

Caldwell Arts Council in Lenoir, NC

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Born in Kansas in 1938, Ebendorf recalls that his mother took him to weekly arts and crafts sessions in Topeka where he glued together shells and wrapped string around wine bottles. His father took him to visit his grandparents, laboring away in their tailor shop, setting for him examples of craftspeople doing precision work that would adorn the body. His formal education came at the University of Kansas where he received bachelor's and master's degrees, and in Norway as a Fulbright Fellowship and where for a year he studied jewelry design courtesy of a grant from the Tiffany Foundation. In 1969 he was a co-founder of the Society of North American Goldsmiths.



Works by Bob Ebendorf

Ebendorf is an artist who works intuitively, learning in a primarily visual way when he turned his dyslexia, which remained undiagnosed until college, to advantage.

His work has taken him to teaching posts at Stetson University, the University of Georgia, SUNY-New Paltz, Guest Professor at the University of West England, UK, and since 1999, at East Carolina University, where he is the Carol Grotnes Belk Distinguished Professor in the Department of Art.

Ebendorf suggests to his students, whom he views as collaborators, that they enlarge their view of art. He has created necklaces, brooches, and even chairs, but considers his collection of crosses, using secular materials such as broken glass to create Christian symbols, to be among his strongest pieces.

Of North Carolina, where he has taught at Penland School of Crafts since 1962, Ebendorf says, "What a wonderful state that seems to thrive in the old and the new, and the exchanging of ideas." His work is recognized well beyond the state's boundaries and can be found in the Metropolitan Museum in New York, the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, Le Musée des Arts Decoratifs in Montreal, and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. It has been the subject of a retrospective at the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian and he has been honored by the 92nd Street Y Arts Center in Manhattan.

Ebendorf and his wife, Aleta Braun, a painter and mixed media artist, live in Greenville, NC.

Ebendorf has visited Caldwell County and the Happy Valley area many times, and has come to love and appreciate the community, local culture, Sculpture Celebration and the Happy Valley Fiddler's Convention. In fact, he juried the Sculpture Celebration in 2008.

Ebendorf has been a tremendous influence for the artists he has taught and befriended. As an educator, he works tirelessly to promote the work of his students. The artists selected to join him in this show are:

Judy Hoyt studied with Ebendorf when he taught at SUNY-New Paltz; she works primarily with found tin to create sculptures and jewelry.

Laura Wood is an MFA recipient in metals from East Carolina University. She

incorporates handmade paper into her beautiful jewelry.

Laritz Garcia uses strong color and linear elements to make sculptural objects of adornment. She is a current student of Ebendorf's at ECU.

Aleta Braun often uses dots and circles as decorative elements in her artwork; she is also Ebendorf's wife.

Lisa Beth Robinson is an outstanding printmaker, collage artist and bookmaker. She has a close relationship with Ebendorf.

Jerry Jackson is Deputy Director of Penland School of Craft, a sculptor, and a long-time associate of Bob Ebendorf.

Kiki Farrish produces compositions on clayboard, large-scale graphite drawings incorporating text with her mark-making.

Ele Annand is a recent core student at Penland School of Craft. She is a printmaker and letterpress artist.

Sarah Masters creates small abstract sculptures drawing from her studies in botany, work in pathology, and experience with multiple media (including clay, fiber, bookmaking, and printmaking).

Tom Thielemann will be showing intaglio prints and letterpress works.

Jane Harrison will show encaustic mixed media work. Ebendorf mentored Jane Harrison during her studies at Eastern Carolina University and sat on her thesis committee; they have remained close friends through the years.

Leia Zumbro is a current MFA candidate in metals at ECU, and plays with the positive and negative space of line to create multi-faceted jewelry compositions.

Jill Eberle has an MFA in painting from ECU, and teaches at ECU. Working with traditional materials, she paints still life and figurative compositions in a realistic style.

Barbara MacFadyen, another friend of Ebendorf's, makes jewelry and has studied with him at Penland and other venues.



Work by Bob Ebendorf

The Caldwell Arts Council is excited to host this outstanding collection of artists. The artwork on display will range from jewelry to printmaking, sculpture to painting.

In the words of the artists: "Bob Ebendorf and Jane Harrison have gathered together a small group of both communal and individual friends who share the same cause - making art. Paths cross and intertwine, critique sessions are shared, information exchanged, we are taught and we teach. We search out those with whom we share common dialogue and aesthetic ideas; and these conversations, meetings, shared imagery makes a difference in who we become as artists. With this small show, we honor and acknowledge the value of the shared cause."

This project is supported by the N.C. Arts Council, a division of the Department of Cultural Resources.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Council at 828/754-2486 or visit (www.caldwellarts.com).

about his teaching style, his workshops and lectures, and most poignantly, his art. He was chosen by Nancy Reagan as one of America's leading artists and has the satisfaction of seeing his work on display in the Smithsonian Institute. He has been a juror for art competitions and conducted many demonstrations and painting workshops where many of his students praise his ability to bring out each individual's artistic style.



Work by Andrew Braitman

Born in Casper, WY, Braitman earned his BA from the University of Maryland. It was at the university where Braitman discovered his true passion for art. He enrolled in every drawing, painting, sculpture, and lithography class offered by the university, along with physics to study light, anatomy and physiology courses in the nursing school to learn the human body. His artistic prowess earned him the Warton Award Grant for Outstanding Senior Artist. All the extra classes allowed him to receive the same award again two years later.

An avid fly fisherman, Braitman learned to study the outdoors while fishing. His landscape paintings range from rural scenes of forests, streams and barns to stone bridges and cottages found in his European painting forays. His paintings are almost abstract except for a few strokes that hint of a familiar image and reflect his brilliant use of color and composition. He renders pink skies, purple trees and other hallucinogenic colors with thick paints, a variety of textures and conceptual shapes to produce oils on canvas filled with subtle details to catch one's eye.

The fine art of Braitman is in many pub-

lic and private collections. His paintings have been featured in galleries, one-man and group shows in Santa Fe, NM; Chicago, IL; Atlanta, GA; Millburn, NJ; Washington, DC; Noorbeck, Holland; Rio de Janeiro and Curitiba, Brazil.

Braitman's most recent work which is on exhibit at Carlton Gallery focuses on the relationship of texture and color combined with lost edges that speak more to his earlier abstraction than they do to his later reality. His recent trip to Santa Fe inspired even more abstraction in his work and at the same time retains the color he has developed through his landscape paintings.

"The last thing I do, before I finish a piece", says Braitman, "is turn all the lights out in the studio and leave one small light burning - just enough light to see the darks, grays, and lights of the painting and none of the color. I try to load as much color as I can into a painting and still have it read as almost photo realistic in the low light. I envision a patron calling his or her partner over at night to see their new painting just before bed. I want them to stare at their new painting with an intimate appreciation. No one else but them and me will see the painting this way. It should blow them away."



Work by Andrew Braitman

Everyone is invited to visit Carlton Gallery during the 30th Anniversary Celebration and *Summer Group Exhibition* which continues through Sept. 15 and Andrew Braitman's *Color Your Life with Art* exhibition runs through Sept. 19.

The gallery is located 10 miles south of Boone, NC, and 7 miles north of Linville, NC, on Hwy 105 in the Grandfather Mountain community.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/963-4288 or visit (www.carltonart-gallery.com).

Asheville Art Museum in Asheville, NC, Offers Exhibition of Sewn Art

The Asheville Art Museum in Asheville, NC, will present the exhibit, *Art / Sewn*, on view from Sept. 14, 2012, through Jan. 6, 2013.

Art/Sewn focuses on works of art in which sewing is integral to the making and looking experience. Most importantly, the exhibition attempts to blur the distinction between art and craft so relevant to today's world when so-called fine art has adopted craft forms and techniques, and craft artists are making non-functional work. What the work shares is sewing—sewing on woven fabric, on paper, felts, and skins, and sewing as an artistic means, as expression and as feminist statement.

In virtually all world cultures, sewing has been the province of women. In the early years of the United States, sewing was perceived as an important skill. At first, this skill was put to use to clothe the family, and for employing daughters of the working class. Sewing continued to be a practical skill through much of the 19th century. In Maryland, nuns instructed the daughters of freed blacks, who produced samplers and embroideries similar to their white counterparts. Increasingly, with the rise of the middle and upper middle class in the 19th century, sewing became a means of self-expression and a route to knowledge for educated, bourgeois women. By the end of the 19th century, with the rise of industrialization, more women were able to indulge in leisure pursuits and were able to produce quilts and other sewn items that were valued more for their artistry and less for their usefulness.



Chalew Shaped Land, by Hannah Chalew, 2011, Pen and ink, 41 x 15 x 14 inches. Courtesy of the Artist and Jonathan Ferrara Gallery.

By the 20th century, more and more women were becoming artists and designers, though few were given the opportunity to achieve the celebrity of their male counterparts. By the late 1960s and 1970s, women artists and designers demanded greater recognition and exhibition opportunities. Through the remaining years of the century, in defiance of the prevalent modernist movements such as Abstract Expressionism and Minimalism, many women adopted feminine imagery, materials and colors, as well as techniques, such as sewing.

Three of the artists in the exhibition make quilts or quilt-like work. One, Sandy Benjamin-Hannibal, embraces the African-American quilt traditions of asymmetry and improvisation. Another, Denise Burge, combines piecing and quilting with crochet and uses cartoon-like imagery to tell the story of "the destructive interaction between ourselves and nature."

A third artist, Anna Von Mertens, explores the concepts of energy and ocean

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Carlton Gallery Near Banner Elk, NC, Offers Works by Andrew Braitman

The Carlton Gallery Near Banner Elk, NC, is presenting the exhibit, *Color Your Life with Art*, featuring works by Andrew Braitman, on view through Sept. 19, 2012.

The exhibition is part of the gallery's 30th Year Celebration. Braitman has been

an artist with Carlton Gallery for more than 20 years showing exceptional work in oils on canvas.

Braitman is a prominent artist with a national reputation. Much has been written

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