

# Caldwell Arts Council in Lenoir, NC

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put their heads on the moon.

For further information check our NC

Institutional Gallery listings or call the Council at 828/754-2486.

## Flood Causes Temporary Closing of Upstairs Artspace in Tryon, NC

**Editor's Note:** This space included the article about Upstairs Artspace's new exhibitions, but as you all know, "stuff happens", and now our good friends at Upstairs Artspace need a helping hand - or better yet, a donation. So put your hand in your pocket, wallet, checkbook, or your hidden stash, as that rainy day is here for Upstairs Artspace.

A damaged water heater flooded parts of Upstairs Artspace in Tryon, NC, over the weekend of August 21st. The contemporary art gallery had just celebrated the opening of three new exhibits on Saturday evening, and because the gallery is closed Sunday and Monday, the leak wasn't discovered until Tuesday, the 24th. "The good news is that artwork in the exhibits was not damaged," said gallery manager Merry-Beth Noble.

The flooding was confined to the back of the building on all three floors, containing offices, storage rooms, restrooms and kitchen. "It has been a big mess," added Noble, who went on to praise the work of First Restoration Services of Hendersonville, a company specializing in disaster cleanup who are working on the interior. At the Upstairs, this work includes disposing of all damaged materials, drying out and repairing floors, and replacing walls.

Both staff and board members at the gallery are optimistic about the repair and reconstruction. "It's a terrific crew," said board president Cathey Stoney, adding that the gallery will reopen to the public as soon as possible. When the gallery does reopen, the current exhibits will be continued for the usual six week run of an Upstairs show. "We want our viewing public and our artists to not miss out on the full exhibition experience," commented Noble.

Even though COVID has set many of us back, some people in our area have extra to share. If you are in a position to



This not an art installation! This is the work of a tired hot water heater given a weekend to do its damage. It's the kind of work no one wants to see happen to them.

give, the Upstairs Artspace would greatly appreciate your support. We would not be here without the generosity of our members, neighbors and friends.

You can also support a special program such as Kits for Kids, or a capital improvement at the space. Let us know how you would like to help. Please think about making a contribution today at this link (<https://www.upstairsartspace.org/take-action>).

Updates and announcements about the Upstairs closure will be posted regularly on social and printed media, including at ([upstairsartspace.org](http://upstairsartspace.org)). People can also call 828/859-2828 and leave a message.

## UNC-Greensboro, NC, Offers Japanese Woodblock Prints

University of North Carolina at Greensboro, NC, will present *Seven Masters: 20th-Century Japanese Woodblock Prints*, on view at the Weatherspoon Art Museum, from Sept. 10 through Dec. 4, 2021.

Early in the 20th century, during Japan's rapid Westernization and industrialization, a desire to revive the great Japanese tradition of woodblock prints (known as ukiyo-e) in the context of Japan's dynamic, modern life gave rise to an art movement known as shin hanga or the "new print." Around 1915, a small group of artists began mingling the old with the new, creating beautiful, enticing pictures reproduced as prints of almost unsurpassed quality.

*Seven Masters: 20th-Century Japanese Woodblock Prints* focuses on the seven artists who played a significant role in the development of the shin hanga print and whose works boldly exemplify this new movement: Hashiguchi Goyō, Kawase Hasui, Yamamura Kōka, Torii Kotondo, Itō Shinsui, Yamakawa Shūhō, and Natori Shunsen. The 75 woodblock prints are drawn from the superb collection at the Minneapolis Institute of Art and feature three themes: Kabuki actors, beautiful women, and landscapes.

In addition to their enticing imagery, the materials used in creating the works are also captivating. Shin hanga prints were made using thick mulberry paper, rich mineral pigments, featured special elements like embossing and mica backgrounds, and emphasized the swirly movement of the rubbing tool, or baren.



Natori Shunsen, "The Actor Ichikawa Chūsha VII as Takechi Mitsuhide" (from the series Creative Prints: Collected Portraits by Shunsen), 1926, woodblock print, ink and color on paper with mica and embossing. Published by Watanabe Shōzaburō. Minneapolis Institute of Art, Gift of Ellen and Fred Wells, 2002.161.60. Photo: Minneapolis Institute of Art.

While 18th and 19th-century ukiyo-e prints had been printed by the hundreds - even thousands for the most popular designs - shin hanga prints were produced in limited editions to guarantee exclusivity.

The Weatherspoon Art Museum owns over 400 Japanese woodblock prints, dating from the 18th through 20th centuries.

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## STARworks Glass Pumpkin Patch

October  
2 - 23



Shop in Person October 2 - 23  
RSVP & Mask Required

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Shipping and Curbside Pickup Available

[www.STARworksNC.org](http://www.STARworksNC.org)

Due to their light sensitivity, prints from the Lenoir C. Wright Collection are only exhibited occasionally, but many can be seen online through the museum's collection page. In addition, 13 prints that reflect themes found in *Seven Masters: 20th-Century Japanese Woodblock Prints* are featured on the exhibition's viewing room page on the museum's website.

*Seven Masters: 20th-Century Japanese Woodblock Prints* was organized

by the Minneapolis Institute of Art and is toured by International Arts & Artists, Washington, DC. Its presentation at the Weatherspoon Art Museum was facilitated by Elaine D. Gustafson, Curator of Collections.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 336/334-5770 or visit (<http://weatherspoon.uncg.edu/>).

## Artworks Gallery in Winston-Salem, NC, Features Works by Marion Adams and James Gemma

Artworks Gallery in Winston-Salem, NC, is presenting *Colored Pencil Compositions*, featuring works by Marion Adams, and *Exploring Abstract Relationships in Shape and Color*, featuring works by James Gemma, both on view through Sept. 25, 2021. A reception will be held on Sept. 3, from 7-9pm, during the WS Gallery Hop.

Marion Adams reflects, "It is interesting where a year can take you, especially if you physically have no place to go!" She took the time to enjoy countless hours researching artists, both contemporary and traditional from the sanctuary of a laptop while in lockdown. The paintings of artists Janet Rickus and Jeff Larson inspired Adams to try her own. Although their paintings are in acrylic and oil, she tried something similar with a favorite medium: colored pencil.

First, traditional crockery became the subject, later followed by blue willow china. Months later, the minimalist styles of pottery by Giorgio Morandi and Sophie Cook inspired her works.

Adams was very much at peace this year while creating art, which provided a type of daily meditation and an escape from the constant chatter of the outside world. Making art offered a retreat into a space of quietness and peace. Maia Gambis, "Why Making Art is the New Medita-



Work by James Gemma

tion," explains that making art is a tool for coping with overwhelming emotion. "Happiness is more a matter of nurturing a space that provides stability and a constant connection to our true selves."

Adams has had a 30-year career teaching Science, Math, and Art. She holds a Master's Degree from Georgia State University and undergraduate degrees in education and art. She works in colored pencil, acrylics, and makes 3-dimensional pieces using polymer and paper clay. She has been a member of Artworks Gallery

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