 'control freak,' I like having command over subject, composition and lighting. Whether riotous color or subtlety of shadow, the beauty and insights to be appreciated with landscapes, animals or arranged objects are all inspiration to me."

This is the fourth solo exhibition for Story at the Artists Collective | Spartanburg, which she joined in 2015 and where she maintains a studio.

"Having the opportunity for a solo exhibition has been a stretching but affirming opportunity to one not degree-trained," Story adds. "Our members are great cheerleaders and I appreciate the interest and encouragement of our daily guests and Spartanburg ArtWalk faithful."

The Artists Collective I Spartanburg, 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).

The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be September 24th for the October 2021 issue and Oct. 24th for the Nov. 2021 issue.

After that, it's too late unless your exhibit runs into the next month.

But don't wait for the last minute - send your info now.

And where do you send that info?

E-mail to (info@carolinaarts.com).