

# elder gallery

## Women Artists of North Carolina

### Curator's Choice



Ready or Not by Sally Jacobs 9" x 12" egg tempera on panel

Tamie Beldue  
Jill Eberle  
Mary Erickson  
Sally Jacobs  
Stephanie Neely  
Lorraine Turi  
Joana Wardell

**Artists Reception**  
**Friday, July 11, 2013**  
**5:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

**Exhibition runs through**  
**August 29th**

elder gallery 1520 South Tryon Street Charlotte, NC 28203 704-370-6337 [www.elderart.com](http://www.elderart.com)

## Waterworks Visual Arts Center

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while others are sculpted and collaged to create multi-dimensional art forms. Each represents the diversity of fibers and repurposed materials, and imparts narrative messages.

Peg Gignoux is a textile artist based in Carrboro, NC, who creates vibrant fiber and mixed media works and handmade books. She has the remarkable ability to transform simple pieces of fabric into cohesive and meaningful works of art. Her compositions are layered, full of stories, complex textures, and color. She builds narratives in cloth by listening to the memories held therein and celebrating them anew. Gignoux's expressive and colorful works often combine text with textile.



Work by Jeannette Brossart

Materials include hand-dyed silks, linen, vintage papers, textile inks and an endless stream of machine and hand stitches. Gignoux is often inspired by stories, poems, and memory that speak of personal loss, growth, and wonder. She states, "Somebody asked me once to define art in ten words. I decided on this recipe: Art is color, light, story and passion urgently requesting exercise. I grew up decoding my world through cloth. Long ago, I learned to cut, attach, pierce, color, glue, and repeat. I love cloth because it consistently offers me a highly sensual and sensitive field on which to

play. Fabric is strong. Strong enough to hold metal, quiet enough to remember a whisper, loud enough to carry a shout, and wise enough to answer in a metaphor. I make art because it is a way to locate episodes of deep enduring beauty. It is also a way to confront loss and disrepair. And it requires going inside out."

An active community-based artist and educator, Gignoux has facilitated projects with a variety of schools, museums, and health care centers throughout North Carolina. She enjoys teaching textile arts to all ages and has led dynamic collaborative projects with Elon University, NC Girl Scouts, Artspace, Meredith College, Penland School of Crafts, at-risk teens, hospitalized youth, and cancer survivors.

Gignoux received her BA in English from Kenyon College and her Masters of Industrial Design in Fibers from North Carolina State University, College of Design. She leads a yearly summer art retreat at Chateau du Pin, Loire Valley, France, the birthplace of her father. Her work has been nationally exhibited, winning numerous awards, and is held in private and public collections including Fidelity Investments, Research Triangle Park, NC; SAS, Cary, NC; Duke Medical Center, Durham, NC; UNC Hospitals and Chapel Hill Public Library, Chapel Hill, NC; Duke Children's Hospital, Durham, NC; and Levine Children's Hospital, Charlotte, NC.

Leslie Pearson of Leland, NC, is a multimedia artist who utilizes many fiber-based materials, processes and techniques to create sculptures, installations, encaustic paintings and handmade books, in which she explores themes of memory and identity. Her body of work is titled *The Visible Word*.

"My work is an investigation into memory, identity and the transformative value of communication," says Pearson

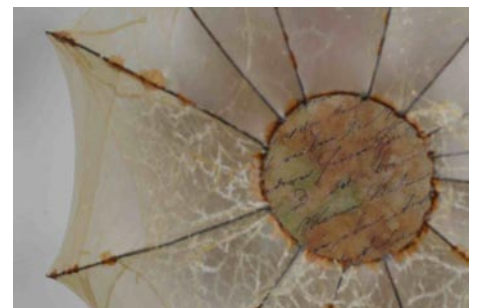
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adding. "I use narrative therapy approaches such as letter writing, journaling, and storytelling as a starting point to visually express both lived and imagined experiences. I create pieces in response to new challenges, environments and relationships. As a multimedia artist, my material choices and processes vary with each new body of work. Visually I'm inspired by objects that have layers of history, be it handwritten letters, books, rusty hinges, old stamps, buttons, teeth, animal bones, or bits of fabric. My studio is filled with little things that I've collected or unearthed. Conceptually I'm inspired by relationships and in people's stories and the stories behind the stories."

Pearson loves to experiment in her work. She is constantly pushing to learn how to use new materials and create something that didn't exist before. One material she utilizes is hog intestine. "It is a beautiful membrane that is translucent when stretched over wire. Many interesting things can be done with it – you can print on it, paint on it, and even stitch it. Over the years my style has evolved and will probably continue to evolve as I grow as a person and encounter new experiences in life."

Pearson earned her BA in Fine Art from Southeast Missouri State University and her MFA in Textile Design at East Carolina University where she taught textile classes and worked as a studio assistant in the textile department. She also earned her Master's Degree in Museum Studies at Newcastle University in England. She has won numerous awards for her work and is widely exhibited. Her work is held in numerous private and public collections including the Joyner Library, East Carolina University; Savannah College of Art and Design; Women's Health Center, Brooklyn, New York; and Grace Café, Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

On view in the Stanback and Cook Gardens is *Mosaics in the Garden* by Jeannette Brossart. Brossart has been a professional mosaic artist since 2003, well-known for her innovative mosaic designs. Her art revolves around nature



Work by Leslie Pearson

themes.

"I have discovered that the physicality of hand cutting the tesserae, laying them in specific arrangement, taking into consideration size, shape, color, texture, direction, flow, as well as the interstices between the pieces enables me to feel as if I am creating life within the realm of artistic expression," says Brossart. "One individual piece of a mosaic may blend into the background or stand apart and draw attention. It is challenging and exhilarating to transform a piece of glass into a bird feather, human pupil, or leaf blowing in the wind."

Brossart loves assembling items in new ways. She continually experiments with creating sculptural forms with custom cement mixes, fiberglass mesh, and other repurposed and found materials. "I bring a fresh appreciation for the art medium of mosaic, as well as the amazing detail of our living world. I use glass tesserae most often, since the reflective quality and brilliance of color give beauty and energy to my work. I sometimes juxtapose glass with slate, ceramic, mirror, or pebbles for texture and homage to earth materials."

Brossart earned her Bachelor's degree in Biology from UNC-Chapel Hill. Her work includes public art commissions, large scale sculpture, custom installations, gallery art, garden art, and mosaic jewelry. She has received numerous awards, appeared in publication, and has facilitated a wide variety of mosaic residencies and workshops. Initially self-taught, she has had learning experiences with Delphi Glass, Sherri Warner Hunter, Laurel True,

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