

# Asheville Gallery of Art

continued from Page 5

“A wonderful part of painting is that you never stop learning and developing your eye for seeing regardless of the medium you use. I’m very fortunate to be able to paint full time. I’m very thankful that I love what I do and can share life’s beauty as I see it. Hopefully the local scenes will stir emotion for the viewer as they have inspired me.”

The artist’s studio is in Waynesville, NC. You can find Schlapkohl’s work at Asheville Gallery of Art, Seven Sisters Gallery in Black Mountain, and Twigs and Leaves Gallery in Waynesville. She is a Signature Member of the Watercolor Society of North Carolina.

Schlapkohl’s work, as well as the paintings of the other 30 gallery members will be on display and for sale through the



Work by Joyce Schlapkohl

month of May.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/251-5796, visit ([www.ashevillegallery-of-art.com](http://www.ashevillegallery-of-art.com)), or go to the gallery Facebook page.

## Asheville Fine Art Show Presented by Hot Works, LLC, Takes Place at the WNC Agricultural Center - May 19 & 20, 2018

Nestled in North Carolina’s picturesque Blue Ridge Mountains, the City of Asheville is known for its historic architecture and vibrant arts scene, and on May 19 & 20, 2018, it will be home once again to the Asheville Fine Art Show. Organized by Hot Works, LLC, this new annual show is quickly becoming a top-rated national event eagerly anticipated by exhibiting artists and art lovers alike.

One of the exhibitors looking forward to this year’s show is glass sculptor Sabra Richards, whose work is drawing considerable critical acclaim of late. In January, she received overall Best of Show honors at another Hot Works festival, the Estero Fine Art Show in Southwest Florida. And she snagged Best of 3D honors in March at the Bonita Springs National Art Festival in Southwest Florida as well.

But Richards’ free-standing, suspended and wall-hung glass sculptures also draw rave reviews from the art lovers who happen upon her booth at shows such as these. With eye-popping color and organic, biomorphic shapes, her works catch, refract and glimmer in both natural and artificial light.

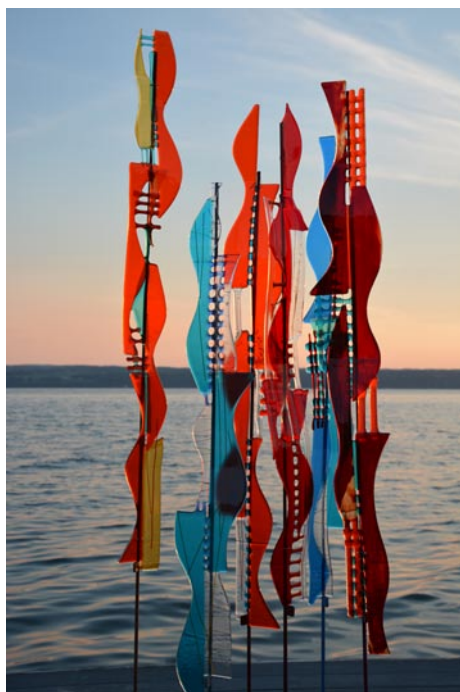
After working in several media, Richards has settled on kiln-formed glass as her medium of choice. “I find the challenge of glass, and the combination of other materials to enhance the glass, very exciting and challenging,” Sabra states. She starts with sheets of Bullseye Fusible Glass. Her method is very bold and direct.



Work by Sabra Richards

“I choose the color, individual ones and others layered to achieve other colors,” Richards explains. “I create the design, adding and subtracting glass and, most importantly, adding cane and components made at the furnace, usually at the Corning Glass Museum. Sixteen pieces of glass, formed into a block, fired and then put into the furnace, turned and heated until malleable, and then pulled into the cane that you see in my work.”

Richards then combines the finished glass with previously welded steel, or layers of metal or constructions for wall pieces. The process is long and involved, but the results are wonderful to behold. Her work includes glass wall sculpture,



Works by Sabra Richards

free-standing outdoor sculpture, designer tables, steel and glass fish and commissioned public art installations.

Richards has a BFA Cum Laude from Syracuse University, and had done graduate work at Parsons School of Design, SUNY Cortland, Syracuse and Bennington College. She is in the *Who’s Who in American Art*, *Printworld Who’s Who*, and *American Art Collector* (2005, 2006).

Her work can be found in private collections throughout the country as well as US State Department (Collection of Heads of State), the Lipson Cancer Center at Rochester General Hospital, Northwest Airlines Terminal in Portland, OR, the Ann Arbor Public Library, Blue Cross & Blue Shield in Rochester and in Lansing, MI, the Eastman Kodak building in Rochester and IBM Atlanta.

You also can enjoy or even acquire one of Sabra Richards’ beautiful glass works at the 2nd Annual Asheville Fine Art Show. It takes place indoors in the cozy Asheville suburb of Fletcher at the WNC Agricultural Center, Davis Event Center, 1301 Fanning Bridge Road, Fletcher, North Carolina 28732 from 10am to 5pm, May 19 & 20, both days.

Since 2003, Hot Works LLC has established an outstanding national reputation for producing high-quality juried art shows, with four of its five shows ranked in the top 100 in the nation. Art Show Director Patty Narozny personally attends to every detail, ensuring that the art on display is personally made by the exhibiting artists and of the highest quality, which allows patrons to buy with confidence that they are getting original, top-notch works of art.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings or visit ([www.HotWorks.org](http://www.HotWorks.org)).

You can contact us by calling 843/693-1306 or by e-mail at [info@carolinaarts.com](mailto:info@carolinaarts.com) but do it before the 24th of the month prior to our next issue.



THERE’S A FINE LINE BETWEEN PRICELESS AND WORTHLESS.



Artist Diane Falkenhagen’s Texas studio — destroyed by flooding during Hurricane Ike, 2008

What would you do if you lost your work, your tools, your images, and a lot more to a flood? Metalsmith Diane Falkenhagen knows what five feet of contaminated saltwater can do to a jewelry studio. CERF+ can help you learn how to protect your career from crossing that fine line.

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SAFETY NET

[CraftEmergency.org](http://CraftEmergency.org) + [StudioProtector.org](http://StudioProtector.org)

## Groewood Gallery in Asheville, NC, Offers Works by Taylor Robenalt

Groewood Gallery in Asheville, NC, will present *Interactions*, a solo exhibition of figurative sculptures and teapots by contemporary ceramic artist Taylor Robenalt, on view from May 5 through June 3, 2018. A reception will be held on May 5, from 2-5pm.

Since receiving her MFA in Ceramics from the University of Georgia in 2011, Robenalt has drawn attention for her innovative narrative style, using flora and fauna to illustrate emotion. Her latest body of work is inspired by her daily interactions between humans, animals and nature - artwork that reflects her internal dialogue.

Robenalt has loved art since she was a little girl. Originally from Ohio, she moved to Sarasota, FL, when she was 5 years old. Growing up, she always admired her mother’s art collection, especially the Salvador Dali and Georgia O’Keeffe prints that decorated her childhood home.

During college, Robenalt began to explore sculpture, studying bronze casting and stone carving. But it wasn’t until the summer after receiving her undergraduate degree, while attending a residency in Japan at the International Workshop of Ceramic Art in Tokoname, that she realized clay was going to be her medium of choice.

In her new body of work, *Interactions*, Robenalt’s sculptures and teapots are constructed out of porcelain. Human and animal heads burst forth from heavy clusters of ornate flowers, as though escaping a thicket and the work itself seems alive and fertile.

Recurring colors and animals appear throughout her work, which have symbolic meanings. “The use of the dog often correlates with loyalty and friendship, birds stand for freedom or busy noise, rabbits stand for fertility,” says Robenalt. “As for color, black and white stands for



Work by Taylor Robenalt

rigidity, red for love, blue for calmness. The final touches of gold luster offer an overall sense of purity to the body of work and allude to the strong sense of achievement and pride that comes with positively facing life on a day-to-day basis.”

Robenalt has completed artist residency programs at Odyssey Clayworks in North Carolina and at Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts in Maine. Aside from her personal work, she has taught ceramics at Auburn University, Columbus State University, and State College of Florida. She is also a co-founder of Ceramic Sculpture Culture, an artists’ collective which works to promote the art of emerging sculptors creating narrative and figurative works in clay.

In 2018, Robenalt will teach classes at Ringling College of Art and Design in Sarasota, FL. She will also attend a summer residency at Red Lodge Clay Center in Montana and co-taught a two-week workshop titled *Pristine Porcelain* at Penland School of Crafts, a nationally-renowned center for craft education located in Spruce Pine, NC.

Established in 1992, Groewood Gallery is nationally recognized for its dedication to fine American-made art and craft. Located in historic Groewood Village adjacent to The Omni Grove Park Inn, the gallery is noted for its charming,

continued on Page 34