

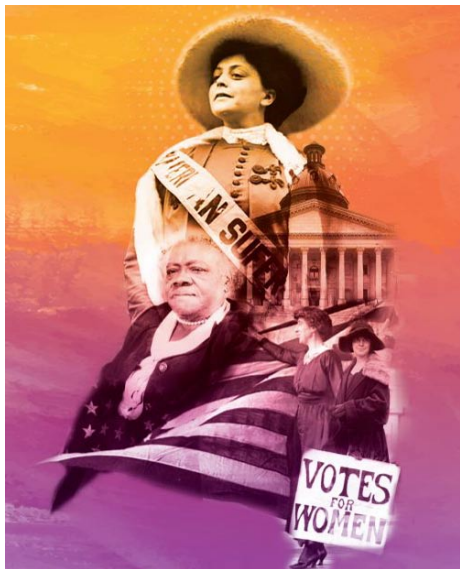
# SC State Museum in Columbia, SC, Offers Exhibit Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment

The South Carolina State Museum in Columbia, SC, is presenting *A Voice of Her Own: South Carolina Women in Politics*, on view for an extended period of time.

This year the museum is celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment, which guaranteed women the right to vote. This exhibit features objects, images and stories showing the ways South Carolina women engaged with the political history of our state. From tribal women leaders, to the first female Governor of the state, this exhibit shows how women worked to gain a voice of their own.

Since women have long been outside politics, the objects in this exhibit show how the personal is the political. A prehistoric scraper tells the story of how native women have a long tradition of being equal with men and powerful in tribal politics. Sherds of porcelain from a colonial plantation are an example of property, which women could spend their lives building, but not control or own. While a tag that a Charleston enslaved woman was forced to wear underlines that some women were property, whose work built the base of South Carolina political power.

The Civil War and Reconstruction caused great political upheaval, but South Carolina women who wanted political power found themselves disappointed. The early 20th century found an imperfect coalition of suffragettes working for a national amendment to give women the right to vote. You can see a "Votes for Women" banner that belonged to USC



student, Shirley Black, while posing in our suffragette selfie station. A wide variety of political material from the 20th century shows how women have always had diverse political opinions and concerns not captured within any one political party.

The museum remains committed to its mission to bring entertaining, inspiring and engaging content to our guests. For those not ready or able to visit, the museum will continue to offer virtual programs and content, like our popular telescope livestreams and our virtual summer camp series. Our guests are our number one priority and we hope to continue to provide them with safe educational and fun experiences – on site and online.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listing or visit ([scmuseum.org](http://scmuseum.org)).

# 701 Center for Contemporary Art in Columbia, SC, Reopens with Works by Kent Ambler

The 701 Center for Contemporary Art in Columbia, SC, presented the exhibition, *Kent Ambler: Into the Wood*, in March of this year, but soon after the exhibit opened the Center had to close its doors due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The Center has now reopened and the exhibition will be on view through Aug. 27, 2020.

*Kent Ambler: Into the Wood*, is a solo exhibition of works by Greenville, SC, artist Kent Ambler, presenting woodcuts, related sculptures, and an architectural installation of woodblocks.

Ambler is one of South Carolina's most prolific and successful woodcut artists. His work impresses art professionals and more casual art lovers alike. Ambler's surroundings provide his subjects, whether they are birds, dogs and goats; trees, mountains and neighborhoods; ice cream; or beer and bananas. His approach is intuitive and aesthetic rather than conceptual.



View of Kent Ambler's exhibition

visual appearance of each piece is of most importance to me. I try not to overthink or over-plan my work. I generally do my best work when my brain is 'turned off', so to speak. I am inspired by the simplicity of idea and image addressed by genuine folk artists."

Ambler (b. 1970) is a Hammond, IN, native and has been a full-time artist since 1997. He has had dozens of exhibitions, including solo shows in Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, Massachusetts, Maryland, Tennessee, New York, Michigan and Virginia, as well as Taiwan. Ambler is represented by eight galleries throughout the country and sells his work at high-end art fairs throughout the Southeast and beyond. He received a BFA from Indiana's Ball State University in 1992 and did graduate studies at Clemson University in 2001-2002.

"Kent is an interesting case as an artist who is deeply respected by his peers for the quality and breadth of his work, and at the same time appeals to a very wide audience," said 701 CCA board chair Wim Roefs, who curated the exhibition. "The everyday nature of his subject matter certainly helps with this appeal since it provides easy entry points into the work. But at the same time, Ambler often presents an interesting take and surprising angle, the latter literally and figuratively. And there's a good bit of humor in the

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Works by Kent Ambler

The exhibition will be Ambler's largest solo exhibition to date, with his largest-ever three-dimensional component. The show will present three dozen woodcut prints, 20 woodcut-collage house sculptures, and an installation of a shed-sized house structure built from old, carved wood blocks.

"My work is autobiographical," Ambler says. "It is derived from my life and surroundings, my observations. It usually starts with an observation or a quick sketch. While the imagery in my art is generally subject- or object-oriented, the



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