

Asheville Art Museum in Asheville, NC, Features Works from a Private Collection

The Asheville Art Museum in Asheville, NC, will present *The Art of Food: From the Collections of Jordan D. Schnitzer and His Family Foundation*, on view in the Explore Asheville Exhibition Hall • Level 3, from June 16 through Oct. 23, 2023.

Food is culture. Whether farm-raised or factory-made, traveling from kitchen to mouth, what one eats is often a means of understanding time, place, and people. *The Art of Food: From the Collections of Jordan D. Schnitzer and His Family Foundation* brings together works from some of the most preeminent postwar and contemporary artists who used food as their subject matter.

This exhibition explores the many identities of food in daily life: whether a source of pleasure, a reason for gathering, a mass-produced commodity, or a reflection of social ideologies and divisions. *The Art of Food* features works from important postwar artists including Andy Warhol, Robert Rauschenberg, Roy Lichtenstein, David Hockney, John Baldessari, Ed Ruscha, and Jasper Johns, alongside the work of contemporary artists, like Alison Saar, Lorna Simpson, Enrique Chagoya, Rachel Whiteread,



Roy Lichtenstein, "Bull Profile Series: Bull II", editions 14/100, 1973, lithograph and linecut, 27 x 35 inches. © Estate of Roy Lichtenstein. Collection of the Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation. Images: Aaron Wessling Photography.

and Jenny Holzer, among others.

The Art of Food features more than 100 artworks in mediums including drawings, paintings, photographs, prints, sculptures, and ceramics by 37 artists.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 828/253-3227 or visit (www.ashevilleart.org).

Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center in Asheville, NC, Offers Exhibit Focused on the College's Links to Mexico

Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center (BMCM+AC) in Asheville, NC, will present *Black Mountain College and Mexico*, on view from June 2 through Sept. 9, 2023. A reception will be held on June 2, from 5:30-8pm.

Black Mountain College (1933–1957), a small but remarkably influential liberal arts school in rural North Carolina, had important links to Mexico that until now have been little investigated. A crucible of twentieth-century creativity, BMC galvanized and inspired artists and intellectuals from around the world, while Mexico's innovations and age-old traditions - in fine and applied arts, architecture, poetry, music, performance, and more - dovetailed with, and indeed drove, global impulses toward modernism and beyond.

Among the many key BMC figures whose lives were importantly touched by experiences in Mexico were Anni and Josef Albers, Ruth Asawa, John Cage, Jean Charlot, Elaine de Kooning, Buckminster Fuller, Carlos Mérida, Robert Motherwell, Charles Olson, Clara Porset, M.C. Richards, and Aaron Siskind.

In turn, engagements with BMC and its legacy have played a significant role in shaping contemporary approaches to art in Mexico, evident in the works of Jorge Méndez Blake, Iñaki Bonillas, Abraham Cruzvillegas, Jose Dávila, Gerda Gruber, Lake Verea, Gabriel Orozco, and Damián Ortega, among others.

The exhibition *BMC/MX* features works by these and other prominent contemporary Mexican artists alongside a selection of historic works by BMC artists, highlighting the ways in which ideas and modalities are translated across materials, space, and time.

Related programming, planned in collaboration with Mexican artists, features a series of public events, including a performance by artist (and *BMC/MX* co-curator) David Miranda to take place at *Different World*; an exhibition visit (in Spanish and English) with *BMC/MX* Project Director Eric Baden; and a series of experiential art events in the BMCM+AC library.

The exhibition is accompanied by the book *Black Mountain College and Mexico* (forthcoming late summer 2023), which investigates the people, ideas, and practices linking BMC and Mexico during the life of the school, as well as resonances between BMC and the work of contemporary Mexican artists. With contributions by *BMC/MX*'s curators, as well as by artist Abraham Cruzvillegas, design scholar Ana Elena Mallet, and author and activist Margaret Randall, this fully illustrated volume brings new light to this complex and underexplored subject.



Anni Albers, "Knot 2", 1947. Courtesy The Josef and Anni Albers Foundation, Bethany, CT.

BMC/MX is an investigation into modes of communication - the arenas in which new ideas and alliances may come to be - between Black Mountain College and Mexico, between past and present, between form and idea.

BMC/MX's Project Director Eric Baden is a photographer and from 1994 to 2022 was professor of photography at Warren Wilson College in Swannanoa, NC. He is the founding director of photo+, a multidisciplinary arts event held in Asheville, NC.

Artist and educator David Miranda is curator at the Museo Experimental El Eco (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, UNAM), and teaches at the Escuela Nacional de Pintura, Escultura y Grabado "La Esmeralda" in Mexico City.

Diana Stoll is an editor, writer and curator who works with institutions such as The Museum of Modern Art and the J. Paul Getty Museum. She has served as an editor at *Aperture* and *Artforum* magazines, and contributes writings to prominent arts publications.

Founded in 1933, Black Mountain College was one of the leading experimental liberal art schools in America until its closure in 1957. After the Bauhaus in Germany closed due to mounting antagonism from the Nazi Party, Josef and Anni Albers readily accepted an offer to join the Black Mountain College faculty. During their 16-year tenure in North Carolina, the Alberses helped model the college's interdisciplinary curriculum on that of the Bauhaus, attracting an unmatched roster of teachers and students including R. Buckminster Fuller, Elaine and Willem de Kooning, John Cage, Merce Cunningham, Mary Caroline (M.C.) Richards, and Robert Rauschenberg.

The Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center (BMCM+AC) was founded in 1993 to celebrate the history of Black Mountain College as a forerunner in progressive interdisciplinary education and to celebrate its extraordinary impact on modern and contemporary art, dance, theater, music, and performance.

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The Museum is committed to educating the public about the history of Black Mountain College and promoting awareness of its extensive legacy through exhibitions, publications, lectures, films, seminars, and oral histories. Through our permanent collection, special exhibitions, publications, and research archive, we provide access to historical materials related to the College and its influence on the field.

BMCM+AC provides a forum for multi-faceted programming in a dynamic environment in downtown Asheville. Our goal is to provide a gathering point for people from a variety of backgrounds to interact - integrating art, ideas, and discourse.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (blackmountaincollege.org).

Groveswood Gallery in Asheville, NC, Features Works by Josh Coté

Groveswood Gallery in Asheville, NC, will present *Inquiry: Wire Sculptures by Josh Coté*, on view from June 24 through Aug. 13, 2023. A reception will be held on June 24, from 2-5pm.

Groveswood Gallery invites you to step into the dreamlike animal kingdom of Bakersville, NC, artist Josh Coté. His solo exhibition will feature several large-scale, outdoor wire animal sculptures.

"The selected works for this exhibition will showcase the culmination of everything I have learned as a wire sculptor," says Coté. "So the title of the show, *Inquiry*, seemed a perfect fit as it describes my curiosity and love of wire."

In addition to the steel and iron sculptures he's known for, Coté will also be presenting a new style of sculptures handcrafted from recycled aluminum electric wire. Some notable mentions include an 8-foot-long rhino (filled with blue glass bottles), a 6-foot-tall penguin, a large wolf, and a goat filled with recycled cans, among others.

Josh Coté has always been immersed in art. His grandparents were both oil painters, and his father was a watercolorist. He grew up "on the road" in the '60s, '70s, and '80s, traveling to art fairs up and down the east coast with his family. As a kid, he was inspired by authors like Lewis Carroll, H.G. Wells, and Dr. Seuss, whom he credits for drawing him into "a magical dream world."

After studying painting and drawing at the University of Michigan's School of Art & Design, Coté became a self-taught scul-



Work by Josh Coté

tor. He's best known for his fanciful wire sculptures of wild and mythical creatures, created using only needle-nosed pliers and a hammer. The wire is cold-worked, painstakingly hand-manipulated, and wrapped and woven to create the desired structure. His finished works are much like pen and ink drawings in sculptural form, and many of his pieces include antique found objects that evoke a sense of child-like nostalgia.

Established in 1992, Groveswood Gallery is noted for its charming, old-world set-

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