

# Pickens County Museum 1

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coms I have always been a sucker for irony and paradox. I identify most with a definition I found in one of my old dictionaries of the term "artist" as being a trickster that employs slight of hand. My work involves manipulating recognizable and conditioned elements of formal geometry, language/text, art about art and the socio-political in an open dialogue of opposition."

David continued, "I feel my work is most successful when it poses a question rather than presenting an editorial on a subject. I also contend that 'style and consistency' are antithetical to the creative process. I am very curious about the potential of art making that can exist by recognizing a seem-

ingly incongruous palette of concepts and contexts. The end accumulation may appear to be disparate but hopefully this approach has the capacity to represent a broader sense of who I am and how I reflect upon our current condition."

The Pickens County Museum of Art & History is funded in part by Pickens County, members and friends of the museum and a grant from the South Carolina Arts Commission, which receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or call the Museum at 864/898-5963.

## Artists' Guild of Spartanburg in Spartanburg, SC, Features Works by Walter Bethea

The Artists' Guild of Spartanburg in Spartanburg, SC, will present the exhibit, *The Uncoversy*, featuring a collection of 20 small (2" x 3") pencil drawings on paper and eight oil/acrylic paintings on wood panels by member Walter Bethea. The exhibit will be on view in the Guild Gallery located at the Chapman Cultural Center from Dec. 3 - 21, 2011. A reception will be held on Dec. 3, from 4-8pm.



Work by Walter Bethea

The work in *The Uncoversy* is based on geometric shapes and compositions. Bethea allows his intuition to lead his choices of color, shape, form and pattern to create images that seem to be disguised

or out of focus. He wants the viewer to be the "puzzle solver" and to "step back, get closer, to look from the left and to look from the right, to fully examine the work and to answer the inevitable question of 'what is it?'"

"With a use of a seemingly rigid grid structure of brushstrokes, squares and organic shapes, I create illusions of space, light and form that allow the viewer to choose what experience they desire," Bethea said.

"It's all new work that I created in the past six months, and it's the first body of work created since graduating college in 2005," Bethea continues. "I'm excited about the unlimited potential of where I can take this, and expand its diversity. I enjoy the challenge and discipline that the pieces require of me and enjoying making work that causes the viewer to change their perspective."

Bethea was born and raised in Spartanburg. He grew up surrounded by his family's artwork that hung on the walls of his childhood homes. He graduated in 2005 with a bachelor's degree in fine arts from Winthrop University in Rock Hill, SC. It was at Winthrop that he discovered his passion for art and art making. After graduating he returned home to Spartanburg and started working full time. Bethea said, "Those initial two to three years after college were not my most productive until, frustrated by artist block and insecurity, I started to just make marks on a canvas. I relished in the freedom of making a mark, then another beside it and another and then another."

Bethea will donate 10 percent of sales from this exhibit to S.P.I.H.N., a local nonprofit organization that provides housing, job training and daycare for families in need.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Guild at 864/764-9568 or visit (<http://artistsguildofspartanburg.com/>).

## Skyuka Fine Art in Tryon, NC, Celebrates First Anniversary with Works by Gallery Artists

Skyuka Fine Art in Tryon, NC, is presenting the exhibit, *Peace, Joy & Paint*, the gallery's first holiday exhibit, on view through Jan. 15, 2012. This show will celebrate the gallery's artists with new works, and celebrate the gallery's first anniversary on 1-1-2012. Much of the new artwork features local landscapes, perfect for giving someone a 'piece of the mountains' this Christmas. Original artwork makes for the most memorable gifts.

Skyuka Fine Art will proudly participate in Downtown Tryon's Christmas Stroll on Friday, Dec. 2, 2011, from 5-8pm. Come out and enjoy entertainment, as well as refreshments and treats while you stroll all



Work by Richard Christian Nelson

of Tryon's shops and galleries on this very *continued above on next column to the right*



Until February 18,  
**FREE ADMISSION to the exhibits**  
is sponsored by the 4th Annual



The next show will take place  
FEB. 23-26, 2012



DEC. 20 - FEB. 18, 2011

**Chasing the Undertow:**  
past & recent works by  
Laura Spang



AUG. 9, 2011 - FEB. 18, 2012

**Voices from the Vault:**  
selections from  
the Permanent Collection

Left:  
Jackson Lee Nesbitt (1913-2008)  
The Matthew W. Johnson family  
lithograph (1st state)

200 East St. John St • Spartanburg, SC • (864) 582-7616  
[www.spartanburgARTmuseum.org](http://www.spartanburgARTmuseum.org)

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The Lucile F. Kohler Fund for the Spartanburg Art Museum, and the Annual Art & Antique Show.

special evening. The gallery also will host a fundraising silent auction for the Tryon Downtown Development Association during the stroll. Local artists will be donating handmade ornaments which will be on display that evening, with a final bidding reception at the gallery two weeks later on

Dec. 16, 2011. For more information, or to donate an ornament, please contact the gallery.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/817-3783, or visit ([www.SkyukaFineArt.com](http://www.SkyukaFineArt.com)).

## Caldwell Arts Council in Lenoir, NC, Offers Holiday Gift Opportunity

"The Gifts of Christmas" is the theme of this year's annual *Satie's Holiday Show & Sale* at the Caldwell Arts Council in Lenoir, NC. Everyone is invited to attend the opening for this annual event beginning on Dec. 2, till 6:30pm. The show continues through Dec. 24, 2011.

Over 70 local artisans will provide hand-crafted gift items for *Satie's Holiday Sale* this year. You're sure to find something to please almost everyone on your shopping list! Buy American-made, made right here in Caldwell County!

Freshly made Joan's Sourdough Bread products are available by placing orders in advance. Savory seasonings and dip mixes, sweet jams and jellies, beautifully sculpted cookies and other new food items will also be available.

Jewelry, hand-knitted, crocheted and

woven items, purses, greeting cards, pottery, ornaments, stained glass, fused glass-work, antiques and collectibles, aprons, hand-tied fishing lures, dolls, locally made wooden toys and other items are available for gift giving.

Quilted table runners, wall hangings, placemats and potholders, locally made bath and body products, paintings and collages, calendars & furniture – so many unique and beautiful things to delight your senses.

Spend your Christmas dollars here in Caldwell County, and support locally owned businesses and local artisans and craftspeople!

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Council at 828-754-2486 or visit ([www.caldwellarts.com](http://www.caldwellarts.com)).

## Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC, Offers Works by Amy Horton and Works from Hungarian Paintings Collection

Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC, is presenting several exhibits including: *Paintings and Drawings by Amy Horton*, on view in the Martha Chapman Gallery through Dec. 15, 2011, and *The Teszler Collection of Hungarian Paintings*, on view in The Sandor Teszler Library Gallery through Dec. 20, 2011.

Amy Horton is the 2011 winner of the Thomas Daniel Whetsell Fellow Memorial

Fellowship for the Visual Arts. The Whetsell Fellowship enables a Wofford College student to study in the summer some aspect of the visual arts, with the study leading to an exhibition on the campus school year.

Horton spent the summer working with Spartanburg artist Isabel Forbes to study oil painting. She spent the spring semester of 2011 studying in Barcelona, Spain, and

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