

# Deluxe in Wilmington, NC

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Will Allison.

"Will is a legend," Hipolito said. "He's been creating surfboards longer than anyone I've ever known."

The three agreed to collaborate on the work that will be seen in the upcoming exhibition.

Lichty works with the finest quality domestic and exotic woods to build approximately thirty custom instruments a year. Lichty Guitars was the 2010 winner of the prestigious Made in the South Awards, by *Garden & Gun* magazine, and is rapidly gaining international notoriety given the scope of musicians who are choosing custom instruments by Lichty. A partial list of these professional musicians includes Geoff Achison (internationally acclaimed Australian guitarist), brothers Tom and Mike Gossin (Gloriana), Doug Lancio, (Nashville producer and lead guitarist for John Hiatt and Patty Griffin), Jody Porter

(Fountains of Wayne), and solo singer/songwriter Haley Dreis.

Hipolito's artwork can be seen all over the map, from large interior design murals to musician Michael Franti's guitar to beautifully painted surfboards that include one commissioned by Grammy-winning pop star "Pink" (Alecia Moore) and one purchased by Billy Gibbons, the legendary founder and lead guitarist for Rock & Roll Hall of Fame band ZZ Top.

Allison is a world-class surfer and an East Coast Surfing Hall of Fame inductee (2006) who has over 30 years of experience hand-shaping boards for clients around the world, including a quiver of surfboards for Jimmy Buffet.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the restaurant at 910/251-0333 or visit (<http://www.deluxenc.com/index.html>).

## USC Sumter, in Sumter, SC, Features Works by Laura Spong

USC Sumter, in Sumter, SC, is presenting the exhibit, *Laura Spong: From The Catalogue*, on view in the University Gallery, located in Anderson Library, on view through June 28, 2011.

Abstract Expressionist paintings.

In the last few years, Spong has dramatically increased her reputation in her state and beyond with a series of solo exhibitions and several group shows, including a retrospective at the University of South Carolina's McMaster Gallery. Her 80th-birthday exhibition in 2006, organized by if ART Gallery in Columbia, SC, came with a 32-page catalogue, *Laura Spong at 80: Warming the Chill Wind with Celebration*. In 2007, a dozen of Spong's paintings were in a group exhibition at the Greenville County Museum of Art, which bought one of her works. That same year, the South Carolina State Museum purchases two of Spong paintings, one recent and one from the 1950s. In 2006, the South Carolina State Art Collection had also purchased two of her paintings, including one from the 1950s.



Work by Laura Spong

Spong is an 85 years young artist who has been painting since the 1950s when she took art classes at the Richland School of Art in Columbia, SC. Throughout the years Spong raised 6 children and worked in a number of different professions – all with art at the core of the job.

In 1991, Spong took a studio at Vista Studios in Columbia, SC. Since then, she has been painting consistently and shown her work at many venues. Spong had an 80th birthday exhibition that was a catalyst to a demand of her artistry and a surge in her passion to continue her legacy. Spong has stated: "First of all... I like to paint; it is my passion..."

Spong is among South Carolina's best non-objective painters. Except for a few urban landscape scenes, still lifes and figurative paintings, mostly done as art-class assignments in the 1950s, Spong has always produced non-representational,



Work by Laura Spong

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listing, contact Caralyn Getty, Director, at 803/938-3727 or e-mail at ([cgetty@uscsumter.edu](mailto:cgetty@uscsumter.edu)) or Laurel Jordan, Gallery Assistant, at 803/938-3801 or e-mail at ([jordalau@uscsumter.edu](mailto:jordalau@uscsumter.edu)).

## Anastasia & Friends Art Gallery in Columbia, SC, Features Exhibit Focused on the Figure

Anastasia & Friends Art Gallery in Columbia, SC, will present the exhibit, *Go Figure!*, featuring works by a group of artists focused on the figure, on view from June 2 - July 1, 2011. A reception will be held on June 2, from 6-9pm.

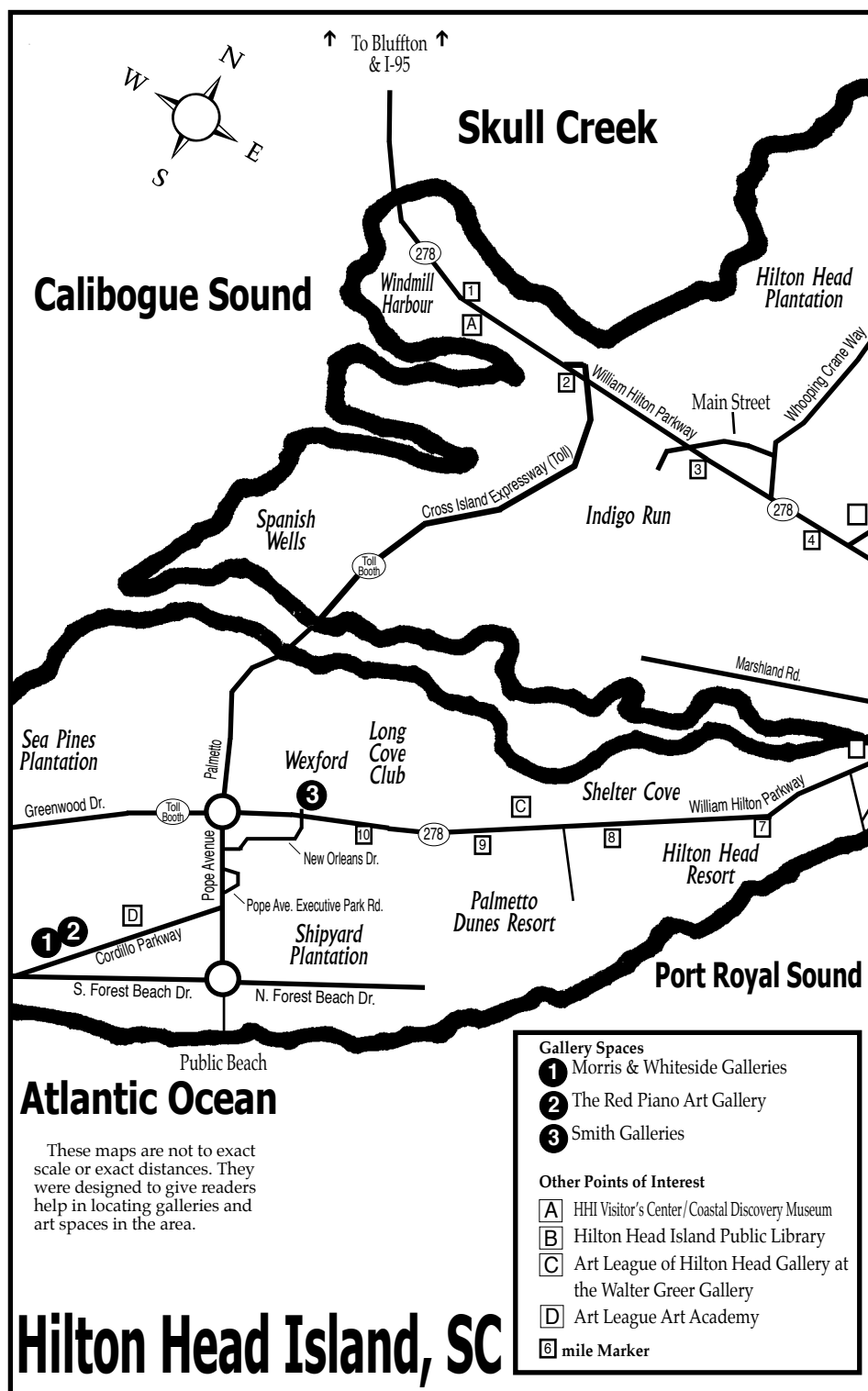
The exhibition is comprised of oil and acrylic paintings, mixed media and sculpture, which all relate to the human form, including works by Leslie Bennett, Michael Bolin, Anastasia Chernoff, Lisa Gray, Lauren Gregory, Paul Kaufmann, Matthew Kramer and Roy Paschal.

This exhibit will be Lisa Gray's debut show in the arts community, and the first time portrait artist, Leslie Bennett, has ever shown her work in Columbia.

Anastasia & Friends Art Gallery is located in the front of the building which houses *Free Times* at 1534 Main Street, directly across the street from the Columbia Museum of Art.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call 803/665-6902 or e-mail to ([stasia1825@aol.com](mailto:stasia1825@aol.com)).

You can contact us by calling 843/825-3408 or by e-mail at - [info@carolinaarts.com](mailto:info@carolinaarts.com)



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