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## Surface Craft Gallery in Charleston, SC, Offers Work by Bette Mueller-Roemer

Surface Craft Gallery in Charleston, SC, will present *Raku*, featuring works by Bette Mueller-Roemer, on view from May 13 - 15, 2016. A reception will be held on May 13, from 5-8pm.

The word Raku, which has come to be associated with a technique, was the name of a family of potters who made tea bowls for the formal Japanese tea ceremony. Bette Mueller-Roemer has been practicing this firing technique in clay for many years. Clay is either hand built or wheel thrown with hand built embellishments. After the initial firing in a kiln, the piece is then "raku" fired.

Various effects in the glaze are achieved by rapid firing and cooling while smoldering the piece in combustibles such as pine straw or paper. Through the Raku firing with glazes, copper lusters and metallic shimmers appear with delicate patterns of glaze crackle.

Roemer has an extensive and rich history in Charleston arts. After receiving her Masters in ceramics at East Carolina University, she taught at Charleston Southern University and the Gibbes Museum School. Her paintings, drawings, handmade journals and Raku clay works



Works by Bette Mueller-Roemer

have been exhibited throughout South Carolina. Roemer's work is in the South Carolina State Art Collection, Erskine College, Hollings Cancer Center at MUSC and among private collections.

*Raku* is a showcase of Bette Mueller-Roemer's new work including Raku fired porcelain vessels, wall sculptures and handmade books. Bette Mueller-Roemer's work is represented in Charleston on an ongoing basis at Surface Craft Gallery.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 843/530-6809 or visit ([www.surfacegallerycharleston.com](http://www.surfacegallerycharleston.com)).

## Fletcher Williams III Holds Second Solo Exhibition in Charleston, SC

Fletcher Williams III will present *Beyond The Rainbow*, on view at 134 Cannon Street in downtown Charleston, SC, from May 26 through June 12, 2016. A reception will be held on May 26, from 6:30-9:30pm.

Williams is pleased to present his second solo exhibition since returning to Charleston, SC, in 2013.

Chicora Cherokee sits between Williams' Park Circle studio and historic downtown Charleston. By outsiders, it's a community often regarded as distressed, impoverished, Page 10 - Carolina Arts, May 2016

and unsafe, but locals protest there's a lack of resources, like grocery stores, health care facilities, and social services, only available to most newly developed regions of Charleston. Chicora's a neighborhood whose relationship with law enforcement has long been tarnished and was further degraded by the shooting death of Walter Scott by a North Charleston Police Officer in April of 2015.

The condition of the neighborhood is not continued above on next column to the right

often noticed and has seeped into Williams' latest works.

Using a collection of materials found throughout the Chicora neighborhood—scrap wood from new builds, fencing, furniture, and metal—Williams constructs a pseudo Chicora, an environment both spirited and lifeless. Shingles become moss. Abstract drawings become three-dimensional facades for small-scale homes. A life-size sculpture titled, *Left Out To Dry*, asserts abandonment and marginalization. Most works have been left colorless, void of the vibrant spectrum inherent of the Charleston architectural landscape and its historical landmarks like Rainbow Row. For Williams, color only enters the conversation through the appropriation of audacious, automotive paint jobs on box Chevys and Crown Victorias.



Work by Fletcher Williams III

Williams remained in New York City, participating in several group exhibitions; *H(A) UNTED*; The Caribbean Cultural Center, New York; 440 Gallery Small Works, Art Miami, Miami, FL, and *Art Basel*, Miami, FL before returning to Charleston, SC, in 2013. Since his return, Williams exhibited his work at Charleston's City Gallery, San Diego Museum of Contemporary Art, McKissick Museum and been named a 2015 Art Matters Grantee. Williams lives and works in Charleston, SC.

Property parking lot will be accessible to guests during the opening reception. All other days park in metered street parking and neighboring parking garages.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call Williams at 843/425-6167, e-mail to ([studio@fletcher3.com](mailto:studio@fletcher3.com)) or visit ([www.fletcher3.com](http://www.fletcher3.com)).



Work by Fletcher Williams III

*Beyond The Rainbow* is a combination of environment, sentiment, popular culture and historical motifs, because an understanding of all is necessary in the complexity of Charleston's shifting social landscape.

Works from *Souvenir 2015* will also be on display.

Fletcher Williams III (b. 1987) received his BFA from The Cooper Union in 2010.

The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be May 24th for the June 2016 issue and June 24 for the July 2016 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. And where do you send that info? E-mail to ([info@carolinaarts.com](mailto:info@carolinaarts.com)).