

Barton College in Wilson, NC

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explained as she discussed her work. "I am enthralled and preoccupied by light's incredible power to transform my perception of objects, spaces, and the human body. Revealing and obscuring forms, visual reality is in constant flux. Light is fleeting. Life is fleeting. Shadows move across the living room, white curtains become a dance of pale blue and evening's orange light; my own skin dissolves or emerges from a blue wall. The inherent beauty I

see in these small interactions drives my painting practice. In the form of mark and color, I record the beauty and complexity inherent in my mundane surroundings, giving testament to my conscious effort to be present in this world."

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call 252/399-6529 or e-mail to (kdaughety@barton.edu).

NC Wesleyan College in Rocky Mount, NC, Features Works by Everett Mayo

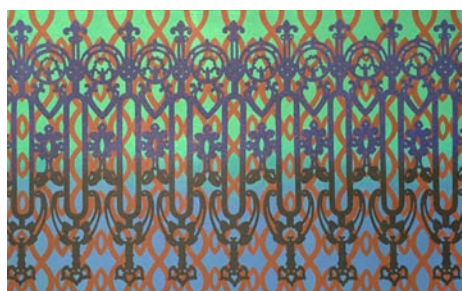
NC Wesleyan College in Rocky Mount, NC, will present *Everett Mayo Sabbatical Retrospective*, featuring paintings dating to 1964 by Everett Mayo, on view in the Mims Gallery in the Dunn Center, from Apr. 8 through May 20. A reception will be held on May 20, from 7-9pm.

Twenty-four years a professor, gallery director and curator at Wesleyan, Professor Mayo was awarded a semester sabbatical Spring 2015, two months of which were spent in Savannah, GA, where daily he visited a different historical square and sketched in watercolor. Eight of the sketches will be included in the exhibition.

First exhibiting in 1966, Mayo has continually challenged himself, not only technically but in subject matter, either observed in nature, imaginary, or abstract. He maintained working studios in Brooklyn and Manhattan, NY, before moving upstate. While his exhibiting career developed for over twenty years, he worked as incept coordinator in the development of an accredited art school within existing programming traditions at the Munson-Williams-Proctor Institute, Utica, NY; called the Foundation Program it now serves lower division Pratt Institute.

Before moving to North Carolina, Mayo twice worked and exhibited in Italy and regularly at Chronocide, Helio, Neopersona and WestBroadway galleries in NYC. His work is found in many collections, both public and private, Coca Cola and IBM the most recognizable.

In 1992 he was hired to start an Art



Work by Everett Mayo

Minor at Wesleyan and build art bridges to the greater eastern Carolina community; he quickly established an ongoing year round exhibition program, co-designed and established the Four Sisters Gallery of Self-Taught Visionary Art. On top of his dual roles as an academic and also college gallery director and collections curator, but without a viable market for his own art, he more or less had to stop so-called "serious" painting, additionally working as security sergeant at a major Triangle corporation.

Retiring from security four years ago and in an effort to make a comeback as a working artist, he has started painting again and has been much inspired by his sabbatical in Savannah. He is an active member of the Franklin County Arts Council, awarded Artist of the Year 2015. The outcome of this renewal will be the greater part of this exhibition.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the gallery at 252/985-5268 or visit (www.ncwc.edu/Arts/Mims/).

Andrejev Studios in Louisburg, NC, Offers Works by Billy Farmer & Elise Speights

Andrejev Studios in Louisburg, NC, is pleased to present work by North Carolina painters Billy Farmer and the late Elise Speights, friends for decades, in a two-person soiree exhibition on Apr. 16, 2016, from 7-10pm. Farmer is an impressionist painter with a strong regional following and Speights is a modernist with considerable national exhibition credentials dating to the 70s. This is your opportunity to place works by these two incredible artists in your home and office collections. These exhibited works can be seen and purchased by an in-person appointment until May 15, 2016.

The very serendipity of the lifelong friendship between Billy Farmer and Elise Speights is a story you won't find in their documented biographies. Three years before they met Farmer was alerted that his friendship with Speights was predestined; a well-known psychic forecast that Farmer would meet a woman named "Elsie" and that she would become both dear to him and enjoy the mutual fellowship that artists can gain so much from.

Beyond their solid friendship, they both enjoyed their annual study and enthusiasm for Joe Cox's Oriental painting workshops at the North Carolina coast. In friendship Speights persuaded master jazz pianist Farmer to teach her jazz piano; she was determined. Enjoining their art circles and friends they shared a rich social life...someone is quoted, "they'd paint all day and party all night" ...and any excuse would do.

Retired Wake County School Band Director, Farmer paints regional subjects in acrylic and watercolor. He is known for



Work by Elise Speights

his fresh immediacy with a brush capturing season, moments and the ambience of locale...one can even sense the breeze and distant growl of a lawn mower. His paintings are found in numerous collections both private and public. A dedicated artist, there is no time when Farmer is not involved in painting whether it be commission work or an inspired scene. Besides a following of collectors, he has many devoted students in Franklin and Wake Counties; in acknowledgement he was awarded the 2014 Franklin County Artist of the Year.

Raleigh, NC, artist Elise Speights died at 92 in 2013 and has left a noteworthy legacy of a painting career that shuttled between modernist abstraction and an expressionist realism. Thanks to her son John Speights, Andrejev Studios has been given permission to promote and market the inventory in her estate. The Apr. 16 soiree exhibition will feature 16 of her color abstractions, some non-objective and others suggesting landscape. Speights was an extraordinary sensitive colorist and it is in her midcentury

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Painting by Vicki Vitale

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abstractions that is most evident where color alone evokes time, temperature and distances near and far. There is a dreamy quality that makes one almost hear music... maybe Debussy.

This event is a rare opportunity to meet painter Billy Farmer and collect from two of North Carolina's best. Because there will be no more Elise Speight paintings, to purchase one or more from her estate is indeed a special opportunity to gain an appreciable

addition to one's collection.

Andrejev Studios "pop-up" gallery events occur at different venues and addresses at different dates. To be in the know, please stay in touch on line at (andrejevstudios.com). Our mailings will follow.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call Pamela Andrejev at 919/906-1337 or e-mail to (andrejevstudios@gmail.com).

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