

Artsville Collective in Asheville

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her background in graphic design, she uses vintage graphics, handwritten notes, accounting ledgers, and paints over them - a juxtaposition of the old and the new and an exploration of duality.

Artsville Collective, Artsville NC podcast and SHAC Connection news and stories fall under the umbrella of Sand Hill Artists Collective (SHAC) in partnership with Crewest Studio/LA. We show, tell and talk about creativity at Artsville Collective

gallery and gathering space at Marquee in the RAD offering exhibits, discussion groups and events. Artsville NC podcast is internationally available on all major podcast channels covering art and artists in Asheville and beyond. Digital news and stories on artists in WNC come to your inbox once monthly.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (sandhillartists.com).

Caldwell Arts Council in Lenoir, NC, Features Works by Keiko Genka

The Caldwell Arts Council in Lenoir, NC, will present *East, West, and Beyond*, featuring acrylic paintings by Keiko Genka of Garner, North Carolina, on view from May 6 through June 24, 2022.

Keiko Genka holds a Bachelor of Art and Design from North Carolina State University. Her works have been featured in a number of gallery exhibitions across the state, and are included in many collections.

Genka says, "To this day, I continue to carry my childhood fantasy. Coming from an eastern culture, my ideal world existed in colorfully illustrated books of foreign cities. I remember the cheerful colors and neatly designed architectural landscapes. My admiration for foreign places was so strong that I now live outside my country of Japan. From a child's eyes, the Japanese culture seemed so dull and colorless. Although I now realize the beauty of simplicity and subtlety in my own culture, I still try to capture the excitement I experienced in those western books from my teenage years."



Work by Keiko Genka

I pursue the best from both these cultural experiences, I often struggle internally with battles caused by significant differences. Today, cultures are much more homogenized than they were during my youth. I wonder, is this a good transition or are we all losing our uniqueness?"

"My perspective on east and west is that eastern cultures are nurtured or controlled by nature, while in the west, cultures predominantly aim at controlling nature. Both seem to have certain advantages, as well as disadvantages. To live in peace with myself, optimistically, I need to accept and adopt these differences and celebrate the enriched life as my reward," says Genka.

"During the past 30 years, globalization has accelerated exponentially and brought much richness and abundance to human civilization. Again, I cannot help wondering if we are approaching one global 'value,' and is that value moving toward conformity and a more bland, universal society?"

"Today, most urban environments look and feel the same no matter where in the world one is located. And seldom do we visit a new place that does not offer almost any style, cuisine, and fashion, from all distant and local cultures."

"As I am processing my thoughts and translating them into my paintings, I am asking myself what can I extract from the complexities of our environment that present a true sense of harmony in our world? There is a simplicity in the foundations I am drawn to and inspired by, such as color, 'architectural' spaces, and society's rich need to communicate. With every mark I make, I am responding to the past (history) and present, as well as the influence these two aspects will have on our future. These circumstances, that is my Asian origin leading to living in the west, have inspired my exhibition's title: *East (past), West (present), and Beyond (future fusion)*."

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (www.caldwellarts.com).



Work by Keiko Genka

"When I travel, unfamiliar places remind me that there is something special in every location. Each street corner has its own story, and it reveals the beauty of life and death. Besides my visual attraction to space, signage also provides curious insights when I plan my paintings. Even commercial and road signs can reveal intriguing aspects about a place. Recently I noticed myself painting more and more complex compositions. Somehow visual clutter is very appealing to my conscience. I see energy flow in it. Even though I despise chaotic living myself, I believe my paintings reflect our overloaded contemporary lifestyle," adds Genka.

"It is ironic that now I am inspired by the beauty of Japan as well, and I consider my personal culture to be a fusion or hybrid of both east and west. Since I was born and raised in the east, Okinawa Japan, I carry with me sensibilities and traits from my early years of development from an eastern perspective. I have now lived in the west for a little more than half my life. Although

Arts Council of Henderson County in Hendersonville, NC, Presents Annual Teacher/Student Show

The Arts Council of Henderson County in Hendersonville, NC, will present a combined series of exhibitions as a thematic unit entitled *Mentors & Students*, on view at the Blue Ridge Community College Industrial Skills Building in Flat Rock, NC, from May 20 & 21, 2022.

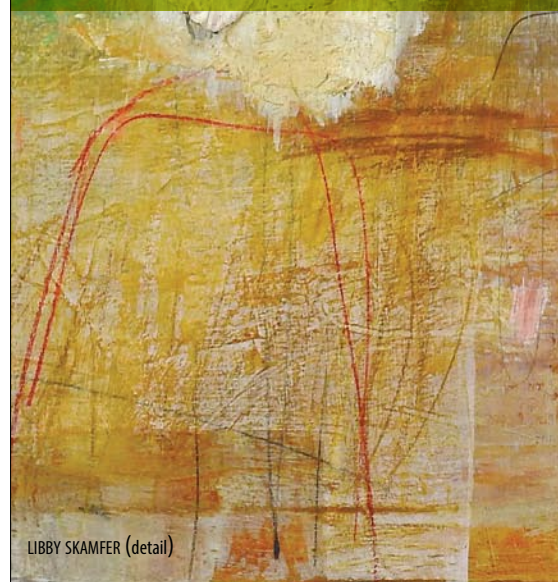
Celebrating the importance of art in a
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child's life, this exhibition will showcase Henderson County K-12th grade student artwork. *The Art of Our Children* will feature our elementary students. *Artists of Tomorrow* will feature our secondary students.

The opening reception will take place on
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WHERE ART AND INNOVATION MEET



LIBBY SKAMFER (detail)

We're worth
the wait!

Upstairs Artspace
reopens Summer 2022
following a flood &
major reconstruction.

Expect exciting new
shows & programs
to help celebrate
a wonderful gallery's
45th anniversary!

upstairs
[artspace]

Upstairs Artspace
49 S. Trade Street
Tryon NC
828.859.2828

upstairsartspace.org

Friday, May 20, from 5-7pm and the show will also be open to the public on Saturday, May 21, from 10am-5pm.

Participation in *Mentors & Students* is open to public, private, parochial, and home school students in Henderson County.

Mentors & Students is sponsored by the North Carolina Arts Council, Community Foundation of Henderson County, and Blue Ridge Community College.

The Arts Council of Henderson County is a community organization that promotes, advocates for, and nurtures the arts in Henderson County and Western North Carolina.

The Arts Council is supported in part by

the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, funds administered by the Community Foundation of Henderson County, and the City of Hendersonville.

All exhibitions will be held at Blue Ridge Community College in the Industrial Skills Building 180 W Campus Drive, Flat Rock, NC 28731. The exhibitions are free, open to the public, and accessible to all.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, visit (www.acofhc.org), e-mail (info@acofhc.org) or (bethany@acofhc.org).

Penland School of Crafts in Penland, NC, Offers Works by Jason Bige Burnett and Adrienne Eliades

The Penland School of Crafts in Penland, NC, will present *IN/FINITE: Process, Pattern, Play*, featuring works by Jason Bige Burnett and Adrienne Eliades, on view in the Penland Gallery & Visitors Center's Focus Gallery, from May 3 through June 5, 2022.

This exhibition brings together the work of Jason Bige Burnett and Adrienne Eliades; two artists who share a passion for colorful graphic patterns that evoke attitudes of joy and play. The exhibition will feature functional ceramic work by Eliades and screen-printed textiles by Burnett.

Burnett received his BFA from Western Kentucky University in 2009. He has completed artist residencies at the Archie Bray Foundation (MT), Belger Crane Yard Studios (MO), Northern Clay Center (MN), Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts (TN), and a Core Fellowship at the Penland School of Crafts (NC).

Burnett is the author of *Graphic Clay: Ceramic Surfaces & Printed Image Transfer Techniques* and he was named an Emerging Artist by *Ceramics Monthly*

magazine in 2013. In recent years his studio practice has shifted away from clay, bringing his bold, colorful patterns to screen-printed and quilted textiles.

Adrienne Eliades earned a BA in Studio Art from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington in 2008 and an MFA from the University of Florida in 2016. She has been an artist-in-residence at Ash Street Project (OR), Guldagergaard International Ceramic Research Center in Denmark, and the Bright Angle (NC).

Eliades' works and writing are featured in numerous publications including *UPPERCASE Magazine*, *Craft in America*, *Ceramics Monthly*, and *Pottery Making Illustrated*. *Ceramics Monthly* named her an Emerging Artist in 2018. In addition to maintaining a vibrant studio practice, Eliades is the HOT CLAY Program Coordinator for Idyllwild Arts Summer Program (CA) and has presented over 20 workshops nationwide.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call 828/765-6211 or visit (<http://penland.org/gallery/>).

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

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