

Bender Gallery in Asheville, NC

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and began working with glass at the age of 17. In 2004, he graduated from the Craft and Design Program at Sheridan College in Ontario, Canada. In 2008, he earned a BFA with Distinction from the California College of the Art and an MFA from Alfred University in New York in 2016.

Bender Gallery is a contemporary fine art and sculpture gallery in downtown Asheville with a focus on glass art by internationally recognized artists. The gallery

has been specializing in glass for fourteen years and the owners have an in depth knowledge about contemporary glass art. The gallery offers a boutique setting with a contemporary modern aesthetic. They also carry abstract and figurative paintings, mixed media, and select ceramic works.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/505-8341 or e-mail to (Bernadette@bendergallery.com).

Groveswood Gallery in Asheville, NC, Offers Events for American Craft Week

Groveswood Gallery in Asheville, NC, has several art and craft offerings for the month of October, including demonstrations spotlighting local makers in celebration of American Craft Week, which takes place Oct. 5-14, 2018.

On Oct. 5 and 6, from 11am-4pm, metalsmith Audrey Laine Sawyer will be at the gallery selling her wares and demonstrating her process of piercing nature-inspired silhouettes on the face of her hand-fabricated, hollow form jewelry. Sawyer holds a bachelor's degree in studio art from Rollins College and is a 2010 graduate of Haywood Community College's Professional Crafts Program. In addition to her shadowbox earrings, pendants, and rings, she will also showcase jewelry that incorporates lost-wax castings of her own carvings and found objects, such as stag beetles and bird bones.

Also on Oct. 5 and 6, Asheville fiber artist Karen Kennedy, another graduate of Haywood Community College's Professional Crafts Program, will demonstrate needle felting using locally dyed wool to create fall pumpkins and leaves. Pre-made versions will be available to purchase, a perfect addition to your Halloween and Thanksgiving décor.



Audrey Laine giving a demo on jewelry

On Saturday, Oct. 13, from 11am-4pm, Kendall White will be demonstrating the wet felting process she uses to create sculptural wool baskets and merino wool neck wraps. White pursued her BFA in fiber arts at the Appalachian Center for Craft and later discovered her love for felting at the John C. Campbell Folk School. Her work can be found at the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum Store and Gallery of the Mountains (Groveswood Gallery's sister shop) in Asheville.

On Saturday, Oct. 20, visitors to Groveswood Village will have the opportunity to go behind-the-scenes and tour the artist studios located next door to Groveswood Gallery (normally closed to the public). Tours are free and self-guided and will take place from 11am - 4pm. Meet makers who work in a variety of media, and browse original works of art ranging from jewelry to pottery to sculpture.

Established in 1992, Groveswood Gallery is nationally recognized for its dedication to fine American-made art and craft. Located in historic Groveswood Village adjacent to The Omni Grove Park Inn, the gallery is noted for its charming, old-world setting and rich craft heritage. This site once housed the weaving and woodworking operations of Biltmore Industries, an Arts and Crafts enterprise - originally backed by Edith Vanderbilt - that played a significant role in the Appalachian Craft Revival during the early 20th century.

Today, Groveswood Gallery offers two expansive floors of finely crafted furniture, ceramics, jewelry and more, contributed by over 400 artists and craftspeople from across the United States. The gallery also boasts an outdoor sculpture garden and presents rotating exhibitions throughout the year. Free parking is available on-site.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/253-7651 or visit (www.groveswood.com).



Works by Audrey Laine

On Oct. 12 and 13, contemporary landscape painter Shawn Krueger will be in the sculpture garden at Groveswood Gallery demonstrating plein air painting techniques and interacting with guests from 11am-4pm. Krueger's style favors the American Arts & Crafts and Tonalism movements - both based on love and respect for nature, hand-craftsmanship, and good design. His work has garnered a number of awards over the years, and his paintings are in dozens of private and permanent collections throughout the country. He was featured in the June 2018 issue of *American Art Collector* and was also recently juried into the highly reputable Roycroft Artisan Guild based in East Aurora, New York.

Pink Dog Creative Gallery in Asheville, NC, Features Works by Kenn Kotara

Pink Dog Creative Gallery in Asheville, NC, will present *i_u_*, featuring work by Kenn Kotara, on view from Oct. 12 through Nov. 11, 2018. A reception will be held on Oct. 12, from 6-8pm.

Kotara offered the following Artist Statement: "*i_u_* is subtraction, deduction, rejection, neutral, quiet, silent, truth, literal, deliberate, less, simple, orderly, systemic, temporal, phenomena. Intentionally cryptic and a double entendre, it is the result of both initiating and responding to various catalysts. Arcane systems that in some way serve to explain our world have me

constantly posing what if type questions and exploring ways of noting observations, and this ask-answer question fuels my practice. One particular question—how does form come into being—has led me towards creating these phenomenological meditations."

Kotara works in a variety of media and substrates on painting, drawing, sculpture, structure and installation. Earning a BFA in Graphic Design and an MFA in Studio Art from Louisiana Tech University, Kotara's architectural background and Louisiana southern roots permeate his work. The

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underpinning of his work is structured upon systems using the grid, language, and maps on which to hang his subject.

Kotara's work has been in over one hundred fifty (150) exhibitions, and is in the permanent collections of the Asheville Art Museum, Louisiana State Museum, U.S. Embassy in Jamaica, University of Texas Southwest Medical Center, Bellagio (Las Vegas), Neiman Marcus, Peninsula Hotel (Paris), Sumisho (Tokyo) and Western Asset Management (Sao Paulo). Kotara maintains an active studio practice in Asheville and is Assistant Professor and Chair of the Art Department at Mars Hill University.

Randy Shull and Hedy Fischer are creating a colorful sensation on Depot Street in Asheville's River Arts District. The former textile manufacturing and warehouse building has been transformed into an exciting mix of artist studios and retail spaces.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, e-mail to (pinkdogcreative@gmail.com) or visit (www.pinkdog-creative.com).



Work by Kenn Kotara

STARworks in Star, NC, Offers Annual Glass Pumpkin Patch Event - Oct. 6, 2018

Hand-blown glass pumpkins will be ready to harvest at the STARworks Glass Pumpkin Patch on Oct. 6, from 10am-4pm. This is the only time of year the popular glass pumpkins are available.

More than 3,000 pumpkins in all colors, shapes and sizes will be ripe for the picking and available for purchase. Each one a unique work of art, the pumpkins will be displayed in the STARworks Gallery.

The event starts at 10am, and the pumpkins go fast. STARworks encourages people to show up early for the best possible selection. Proceeds from the event help fund STARworks programs, including K-12 educational programs.

The STARworks Café & Taproom will open at 7am with pastries, espresso drinks and smoothies. The Smokehouse Mobile Bistro and Wildfire Pizza food trucks will also be on site early. Pumpkins are roped off



and will not be available until 10am.

STARworks glassblowers begin making pumpkins in March in order to guarantee a large selection of pumpkins, gourds and seedpods. STARworks Clay Studio has added porcelain, crystalline gourds, which are new for this year.

Pumpkins cannot be reserved and will not be available for purchase before the

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