

NC Museum of Natural Sciences

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natural history exhibit about pigeons as a companion piece to *Pigeons: Portraits and Narratives*.

Zigler says pigeons definitely don't get their just due. "For many, these much maligned birds are viewed as 'rats of the sky,' not worthy of our notice or respect. This was not always the case as pigeons figure prominently in history and literature and were studied thoroughly by Darwin as he developed *The Origin of the Species*."

Zigler, an art teacher and Junior High team leader at Noble Academy in Greensboro, NC, has exhibited in numerous group shows since 1998. He also participated in Darwin Days 2011 at the Mu-

seum and artSPARK PODS, SparkCON, Raleigh in 2010. Zigler lives near Chapel Hill, NC.

The North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences documents and interprets natural history of the state of North Carolina through exhibits, research, collections, publications and educational programming. Find more information online at (www.naturalsciences.org). The Museum is an agency of the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Dee Freeman, Secretary.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the gallery at 919/733-7450, ext. 360.

Waterworks Visual Arts Center

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– a wall designated for visitors to write a message, add a picture or remembrance in honor of a special soldier(s); *Hero's Rock* – visitors may write the name of a fallen hero on a commemorative rock and place it in the heart-shaped memorial; and *Record Your Story* – veterans from all wars are encouraged to record their personal stories in a specially-designed recording booth. All collected pictures and stories will be archived and kept in the Edith M. Clark History Room at the main branch of the Rowan Public Library in Salisbury. The heart-shaped rock memorial will be moved following the exhibition and placed on permanent display in the South Rowan Library Garden.



Work by Tom Floyd

Tom Floyd is a multimedia graphic artist with Nebraska Educational Telecommunications and the creator of *Captain Spectre*, a crime-fighting superhero graphic novel character. He grew up in rural West Texas in the 1950s with a pen and pencil in hand, creating his own cartoons. His strongest influences were his dad and the characters from comics, movies, novels, and television. Captain America, Tarzan, Doc Savage, and Roy Rogers were all weekly visitors to his world.

Floyd earned his degree in art education at Texas Tech and became a middle school and high school teacher. He states, "The lessons learned when we are young leave the strongest impression. Even the youngest viewer quickly learns about

good guys and bad guys. Honor, duty, and integrity were common themes interwoven with action and adventure. My art carries on the tradition of storytelling. My time in Vietnam was a meeting of principles and reality, a chance to prove my worth. My artwork explores the feelings and emotions that arose from those experiences." His body of work, *Principles and Reality*, will be featured in the Osborne Gallery.



Work by Mona Wu

Steeped in Chinese traditional art while growing up in China, Winston-Salem artist Mona Wu immigrated to the United States in 1970. She received her BA in Art History from Salem College that opened the door to Western art for her. Wu studied printmaking under David Faber at Wake Forest University.

Wu uses woodcut relief, the traditional medium used by her Chinese ancestors for reproducing texts and illustrations. Her goal is to seamlessly combine her educational, spiritual, and technical elements, both Eastern and Western, into a body of work which reflects her life experience – living in the West but never forgetting her Eastern roots. Wu's new body of work will be presented in the Woodson Gallery.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 704/636-1882 or visit (www.waterworks.org).

McDunn Gallery in Greenville, SC

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where I think, reflect, and then react. Lately, I am intrigued by the relationship of images and how they can narrate a story. When Images as single thoughts are connected, become more complicated and narrate a story. Years ago, work was

simple in form, and now the panels are shaped, the content layered, and more complex."

McDunn Craft and Art Gallery showcases original works by over thirty artists of South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, and the surrounding southeast region. You will find ceramics, paintings, printmaking, basketweaving, woodturning, sculpture, textiles, blacksmithing, studio furniture, and more.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 864/242-0311 or visit (www.mcdunnstudio.com).

The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This would be Aug. 24th for the September 2011 issue and Sept. 24 for the October 2011 issue. After that, it's too late unless your exhibit runs into the next month.

Black Mountain Center for the Arts in Black Mountain, NC, Features Works by Carrie Wagner

Black Mountain Center for the Arts in Black Mountain, NC, will present the exhibit, *Portraits of Uganda*, featuring photographs by Carrie Wagner, on view in the Upper Gallery, from Aug. 5 through Sept. 2, 2011. A reception will be held on Aug. 5, from 6-8pm.

This exhibition features photographs from Wagner's book, *Village Wisdom: Immersed in Uganda, Inspired by Job, Changed for Life*. Written, photographed and published by Wagner in 2010, fifteen years after she and her husband completed three years in Uganda with Habitat for Humanity International, the book tells an engaging and uplifting story that touches hearts of people from all walks of life.



Through evocative photographs and candid journal entries, Wagner contrasts the richness of culture with the challenges of poverty. She takes the reader and viewers through her transformational process of cultural adaptation. The original photography exhibit was a collection of photographs, taken from 1991-1994 in the village of Ibanda in western Uganda. These portraits represent the Bakonzo tribe in western Uganda.

Bakonzo means 'mountain people.' They live on the steep slopes of the Rwenzori Mountains, often referred to as "Mountains of the Moon." Wagner expanded the exhibit to include images from her return to the village, with her husband and two young sons, in 2009.

Wagner explains, "Some images

remain etched in your heart forever. As I dusted off the 15-year-old negatives of our time living in Uganda, I realized the images are just as vivid in my mind as they were when I experienced the moments. The images are timeless. While they represent a place and time, as all photographs do, on a broader scale they speak about the incredible richness of life that co-exists with poverty environments. Our assumptions about impoverished conditions are challenged as we witness joy, community and simplicity in the lives of those who have not been consumed by the material world. Children laugh and play; people work hard to sustain life; they help each other build; they socialize at the markets; they eat together and tell stories for entertainment."

"I remember my first experience aiming a camera at an African woman, deep in the mountains. As I gasped at the horror in her face, Job, our Ugandan host said, 'She doesn't want you to take her picture. People here believe that you are stealing their soul into the camera.' I put the camera away and waited nearly a year before photographing people. Once I had built trust and personal relationships, the camera ceased to be an obstacle and I was able to capture the beauty of life in rural Uganda with integrity and authenticity," adds Wagner.

"Many years later, I came to realize that the African woman was right. Making photographic portraits is taking a little piece of an individual's soul. Authentic portraiture requires a level of trust. When people 'let me in' I am able to capture a sense of their spirit, whether it's through their eyes, their actions or their expressions. I have not in fact stolen their soul; rather, they have given a piece of it. I am honored to present these portraits because I believe that the portraits honor the true givers."

Wagner, a native of Charlotte, NC, and her husband served with Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI) for 11 years in Uganda, South Africa, and Americus, Georgia. She has a BA in Environmental/Visual Design from North Carolina State University. She has practiced photography for 25 years, specializing professionally in portraiture since 2000. Wagner lives in Asheville, NC, with her husband and two sons.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 828/669-0930 or visit (www.blackmountainarts.org).

NC Wesleyan College in Rocky Mount, NC, Features Works by Michele Cruz and Brian Fleming

NC Wesleyan College in Rocky Mount, NC, will present the exhibit, *In Plain Sight*, featuring works by photographers Michele Cruz and Brian Fleming, on view in the Mims Gallery at Wesleyan's Dunn Center, from Aug. 19 through Oct. 2, 2011. A reception will be held on Sept. 16, from 7-9pm.



Work by Brian Fleming

Photographers Michele Cruz of Nashville, NC, and Brian Fleming of Raleigh, NC, have a long professional association since Fleming took photography classes with Cruz at Rocky Mount Senior High eleven years ago. Both professional artists,

Cruz and Fleming have ongoing careers that bridge their commercial ventures and personal vision making creative art.

Michele A. Carpenter Cruz has been involved in photography for the past 30 years; she owns C-2 Printing and Graphic Design in Nashville and was the designer of Wesleyan's book *Folk Art of the Coastal Plain* and a nationally recognized Wesleyan publication *Farmer James Collection of African American Quilts 1860-1947*.

Cruz began her career journey in North Carolina as editor of the *Nashville Graphic* newspaper after earning a bachelor's degree from Wake Forest University in fine art and history. As an artist Cruz has exhibited her photos statewide and her work was featured in the Mims Gallery exhibition *Textures and Tales*. She was an award-winning teacher of photography and art at Rocky Mount Senior High School for three years, during which time she was Brian Fleming's photography teacher.

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