

Florence County Museum in Florence, SC, Features Works by William H. Johnson

The Florence County Museum in Florence, SC, is and has been presenting *Kindred Spirit: the Personal Worlds of William H. Johnson*, focused on the artist's relationships with the people and places in his life, through Dec. 1, 2024.

The twenty-four works on exhibit include paintings from his time in France, Denmark, and New York. Others explore more personal themes, like Johnson's spiritual and family life, and his hometown of Florence, SC.

Of particular interest, a recently conserved tapestry woven by Johnson's wife, Holcha Krake, and a portrait bust of Holcha's sister sculpted by 20th century German expressionist, Christoph Voll, Johnson's brother-in-law. Both works, along with others in the exhibit were acquired by the museum from Johnson's family descendants in Denmark.

The exhibit combines resources from the museum's permanent collections, private collections, and four works on an extended loan from the James E. Lewis Museum of Art at Morgan State University.

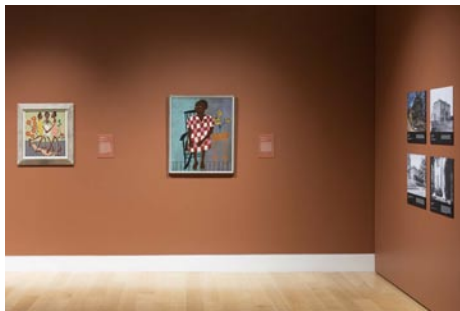
"We are very proud to collaborate with James E. Lewis Museum on the loan and exhibition of these artworks," says museum curator Stephen W. Motte.

Two of the paintings now on exhibit were created by Johnson in Florence, SC, during his visit home in the summer of 1944, including a rare portrait of the artist's mother, Alice Johnson.

"This exhibit brings together all of the significant moments in the story of Johnson's art and life," says Motte.

Motte says that national interest in Johnson is increasing. "In the past few years we have taken a growing number of visits, calls, and research requests from educators, other curators and institutions, and members of the public who want to learn more about Johnson."

Part of the reason is that the Smithsonian American Art Museum has recently curated an exhibition of Johnson's *Fighters for*



View of the Johnson exhibition

Freedom series of paintings made in the 1940s. The traveling exhibition is currently touring the country and a catalogue is scheduled for publication soon.

"Florence is the city of Johnson's birth, and people expect the museum to play a role in what's happening. Continuous exhibitions and programming help us emphasize our commitment to the interpretation and exhibition of Johnson's art," Motte says.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art has also just opened the exhibit *Harlem Renaissance and Transatlantic Modernism* which features work by Johnson.

The museum is expanding the conversation about Johnson to include a more serious consideration of his wife, Holcha, and his brother-in-law, the German sculptor Christoph Voll. They have recently worked with family descendants to acquire several significant pieces of Voll's art, some of which are currently on exhibition.

The Florence County Museum Board is grateful to McLeod Health for their support of this exhibition. Along with the Florence County Museum, McLeod Health is committed to preserving the legacy of William H. Johnson by supporting exhibitions, conservation, and educational programs that enhance our understanding of Johnson and his contribution to 20th century art.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 843/676-1200 or visit (flocomuseum.org).

Francis Marion University in Florence, SC, Features Works by Jennifer Moss, Delaney Shin, and Hannah Phelps

Francis Marion University in Florence, SC, is presenting *Temporal Threads*, featuring works by Jennifer Moss, Delaney Shin, and Hannah Phelps, on view at the Steven F. Gately Gallery, through Apr. 26, 2024. An Artist's Talk with Jennifer Moss will be held on Apr. 13, at 10:30am.

The exhibition unfolds as a captivating tapestry featuring the works of three artists: Jennifer Moss, Delaney Shin, and Hannah Phelps.

Jennifer Moss weaves an intricate narrative through her mesmerizing sculptural textiles inspired by the natural world and humanity's relationship to its shifting environments.

Delaney Shin's works use paper, light, and shadow to cast an otherworldly ambiance upon the gallery, creating a story of the relationship between transcultural identity.

Hannah Phelps' contribution manifests as an installation transforming the space into a visually stunning bridge between her inner and external worlds.

Temporal Threads invites viewers to embark on a journey through the artists' explorations, providing a unique experience that transcends the confines of conventional artistry.

The Steven F. Gately Gallery is a visual arts gallery located on the first floor of Francis Marion University's charmingly renovated University Place building on N. Dargan Street, Florence, SC. The gallery hosts rotating exhibitions from a variety of artists. Named for the late Steven F. Gately, a long time art professor at Francis Marion University. The Gately Gallery is an extension of Francis Marion University. The gallery's mission is to provide the community with a venue to experience a wide range of culturally diverse regional, national, and international visual artwork from emerging and established artists.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the gallery at 843/661-4637, 843/661-4638 or visit (<https://www.fmarion.edu/universityplace/>).

University of North Carolina @ Chapel Hill, NC, Features Group Exhibition

The University of North Carolina @ Chapel Hill, NC, is presenting *Initiations*, a dynamic convergence of six artists engaging in various artistic mediums. Immerse yourself in a multilayered reality and imagination, on view in the Robert and Sallie Brown Gallery at the Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Black Culture and History, through May 12, 2024.

"There is a thing passing in the sky; some thick clouds surround it; the uninitiated sees nothing" - A proverb from Mende people found in Bell Hooks Art in My Mind citing Radiance from the Waters - ideals of Feminine Beauty in Mende Art by Sylvia Ardyn Boone.

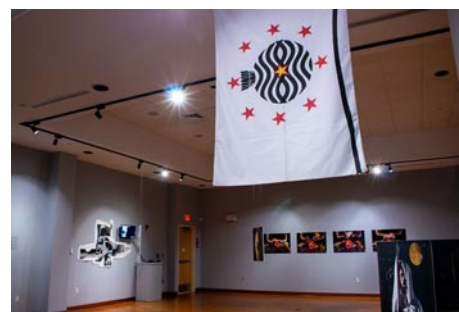
Initiations showcases the works of
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six artists who engage with a variety of photographic formats and audiovisual works offering a visual dialogue that initiates the audience to each artist's aesthetic language. The artworks will be installed in a design that suggests a nontraditional choreography for the audience to perform while engaging with the art.

The entanglement of still photographs, projection of film, and audio pieces will interact to activate one another, creating a world of voices and visualities and creating a visual texture that eludes purity. Rather, the exhibition is a confluence of aesthetic ideas from artists of our time in dialogue with each other and with the broader audience.

The artists in the group exhibit include: Jasmine Clark, Ibrahim Ahmad, Nyugen E. Smith, Andres Hernandez, Adrienne Jacob Oliver, and Leticia Clementina.

Sonja Haynes Stone joined the faculty in 1974 as director of the Curriculum in Afro-American Studies and strongly supported its expansion. A beloved teacher who inspired generations of black



View of "Initiations" exhibition - UNC-Chapel Hill

students, Stone pressed unceasingly for a free-standing black cultural center until her sudden death in 1991. Dedicated in 2004, the Sonja Haynes Stone Center houses classrooms, a library, an art gallery and museum, an auditorium, and a dance studio. More than ninety-five percent of the Center's cost was met through private gifts, contributed by more than fifteen-hundred donors.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call 919/962-9001, e-mail to (sheriff7@email.unc.edu) or (stonecenter@unc.edu).

Page-Walker Arts & History Center in Cary, NC, Features Annual Exhibition of Quilts

The Page-Walker Arts & History Center in Cary, NC, will present *ARTQUILTSRenewal*, featuring works by members of Professional Art Quilters Alliance-South (PAQA-South), on view from Apr. 3 through May 25, 2024. Meet the artists on Apr. 26, from 6-8pm.

Renewal has many meanings: rebirth, regeneration, rejuvenation, revival, recharge, refresh and many more. The process of renewal is a natural force. We tumble through summer and fall, hibernate in winter, and emerge with new life in spring. Upcycling and mending, and making the old new again result in renewal. As artists, how do we express this? What images, colors or techniques represent the sense of fullness and vigor that renewal brings?



Work by Sandy Teepen of Atlanta, GA

Maggie Dillon, Sarasota, FL; Grace Evans, Raleigh, NC; Lynne Farrow, Cary, NC; Annegret Fauser, Chapel Hill, NC; Ellen Fisher, Pittsboro, NC; Barb Ingersoll, Raleigh, NC; Kathleen Johnson, Lexington, NC; Susanne Jones, Pottomac Falls, VA; Jana Lankford, Damascus, VA; Roxane Lessa, Raleigh, NC; Valerie Paterson, Greensboro, NC; Vicki Price, Apex, NC; Mary Ritter, Cary, NC; Joan Rutledge, Clemmons, NC; Penny Sharp, Fuquay Varina, NC; Anna Shearer, Pittsboro, NC; Candace Shively, Fayetteville, GA; Sandra Teepen, Atlanta, GA; Julianne Walther, Cary, NC; Dawn Widener, Damascus, VA; Diane Wold, Durham, NC; and Marian Zielinski, Macon, GA.

The Page-Walker Arts & History Center is located in downtown Cary, on Town Hall Campus on Ambassador Loop.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 919/460-4963 to confirm hours. For information about Professional Art Quilters Alliance-South (PAQA-South) visit (paqa-south.org).



Work by Juliane Walther of Cary, NC

Fiber artists have created multi-layered textiles joined by stitching that express or represent renewal. Come see them!

Participating artists include: Miki Adams, Pittsboro, NC; Judi Bastion, Summerfield, NC; Sharon Carrier, Cary, NC; Leah Cooke, Cary, NC; Christine Copenhaver, Chapel Hill, NC;

Meredith College in Raleigh, NC, Offers Works by Graduating Seniors

Meredith College in Raleigh, NC, will present *Ruminate: Chew on This*, featuring works by graduating seniors, on view in the Frankie G. Weems Art Gallery of the Gaddy-Hamrick Art Center, from Apr. 11 through May 5, 2024. A reception will be held on Apr. 11, from 5-7pm and a gallery talk from 5:30-6:30pm.

Participating seniors include: Tasha Aaron, Kayla Cooper, Shelby Cox, Arienne Gonzalez, Sara Grace Lane, Karlie Mullis, Emma Relota, and Sara-Rose Spann.

The graduating artists have compiled their original artworks to culminate in this spring's thought provoking exhibition. Aptly titled, *Ruminate* encourages audiences to 'feast' on the abundant narratives,

social issues, and expressions of vulnerability poured into each piece with care and intentionality. The artists developed a deeper understanding of their own lives and the world around them through the creation of their artwork. With media ranging from stone carving and ceramics, to charcoal drawings and paintings, the exhibition evokes contemplation and conversation. The artists' only instruction is to "chew on this."

The gallery is located on Hillsborough Street in Raleigh.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, contact Todd Jones by e-mail at (tnjones@meredith.edu) or call 919/760-8414.

The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be Apr. 24th, at 5pm for the May 2024 issue and May 24, at 5pm for the June 2024 issue. After that, it's too late unless your exhibit runs into the next month. But don't wait for the last minute - send your info now.