

Editorial COMMENTARY

by Tom Starland, Editor and Publisher

Vote For The Arts

I'm not going to tell you who to vote for, but I'm going to say that if you're involved in the visual arts or like the visual arts - there is only one party that supports government funding for the arts on a national basis. The other party wants to cut all funding for the arts so they could build one more battleship. Locally, good members from all parties support local arts programs.

Four years ago I lost advertisers for my support of our President. I've been doing this for over 25 years so I'm used to losing advertisers over my views on politics or arts funding, so I'm not worried. I've been self-employed for almost 35 years so I'm not as impatient as most Americans when it comes to judging results of my or our President's efforts. If I was - there wouldn't be any *Carolina Arts* today.

I think most people paying attention know who I'm voting for - I'm going with the folks who are closer to my standing in life. I don't see myself getting rich any time soon, so I guess that puts me in the 98%. I've been in the 47% and will soon be there again.

Some folks say, "Can't we just talk about the arts and not politics?" But, the reality is - all things are political. And, if you make the wrong choice on Nov. 6th - there will be less arts to talk about.

I also realize that many of you cannot talk publicly about politics in fear of losing rich patrons and supporters. That's OK - I understand. You can do your talking in the voting booth. No one knows what you do there.

Here's the funny thing about paying the cost of freedom and expressing my political views in public. Those advertisers who stopped supporting our paper after

the election four years ago - they keep sending their press releases.

A Great October

Our October 2012 issue of *Carolina Arts* was a big record setter. It was not only our largest paper ever - 87 pages, it also attracted a record number of downloads - over 175,000 as of this writing.

I doubt with the distractions of the election we'll even get close to that number of downloads in November.

This sort of backs up my thinking that the bigger the paper - the more downloads, which makes sense - as a big paper has more artists, more arts groups, and more art galleries covered - resulting in more people interested in downloading the paper.

It also reasons that after a big issue, the following issue will be smaller as many exhibits last longer than a month. And, from past experience, our May and October issues are usually our largest of the year.

But, as more artists, arts groups, art galleries and museums begin to send us info about their exhibits, we see steady growth of the paper, which means more work for us. It also means a hard deadline. Items that come to us after the deadline are being left behind, as it takes us more time to prepare the paper and get it launched on time.

After 5pm on the 24th of the month, I'm concentrating on the layout of the paper. Once we've passed a certain region, there is no going back - unless it's an ad. Like Jello - there's always room for more ads. This also goes for folks who send us Art News items at this time - the paper comes first - items about non-exhibit events will just have to wait.



Hilton Head's Best Art Gallery



Creative Toys For Children



Santa & Mrs. Claus by Sticks

25th Annual Open House - Nov. 23 & 24



Ornaments



Jewelry - Art to Wear

Smith Galleries

Jewelry, Craft, Art, Framing & Toys

smithgalleries.com

300 Artists and Craftsmen Represented

The Village at Wexford, Suite J-11 **UPSTAIRS**

10 - 6 Mon. - Sat., 843.842-2280 Hilton Head Island, SC

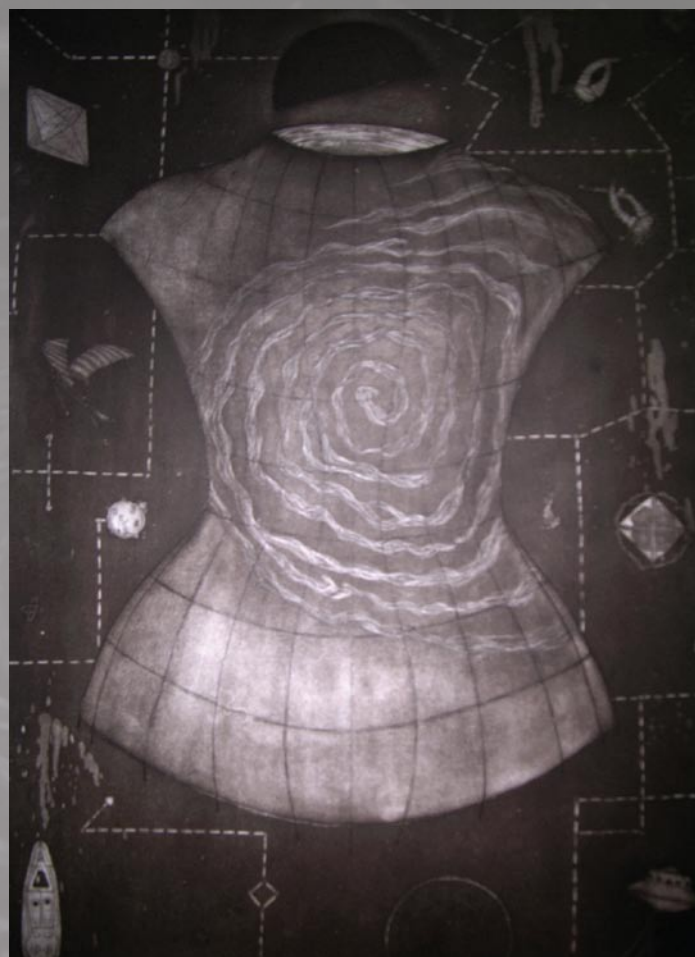
CURTIS R. HARLEY

ART GALLERY

J. Catherine Bebout - *Mapping the Body*

November 2 - December 3, 2012

Using a layered incorporation of colonial maps, topographical charts and photographs taken on her travels to China, Australia and New Zealand, together with energy flow charts, tantric charts and acupunctural diagrams, Bebout's works examine how cartography has been used to both inform and distort our vision of the world. Prominent in her works is the form of a torso, used as a vessel for storytelling, and as a window or portal for travel and exploration into the hidden, mysterious interior landscape worlds located within the body.



Gallery Talk with J. Catherine Bebout
Thursday, November 8, 2012, 4:30 p.m.
Reception to immediately follow

The USC Upstate Visual Arts Program includes Bachelor of Arts programs in:

- Art Studio (graphic design emphasis)
- Art Education
- Art History (minor)

Harley Gallery:

The Gallery, located on the first floor of the Humanities & Performing Arts Center, is free and open to the public from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

To learn more:

Visit uscupstate.edu
 (Search the A to Z index for Gallery)

Find us on Facebook
 (Search Curtis R. Harley Art Gallery)

Or Contact:

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