

# Asheville Art Museum

continued from Page 16 / [back to Page 16](#)

founded *Juxtapoz Magazine*, sending out a rallying cry to artists, many of whom were inspired by Surrealism, Pop art, Graffiti, and Street Art. With a design that referenced comic books and psychedelic rock posters, the magazine created an alternative art space for a generation of artists and art collectors who were disillusioned with the direction of the mainstream art world.

"If there was one question I could ask the majority of these artists who have been around since the nineties, it would be, 'Where were you when you read your first copy of *Juxtapoz*?' stated guest curator Gabriel Shaffer. Multiple sub-genres of art have blossomed out of its countercultural foundation, giving rise to countless artists furthering the styles it once championed. Jux helped make it possible for cartoon imagery, illustration, craft, Graffiti, Fantasy, and good old-fashioned art mayhem to have a diverse and broad audience."



Robert Williams, "The Shattered Rose", 2010. Oil on linen, 30 x 36 inches. Courtesy of the Artist.

varied, this exhibition gives visitors a window into an alternative art world that *Juxtapoz* fostered, demonstrating its profound influence on contemporary art and culture.

"I want to thank Gabriel, each of the artists, and the generous lenders whose contributions have made *The New Salon* exhibition possible," says Pam Myers, Executive Director, Asheville Art Museum. "The works present a compelling and engaging entrée to New Contemporary art."

This exhibition is organized by the Asheville Art Museum and guest-curated by Gabriel Shaffer.

In conjunction with *The New Salon* exhibition, the Museum will present a variety of programs and events. For a complete schedule of programs and events, visit ([ashevilleart.org](http://ashevilleart.org)).

Established by artists and incorporated in 1948, the Asheville Art Museum is committed to being a vital force in community and individual development and to providing lifelong opportunities for education and enrichment through the visual arts. The Museum's mission is to engage, enlighten, and inspire individuals and enrich community through dynamic experiences in American art of the 20th and 21st centuries. The Museum is dedicated to advancing diversity, equity, access, and inclusion - now and in the future - and we welcome all visitors without discrimination. The Museum acknowledges that it is situated upon the ancient, southern Appalachian ancestral homeland of the Cherokee Tribe and that this region is still the home of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians today. The Museum is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings or visit ([ashevilleart.org](http://ashevilleart.org)).



Lori Nelson, "Find My Friends", 2017. Oil on wood, two interchangeable panels, each: 40 x 30 inches. © Lori Nelson, courtesy of Mortal Machine Gallery

The exhibition will feature a broad range of work, including the Photorealistic and Surreal paintings of Robert Williams, Medieval-inspired works by Daniel Diaz, and the robot-like Deities of Kumkum Fernando. Notable artists such as Mab Graves, Kukula, Lori Nelson, and Todd Shorr exemplify Pop Surrealism's figurative techniques and fantastical narratives. Shepard Fairey represents Street Art, and the renowned New York-based writer Faust demonstrates the hand style of Graffiti. Folk Art and Americana find expression in the works of Dennis McNett (Wolffbat), MSRA, Ben Venom, and Rachel O'Donnell.

Among the distinguished lineup is Los Angeles-based artist Lauren YS (they/ them), who will contribute a site-specific mural. Known for their mystical creatures and psychedelic style, they invite viewers to explore the boundary between reality and fantasy, enhancing the immersive experience of the exhibition. Though stylistically

## Asheville Art Museum in Asheville, NC, Features Works From Bender Gallery

The Asheville Art Museum in Asheville, NC, will present *The New Salon: A Contemporary View*, on view from Mar. 8 through Aug. 19, 2024. *The New Salon* offers a modern take on the prestigious tradition of the Parisian Salon with the diversity and innovation of today's art world. Guest-curated by Gabriel Shaffer, the show will include works from Pop Surrealism, Outsider Art, Street Art, and Graffiti genres.



Laine Bachman, "Night Bloomers", acrylic on canvas, 18 x 24 inches

Bender Gallery in Asheville has been collaborating with the Asheville Art Museum to loan four paintings from three of our artists. The artists are Laine Bachman, Kukula, and Yui Sakamoto. Be sure to check out this special exhibition in downtown Asheville.

Nataly Abramovitch, better known in the art world as, Kukula (b. 1980, Israel), Page 18 - Carolina Arts, March 2024



Yui Sakamoto, "My Soul", oil on canvas, 47.25 x 47.25 inches

paints imagined worlds filled with elaborately dressed women in fanciful settings. The artist does extensive research on the layouts of paintings from the Renaissance and Rococo periods. Kukula subverts these images by depicting women characters in place of traditionally male positions and settings. Her characters are powerful, commanding, and have an air of indifference.

Our surrealist artist, Yui Sakamoto (b. 1981, Japan), will have two paintings featured including *My Soul* and *Self Portrait*. *Self Portrait* is still available from his recent solo exhibition at Bender

*continued above on next column to the right*



OFF THE WALL ■ Mark Flowers & Suzanne Dittenber  
STRANGERS ■ Kevin Isgett



LAMBS I ■ SUZANNE DITTENBER



OTTO ■ KEVIN ISGETT

upstairs  
[artspace]

49 S. Trade St., Tryon NC  
[UpstairsArtspace.org](http://UpstairsArtspace.org)  
Winter Hours: Weds-Sat 12-5pm  
828.859.2828

WHERE ART AND INNOVATION MEET

JANUARY 20 -  
MARCH 15, 2024

Gallery. Standing in front of *Self Portrait*, one is immersed in the dual-worlds of Sakamoto's Japanese and Mexican cultures. There is a sense of calm reflected in the repeating rose pattern, mixed with the uneasy realization that the coral, fungi, and otherworldly forms are what makeup the figure.

Our prolific Magical Realism artist,

Laine Bachman (b. 1974, USA), makes a feature in the exhibition with her painting, *Night Bloomers*. She has been hard at work making 17 new pieces for her solo exhibition at the Canton Art Museum in Canton, OH.

For more info check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call 828/253-3227 or visit ([www.ashevilleart.org](http://www.ashevilleart.org)).

## Southern Highland Craft Guild in Asheville, NC, Offers Daily Craft Demonstrations at the Folk Art Center

The Southern Highland Craft Guild in Asheville, NC, invites visitors to experience daily craft demonstrations at the Folk Art Center from March through December. Every day from 10am-4pm, two artists of differing media will explain and demonstrate their craft with informative materials displayed at their booth. These free educational events are open to the public.

Visitors will have the opportunity to purchase a piece from the demonstrators and walk away with a piece of fine craft that came to life by the hands of its maker. Viewers are invited to discuss craft, ask questions, and learn the importance of preserving these practices whilst visiting the Folk Art Center.

This is a free opportunity provided by the Southern Highland Craft Guild and its volunteering members. For shared resources, education, marketing, and conservation of craft, the Guild educates the region and arts community on the importance of craft and its ability to impact the local creative economy.

The Daily Craft Demo schedule will be posted in March and can be viewed at (<https://southernhighlandguild.org/events/>).

The Southern Highland Craft Guild is a non-profit, educational organization established in 1930 to cultivate the crafts and makers of the Southern Highlands for shared resources, education, marketing and conservation. The Southern Highland Craft Guild is an authorized concessioner of the



Valerie Berlage gives a previous demonstration

National Park Service, Department of the Interior. The Folk Art Center is located at Milepost 382 of the Blue Ridge Parkway, just north of the Highway 70 entrance in east Asheville, NC. The Center is handicap accessible and admission is free.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Guild at 828/253-3227 or at ([www.ashevilleart.org](http://www.ashevilleart.org)).