

21st Annual Artista Vista

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George Brown, Kara Gunter and Virginia Scotchie. Many of these works will stay up for the four weeks following Artista Vista. The installations were curated by Jeffrey Day, who organized the 2011 *Install It* exhibition presented during Artista Vista.

"Artista Vista is entirely run by the galleries, as it has been since the event began over two decades ago," said Clark Ellefson, head of the Vista Gallery Group and owner of Lewis + Clark Studio. "We have some exciting shows and performances planned, and Artista Vista is always a great time to highlight the galleries that give the Vista the energy it's known for."

The Vista, Columbia's premier art neighborhood, has been a force in keeping the Midlands' art scene thriving through the past three decades. The modern Vista has its roots in the 1980s when artists began to move their studios to the area's affordable warehouse space. Today's restaurants, shopping and nightlife in historic buildings in the Vista are still driven by the Vista's art-filled history.

Artista Vista is free for attendees, and free parking is available in the Vista's parking decks located on Lincoln Street, near Lady, Park Street near Pendleton, and Lady Street near Wayne Street.

Stay tuned to (www.ArtistaVista.com) as galleries and shows are finalized.

Here's the current info about what the galleries will be offering.



Work by Michael Fowler

City Art Gallery at 1224 Lincoln Street will present the exhibit *Recent Landscapes in Oil*, featuring painting of Michael Fowler. The exhibit continues through June 30, 2012. At 8pm on Thursday evening, the Unbound Dance Company will give a performance based on the work of Fowler. The gallery will also present the Cindy Saad Jewelry Trunk Show. Refreshments will be offered.

Carol Saunders Gallery at 922 Gervais Street will present the exhibit *Tributes by Christian Thee*, introducing new work - a new form of portraiture. Refreshments will be offered.

Ellen Taylor Interiors at 807 Gervais Street will present works by Lily Marneffe of the Netherlands. The artist uses nature as her passion and inspiration. She creates her "flamboyant" work with oil paint on canvases. Her diptychs and triptychs make an especially dramatic and magical statement, creating a lasting impression of tranquility, peace and beauty in any space.



Work by Lily Marneffe

The Gallery At DuPre at 807 Gervais Street, behind Ellen Taylor Interiors, will use Artista Vista to debut as Columbia's first photography-only gallery. This exhibit discusses the technology of photography - analog to mobile devices.

The show's first collection highlights local photographer Molly Harrell and Kristian Niemi with a collection of iPhone photographs from near and far. A second collection of work will also be on exhibit from Columbia photographer, Barry Brian Wheeler. His collection is titled *In-stant Vista* - an interactive, photographic exhibit that elicits conversation between two opposing, but curiously similar, technologies: instant cameras and smart phones.



Work by Jan Fleetwood

The Gallery at Nonnah's at 930 Gervais Street will be presenting works by Betty Mandel, Jennifer Edwards, Ingrid Carlson, Edie Biddle, Jan Fleetwood, Alice Leek, Jim Finch, Donna Rozier and Betsy Stevenson. Entertainment will be offered by Brian McCullough on violin.

if ART Gallery at 1223 Lincoln Street will present *if ARTISTS*, an exhibition of works by if ART Gallery artists. Non-alcoholic refreshments and snacks will be offered.

Vista Studios/Gallery 80808 at 808 Lady Street will present *Brother Where ART Thou*, featuring works by 13 Vista Studio artists including: Ethel Brody, Stephen Chelsea, HeidiDarr-Hope, Jeff Donovan, Pat Gilmartin, Robert Kennedy, Susan Lenz, Sharon Licata, Laurie McIntosh, Michel McNich, Kirkland Smith, Laura Spong, and David Yaghjian. The evening features a 4 piece blue grass band and refreshments (Cash Bar). Additional entertainment Friday, Apr. 27, from 3-5pm: The Kerk Spong Band.



Work by Laura Spong

Lewis + Clark at 1221 Lincoln Street, will be presenting lamps, robot lamps, tin robot heads, modern and postmodern hand-made lamps, fabricated and found-object robots.

The new Lewis + Clark studio opening takes place at 1001 Huger Street on Saturday, Apr. 28. Refreshments will be offered.

One Eared Cow Glass at 1001 Huger Street will be offering works in glass by this locally owned and operated glass blowing studio serving Columbia for 21 years. Blown glass demonstrations will be given from 6pm - 9pm Thursday evening and offering refreshments.

River Runner Outdoor Center at 905 Gervais Street will be offering a photography art installation of 50 chairs from the art installation *reserve your seat: doni jordan + janette grassi*, which was created to benefit Nature's Theater at Saluda Shoals Park in the Midlands. A collection of miniature twig chairs painted by the 2011 Saluda Shoals Park Summer Safari Campers (grades 1-12) along with paintings of their favorite chairs will be featured in the outdoor patio space. Dolly Patton, Executive Director, of the Saluda Shoals Foundation along with Foundation member and River

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South Carolina Watermedia Society



2011 Best in Show: *Izabella* by Barbara Stitt

2012 Annual Juried Exhibition

City Art, Columbia, SC

July 7 - September 2, 2012

Digital entries due: May 11, 2012

All entries must be online and only members may enter. Membership is \$45 for new members. Residents of the states of Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina may join. An additional entry may be made for \$10 or donation to the SC Watermedia Society's small works show and sale. See details online at www.scwatermedia.com.

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scwatermediasociety@gmail.com • www.scwatermedia.com

Runner owner Guy Jones will be present to answer questions about Nature's Theater and to share architectural renderings of the upcoming premier 500-seat outdoor performance venue in the Midlands.

The South Carolina State Museum at 301 Gervais Street will offer *Abstract Art in South Carolina: 1949-2012*, and includes abstract works of art from more than 40 South Carolina painters and sculptors over the past 63 years. The exhibit is on view through Aug. 26, 2012. An artist reception will be held on Thursday, Apr. 26, from 6-8pm. Refreshments will be offered.

On Saturday, Apr. 28, the Museum will offer the annual Congaree Art Festival, which will feature over 20 contemporary artists from South Carolina and selling their work on the Museum's front plaza.

Each gallery will be open from 5-9pm on Thursday, Apr. 26 for Art Night. Each gallery will have its own hours for Friday, Apr. 27 and Saturday, Apr. 28. Please visit (www.ArtistaVista.com) for the most up-to-date gallery information.

Install It: Installation art at Artista Vista, co-sponsored by the University of South Carolina's McKissick Museum, will be offered throughout the Vista. Seven Midlands artists will create installations for Artista Vista. Taking art outside traditional venues has long been a part of Artista Vista and these artworks for the 2012 exhibition will be located outdoors throughout the Vista. Most of the works will be up for four weeks.

The installations were curated by Jeffrey Day, who organized the 2011 *Install It* at Artista Vista. Day is a long-time arts writer whose work has been published internationally. He has recently written essays for the Morris Museum of Art in Augusta, GA, and Hampton III Gallery in Greenville, SC.

Khalidoun Bencheikh and Mary How will conceive of and construct, along with community members, a giant sculpture of natural materials based on the "rangoli," a colorful Indian folk floor relief sculpture/decoration. A native of Morocco, Bencheikh has created several community-based projects including a rangoli

at the Tapp's Arts Center and a mosaic wall installation. Bencheikh is a master of fine arts candidate at USC. Mary How is an art therapist and owner of Angelfish Creations.

Eileen Blyth, using materials scavenged from the Vista, especially remnants of its warehouse/industrial past will build a sculpture connected to the railroad that once ran through the center of the area and the Adlueh Flour company. She holds degrees from the College of Charleston and USC and has had solo exhibitions throughout the region.

Michaela Pilar Brown will create a large abstract sculptural installation made of both man-made and natural materials. Brown was resident artist at the McColl Arts Center in Charlotte, NC, in 2011, and recently had solo exhibitions at the Harvey Gantt Center for African American Art and Culture in Charlotte and SC State University.

Wendell George Brown's figurative sculptures will address both transportation issues and the African-American history of the Vista. A faculty member at Benedict College his work has been exhibited at the Japan International Quilt Show, the American Folk Art Museum in New York and the Corcoran Art Gallery in Washington DC.

Kara Gunter plans to re-inhabit an alleyway with "ghost trees" sprouting where real trees have been cut down. It will explore how the built and natural environments interact. Gunter holds a master of fine arts degree from USC and has had solo exhibitions at the SC State University and Lander University galleries.

Virginia Scotchie will make an unfired clay work connected to the brick and tile-making industry once located in the Vista. Scotchie, a professor of art at USC, has had her work exhibited in France, the Netherlands, Australia, Taiwan and throughout the United States. She will have a solo exhibition at Hunter College, The City University of New York starting in May.

Also new to Artista Vista, Trustus The-

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