

Do you ever wonder what the *first* layer of paint looked like?

Arttrek

Foothills Open Studios

2016

Preview Party Sept. 23
Open Studios Sept. 24-25

upstairs[artspace]

49 S. Trade St., Tryon, NC upstairsartspace.org

Blowing Rock Art & History Museum

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incised rather than stamped, a style common to the Catawba, Pueblo and Navajo tribes at that time.

Though heavily influenced by these other Native American traditions, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians developed their own techniques. Commonly referred to as the “traditional” style, this work persisted as the dominant form for the duration of the 20th century. It was not until the beginning of the 21st century that Cherokee potters revived the historic, thin-walled pottery style. During the present century, a third category of artists working in a contemporary style emerged, producing highly decorated and glazed ceramic works. Many of these artists utilize the Cherokee syllabary or other Cherokee symbols in their work.

Artists including: Davy Arch, Darrin Bark, Bernadine George, Betty Maney, Harold Long, Shirley Oswalt, Joel Queen,

Dean Reed, Alyne Stamper and Amanda Swimmer are among those featured in the exhibition.

The Alexander Community Gallery will also be open and features photographs by Garner G. Dewey, Ph.D. of Appalachian State University. The exhibition, *Reflections: From Havana to DC*, will be open from Sept. 1 - 25, 2016.

The Blowing Rock Art & History Museum seeks to provide cultural enrichment to the High Country communities by promoting the arts and Southern Appalachian heritage and history through educational programs, exhibitions, activities and permanent collections. The museum is located on Chestnut Street on the corner of Chestnut and Main in Blowing Rock.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 828/295-9099 or visit (www.blowingrockmuseum.org).

Mica in Bakersville, NC, Features Works by Bryant Holsenbeck, Amy Putansu and Rodger Jacobs

Mica contemporary craft gallery in Bakersville, NC, will present *From The Earth*, featuring three views by Bryant Holsenbeck, Amy Putansu and Rodger Jacobs, artists who all derive their inspiration from the natural world, on view from Sept. 9 through Nov. 20, 2016. A reception will be held on Sept. 17, from 5-8pm.

According to Bryant Holsenbeck, “The natural world is my muse. Whether in my own back yard, in my car, in the woods or on a journey I look for wild life all around me.” As well a public installation artist, Holsenbeck is also well known as an object maker, especially a maker of animals.

“I have been making the animals of my world out of recycled materials for a

while now. I do this by wrapping things together. When I first started I intended to make abstract work. But, everything I started became an animal—true story.”

Amy Putansu, a weaver’s weaver who grew up in a fishing village in Maine, uses a rare hand weaving technique called *ondulé* to maneuver threads out of the strict grid and into wave-like patterns and lines. As Putansu expresses so beautifully “The spark for almost every textile I create stems from questions pertinent to my connection with the flux between land and sea”.

Rodger Jacobs is a self-taught wood turner and sculptor. According to Jacobs,

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shape and balance are the key elements to his work, “I feel I have reached my goal when the work breathes by itself, when it radiates that certain aura that cannot be improved upon. Then I’m ready to start another, and another.”

Visit us during American Craft Week

from Oct. 1 - 16, 2016, with refreshments and door prize drawing.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/688-6422 or visit (www.micagallerync.com).

Art Works Brevard NC in Brevard, NC, Features Works by Cason Rankin

Art Works Brevard NC in Brevard, NC, will present *Spirit People*, featuring works by Cason Rankin, on view from Sept. 1 - 30, 2016. A reception will be held on Sept. 23, from 5:30-8pm.

Before coming to Asheville, NC, Rankin had a distinguished career as a watercolor artist, including awards for excellence at national and regional shows, publication of her art in national watercolor magazines and books, invited exhibitions, and service on governing boards of state and national watercolor societies.

“I always enjoyed the fluid drips and runs of watercolor,” says Rankin. “But after years of experience with this delicate, romantic medium, I felt a desire for more depth, drama and strength in my paintings.” Two years ago, she met Cashiers, NC, artist Karen Weihs, who introduced her to palette knife application of another water medium, acrylics, to a different support, canvas.

“I haven’t painted with watercolor since,” Rankin says. “Acrylics can produce the same drippy, runny, spontaneous effects I enjoyed working in watercolor, but they also let me pile up paint and get strong color and contrasts.”

Rankin relates that, “the first spirit people just happened- I wasn’t expecting them or trying for them. But my imagination is filled with images of gentle, quiet spirits, and I loved it when they spontaneously emerged.”

Since that time, although she doesn’t deliberately set out to paint “spirit people”, she welcomes and elaborates them



Work by Cason Rankin

when they appear in her work. Rankin explains, “I start my paintings with an abstract application of acrylics with a palette knife until a figure or face seems to be emerging. Then I bring it forward with contrasts between the spirit image and the background.”

Working from photographs, Rankin’s also paints more specific renditions of recognizable figures, faces and animals in her distinctive semi-abstract style.

In addition to Art Works Brevard NC, her work can be seen at NorthLight Studios in the River Arts District of Asheville, and the Cindy Saadeh Gallery, Kingsport, TN.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/553-1063, or e-mail to (artworksbrevardnc@gmail.com).