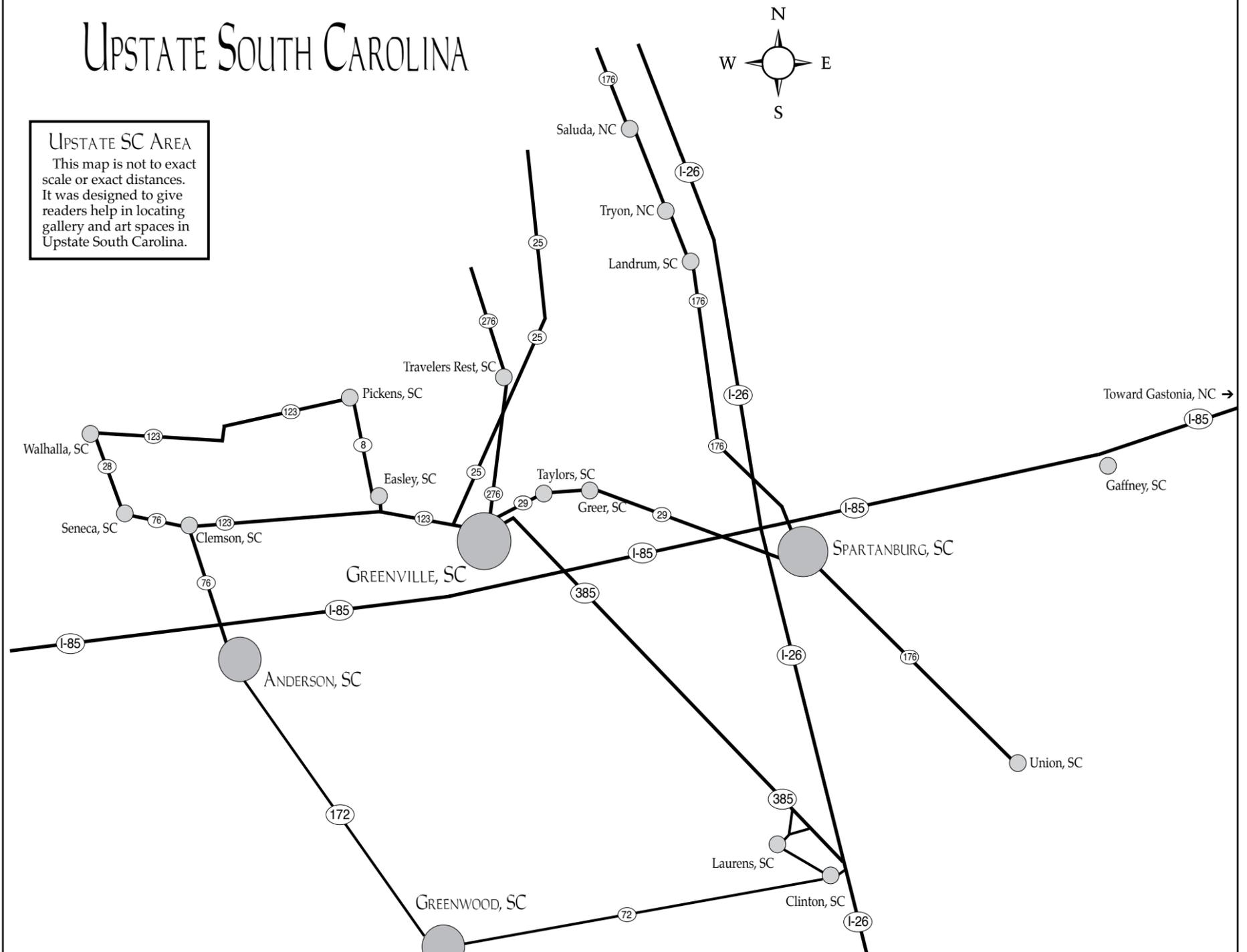


UPSTATE SOUTH CAROLINA

UPSTATE SC AREA

This map is not to exact scale or exact distances. It was designed to give readers help in locating gallery and art spaces in Upstate South Carolina.



Hampton III Gallery in Taylors, SC, Greenville Tech in Taylors, SC, Features Works by Paul Matheny | Ask Artists to Take a Look at 2020

Hampton III Gallery in Taylors, SC, is presenting *Stories from Trees: 2015-2020*, featuring paintings by Paul Matheny, on view through Oct. 31, 2020.

Matheny offers the following statement, "Since the *Search for Truth* series began in the early 1990s in Rock Hill, SC, every painting has evolved as a result of the painting that came before it. The earliest pieces reflected a southern roadside aesthetic from hand painted signs from firework and produce stands, and disappearing conversations that I was fortunate to participate in."

"These current paintings, while still connected to each of the previous pieces, have evolved to reflect a more ethereal, transcendental thought process from my time in the forests, on trails, and through thoughts and ideas that emerge from my mind, through my hands and onto each panel. Most of the elements from my image bank are still used, but rearranged and rethought. These new paintings are visual conversations among the objects, interacting together, having conversations within each piece. The viewer is invited to bring their own perspective to each image, allowing them to personally connect with the narrative in their own way."

Matheny grew up in Anderson, SC, and is a 1996 graduate of Winthrop University. He has exhibited his artwork in the Carolinas and Georgia. His paintings focus on his distillation of his experiences that have influenced him throughout his life, driving through forgotten roads and spending time in forests. The paintings are composed of layers of words, followed by layers of paint that allow the images to evolve onto the



Work by Paul Matheny

surface of each panel. He currently lives in Columbia, SC.

Hampton III Gallery is located on Wade Hampton Boulevard in Taylors, SC (a couple of miles from downtown Greenville). In 1970 the gallery opened with the vision to provide quality art to the community. The gallery features work from leading painters, sculptors and printmakers from the Southeast. Today Hampton III Gallery is the longest running commercial gallery in South Carolina, representing over thirty professional, award-winning artists. The 2400 square foot gallery maintains an inner gallery that hosts changing one-person or group exhibitions every 4-6 weeks. Eight surrounding galleries offer a continuing display of works. Artists' lectures, demonstrations, discussions and special tours are provided.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 864/268-2771 or e-mail to (sandy@hamptoniiigallery.com).

Greenville Technical College in Taylors, SC, will present *2020, So Far*, on view in the Benson Campus Galleries, from Oct. 5 - 30, 2020.

This year has been and continues to slam us with climate and health disasters to exacerbate our political, racial, and economic divides. The underpinnings of our everyday lives sway under the weight of doubt as we question the veracity of governmental and scientific authorities, rethink cultural norms, and doubt personal and collective beliefs. Our movements, communications and proximity to coworkers, friends, family, our nation, the world have ceased or have been severely restricted. Quick definitive answers would be so welcome. In the spirit of full disclosure, *2020, So Far* offers no answers.

The idea for *2020, So Far* originated with a visit to Hampton III Gallery's (in Taylors, SC) exhibition *In Times Like These* and Upstairs Artspace's (in Tryon, NC) exhibition, *Jane Allen Nodine: Reflections In the Age of Pandemic*. Both concentrated on art made specifically during the spring 2020 Covid-19 shut down.



Work by Enid Williams

In Benson Gallery 2 are nine artists from Hampton III: John Acorn, Alice Ballard, Jeanet Dreskin, Paul Matheny, Glen Miller, Robert Morsberger, Tom Stanley, Art Weger, and Enid Williams. Each made art



Work by Doug McAbee

in reaction to the pandemic and its isolation specifically for *In Times Like These*. Added to the mix are photographs by Katie Fenske made in early fall of 2020 and paintings by Jane Allen Nodine made during her self-imposed artist residency in the spring 2020 isolation. Each artist worked in their favored media; painting, printmaking, relief sculpture, ceramics, and photography, and in their favored genre from landscape to abstraction and in their favored subjects, nature, narrative, personal iconography, color and shape. Most relished the shutdown's isolation as added studio time. Many found their studio a respite from 2020's tumult, welcoming a release through art-making as a focused, meditative task. Though all were influenced by 2020 trepidation and fear, their outlooks remain hopeful.

In contrast, Doug McAbee's response to 2020 is fanciful and fun art with maybe only a nod to hope. His bright, color saturated drawings of wildly whimsical creatures cavort around the perimeter of Benson Gallery 1. The center of Gallery 1 is anchored by fantastical powder-coated steel pets that simultaneously beg for a hug and warn, "hands off." Are his bright animal creatures grinning in greeting or leering in lechery?

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So you're the Marketing Director of a visual arts organization, art museum, arts center, arts council or artist guild and you're wondering why you never see the exhibits presented at your facility included here. Maybe you're the owner of a commercial art gallery and you've never seen your exhibits included with others presented in your area. You might even be an individual artist who is having an exhibit in a non-profit space or commercial space and you don't see your exhibits included.

My question to you is - How long will you put up with that before you ask someone, "Why that is the case?" If you're not included - it's your fault.