

# Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts in Winston-Salem, NC, Features Works by Mona King

The Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts in Winston-Salem, NC, is presenting *ri-'nii [renew]*, an exhibition of moss art and nature-inspired installations by Mona King, on view in the Arboreal Gallery, through Jan. 5, 2021. The exhibit is being sponsored by the Arts Council of Winston-Salem & Forsyth County. COVID-9 protocols will be observed.

Shannon Stokes, The Arts Council's Patron Services and Events Manager, said, "We welcomed this unique exhibition because we believe it is art for our time. Amidst the pervasive current anxiety and disruption of COVID-19, it is an opportunity to pause, renew, invite calm, and enhance productivity and creativity. It is a peaceful and purposeful divertissement."

For Mona King, *ri-'nii [renew]* means to begin again after interruption and continue your journey supported by remembering those times in nature of childhood that we need today. King said it's a way to re-set, re-start, and get on with your "wild and precious life", in the words of poet Mary Oliver.

King sees this exhibition at this time as "an antidote to stress", saying, "As we naturally seek ways to reduce the stress on our minds and bodies, nothing comforts and renews us as quickly and as beautifully as the natural world. Nature evokes childhood memories of playing in the great outdoors: in grass, meadows, streams and fresh air. We are innately connected with nature and easily experience mindfulness in a natural environment."

King is founder of MONA + ASSOCIATES DESIGN, a multi-discipline, collaborative design group with a core focus on creating holistically designed spaces and services that promote wellness in the built environment. A portion of its LIVING AURA living art and walls sales is donated to arts-based nonprofits.

King is a professionally trained artist/



Work by Mona King

designer/Interior Architect who, as a part of her work and service to clients, designs and produces moss art and wall installations under the LIVING AURA trademark using a wide range of textures, colors and natural materials. The result is that the viewer is reconnected with the natural world and "renewed". Her other nature-inspired art includes paper casting and intaglio etchings.

King earned the Bachelor of Arts in Fine Arts degree from Indiana University and the Bachelor of Science in Interior Architecture degree from UNC-Greensboro. She was in the initial cohort and is a graduate of the Creative Catalyst Certificate program of Thomas S. Kenan Institute for the Arts, UNC School of the Arts 2020.

Winston-Salem, known as the "City of Arts & Innovation", and Forsyth County have a robust arts community that enriches the lives of area residents every day and accounts in large part for the recognition they continue to receive as a great place to live, learn, work and play. Forsyth County's nonprofit arts industry supports more than 5,500 full time equivalent jobs; accounts for more than \$129 million in resident household income, and generates more than \$14.8 million in local and state tax revenues.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 336/722-2585 or visit ([www.intothearts.org](http://www.intothearts.org)).

# Francis Marion University in Florence, SC, Features Works by Symon Gibson and Scotty Peek

Francis Marion University in Florence, SC, is presenting two new exhibits including: *Memories*, an installation by Symon Gibson and *Altered Landscapes*, an exhibition by Scotty Peek, both on view in the Kassab Gallery, at the Hyman Fine Arts Center, on the Francis Marion University campus, through Nov. 20, 2020.

Symon Gibson is an installation artist and painter, residing in Lake City, SC. A graduate of Francis Marion University with a focus in ceramics, he earned his degree in 2012. With nature as his inspiration, he gravitates towards using natural or recycled materials in his work.



Work by Scotty Peek

Gibson's installation explores avoidance and memory. The work celebrates the talents and memories of his grandmothers through their handwritten recipes found within his three-dimensional creations. A portion of his statement reads, "Daily, I struggle with the tension of never wanting to forget them, while also wanting to accept their absence and move on from the pain. By having the birds fade away, losing their



Work by Symon Gibson

feathers, is it symbolic of me truly forgetting or am I moving forward through the aching pain of their deaths by celebrating their lives?"

Scotty Peek lives in Columbia, SC, and teaches Art at Heathwood Hall Episcopal School. Prior to joining the Heathwood faculty, Peek was an Assistant Professor of Art at South Carolina State University, held positions from Preparator to Assistant Director at several South Carolina Museums and Galleries, and taught art courses part-time at the University of South Carolina and Midlands Technical College.

Peek received his Master's in Fine Arts from the University of South Carolina in 2000 and his Bachelor's of Fine Arts from Austin Peay State University (TN) in 1995.

*continued on Page 27*

# Waccamaw Arts & Crafts Guild's Art in the Park

## 2020 ~ 48th Year in Myrtle Beach, SC

Over 50 artists from the East Coast to Tennessee, with about 15 artists from our local area!

Market Common  
1120 Farrow Parkway

November 14 & 15

## 2021 ~ 49th Year

Market Common  
1120 Farrow Parkway

April 24 & 25

October 9 & 10 and November 13 & 14

Saturdays & Sundays: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

*Art includes Paintings, Woodworking, Photography, Jewelry, Fabric, Glass, Metal, Pottery and Stone*

No Admission Charge • Child and Pet Friendly

Contact: JoAnne Utterback at 843-446-3830

[www.artsyparksy.com](http://www.artsyparksy.com)

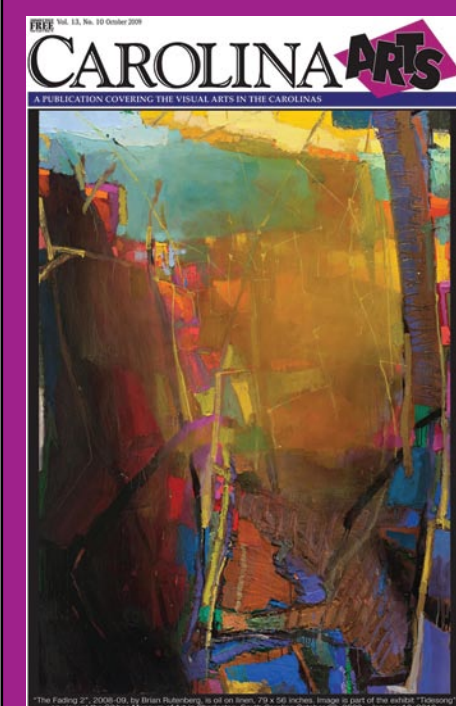


## Carolina Arts is on Twitter!

Sign up to follow Tom's Tweets, click below!



[twitter.com/carolinaarts](https://twitter.com/carolinaarts)



## Visit Carolina Arts on Facebook

Go to this [link](#) and "like" us!

