

Hillsborough Gallery of Arts

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posed of hand-dyed fabric, densely sewn. Her studio is #23 on the map, 3604 Pasture Road, Hillsborough.

Jason Smith creates abstract metal sculptures in steel and copper using reclaimed material. Jason's studio is #2 on the map, 1709 NC Hwy. 86N, Hillsborough. And, Nancy Smith's studio is #45, located at 201 Morningside Drive, Carrboro. She will have intriguing contemporary mixed media paintings of figures, animals and nature.

The Hillsborough Gallery of Arts is owned and operated by 21 local artists and represents these established artists exhibiting contemporary fine art and fine craft. The Gallery's offerings include acrylic and oil paintings, sculpture, ceramics, photography, textiles, jewelry, glass, metals, encaustic, enamel, and wood.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings or visit the (www.HillsboroughGallery.com).



Work by Pringle Teetor

Craven Allen Gallery in Durham, NC, Offers Works by William Paul Thomas

Craven Allen Gallery in Durham, NC, is presenting *William Paul Thomas: Public Displays of Affection*, on view through Oct. 30, 2021.

Thomas's paintings are larger than life, both in physical presence and visual impact. Each image flirts with photorealism while maintaining evidence of a strong painterly hand, which is amplified by his rich color palette. Some of his subjects can be seen with their faces partially covered in blue, which he refers to as "Cyanosis". This effect is a visceral depiction of the conflict and trauma that we all hold just beneath the surface. Cyanosis challenges viewers to be more aware of not only their own hardships, but also those of the people they interact with every day.

The title of the show, *Public Displays of Affection*, refers to his intimate connection with the people he paints. "I choose specific models as a way of recognizing their significance in my life's path. I relish being able to honor everyday people through making images. We regularly celebrate women and men of prominence in mass media, so I take advantage of the opportunity to highlight the people that impact me on a more direct level than any untouchable celebrity or distant historical figure could."

A rising art star, Thomas was the youngest artist, and the only figurative painter, in the recent show *Front Burner: Highlight in Contemporary North Carolina Painting* at the North Carolina Museum of Art. He was the Brock Family Visiting Instructor in painting at Duke University for a year while Beverly McIver was a fellow at the American Academy in Rome. He currently teaches at Guilford College, and lives in Durham.

Thomas offered the following statement, "Most of my creative work is tangled up with the attempt to grant access to anyone on the outside. This gets complicated. Who said they even wanted to come in? I might paint a portrait of a young man who [understandably] has never set foot in the art gallery that sits within a mile of his childhood home. We invite his family to see the portrait. Maybe they'll continue to visit the gallery after my show is de-installed. Maybe they won't."

"When I talk about my work to viewers, I'll recount things from other intimate conversations to illustrate how personal exchanges inspire my decision making. I love sharing carefully designed paintings, prints, and digital experiments for public consumption. Whether the images are depictions of anonymous floating heads, headless bodies frozen in time, or cryptic



Work by William Paul Thomas

phrases that invite extended inquiry, my efforts are heavily bent towards highlighting the questionable barriers that exist between us and everything else," adds Thomas.

Thomas is a visual artist based in Durham, NC. His work is centered on making images to record his life experiences and observations. For over 10 years he has created intimate painted portraits of everyday people that he chooses as a way of recognizing their significance in his life's path. In addition to painting and drawing, he also experiments with video and photography to capture idiosyncratic, abstracted depictions of love, joy, and adversity. He earned a Bachelor of Fine Art degree in Studio Art from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and a Master of Fine Art Degree in Studio Art from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. He is currently an adjunct visual art instructor at Guilford College.

"When I talk about my work to viewers, I'll recount things from other intimate conversations to illustrate how personal exchanges inspire my decision making," says Thomas. "I love sharing carefully designed paintings, prints, and digital experiments for public consumption. Whether the images are depictions of anonymous floating heads, headless bodies frozen in time, or cryptic phrases that invite extended inquiry, my efforts are heavily bent towards highlighting the questionable barriers that exist between us and everything else."

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 919/286-4837 or visit (www.cravenallengallery.com).

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.

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UNC-Chapel Hill, NC, Offers Asian Works from Rockefeller Collection

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NC, will present *Buddha and Shiva, Lotus and Dragon: Masterpieces from the Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3rd Collection at Asia Society*, on view at the Ackland Art Museum, from Oct. 8 through Jan. 9, 2022.

The exhibition features nearly 70 of the finest examples of Asian art in the United States. Co-organized by the American Federation of Arts and Asia Society Museum, this exhibition showcases the extraordinary range of bronzes, ceramics, and metalwork that John D. Rockefeller 3rd (1906-1978) and his wife Blanchette Hooker Rockefeller (1909-1992) thoughtfully assembled between the 1940s and the 1970s.

With highlights including spectacular Chinese vases, dynamic Indian Chola bronzes, and exquisite Southeast Asian sculptures, the exhibition reveals great achievements in Asian art spanning more than two millennia. This selection of masterpieces drawn from Asia Society's permanent collection is a visually stunning presentation that will illuminate social and artistic histories from across Asia and underscore the visual arts' capacity to encourage cross-cultural dialogue.

"The masterpieces of Asian artwork in this show affirm the power of the visual arts to create bridges between societies and time periods. We are honored to partner with our colleagues at Asia Society to bring this exhibition to audiences across the American South, where the breathtaking sculptures, ceramics, and metalworks will offer new insights into the extraordinary and diverse artistic practices from across Asian history and strengthen the bonds of cultural understanding in our own time," says Pauline Willis, Director & CEO, American Federation of Arts.

"At a moment in history when the long-established ties between East and West are being tested and discrimination of Asians and Asian Americans is on the rise, this exhibition provides a meaningful opportunity to activate the arts to nurture greater understanding and empathy for other cultures. Through these unparalleled artworks, the American public can better understand the soul of the great civilizations of Asia and how it has enriched human experience," says Michelle Yun Mapplethorpe, Vice President for Global Artistic Programs, Director of Asia Society Museum, New York.

"John D. Rockefeller 3rd and Blanchette Hooker Rockefeller created this outstanding collection precisely because they wanted other Americans to have the privilege of experiencing it in person. You cannot help but be awed by Asia and its history when you behold these works," says Adriana Proser, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Quincy Scott Curator of Asian Art, The Walters Art Museum, Baltimore; former John H. Foster Curator for Traditional Asian Art at Asia Society Museum.

When John D. Rockefeller 3rd and his wife Blanchette Hooker Rockefeller began collecting Asian art in the years after World



Made in India, Tamil Nadu, "Shiva as Lord of the Dance" (Shiva Nataraja), Chola period, ca. 970, copper alloy. Asia Society, New York: Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3rd Collection, 1979.20. Photography by Synthescape. Courtesy of Asia Society and American Federation of Arts.

War II, they chose to prioritize classical masterpieces that represented the great technical skill and creative breadth of Asian artistic practice. From the start, the couple believed that sharing this grouping of exceptional artworks with the public could act as a catalyst for increasing understanding between the United States and Asia and create the foundation for future economic and sociopolitical engagement.

They selected objects from across the continent - Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tibet, and Vietnam - ranging from everyday food wares to Imperial dining vessels and ceremonial Bodhisattvas to private devotional Hindu sculptures. These artworks come from a range of cultural contexts and reflect the diversity of the region and its vast artistic achievements.

"The Ackland is thrilled to present this major exhibition, especially since we house one of the best collections of Asian art in the Southeastern United States. Indeed, our collections in this area 'share DNA' with those of Asia Society: both were decisively shaped by the advice of Sherman E. Lee, the leading connoisseur of Asian art in the United States in the twentieth century," said Katie Ziglar, director of the Ackland Art Museum.

"For over two decades after his retirement to Chapel Hill in 1983, Lee proposed acquisitions, encouraged collectors, and all in all put the Ackland on the map in the field of Asian art. We honor his legacy by bringing this stunning show to the Ackland, and we thank our sponsors and patrons who have made this landmark event possible," adds Ziglar.

This exhibition represents a special opportunity for Ackland visitors to experience the unparalleled quality of the Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3rd Collection outside of its home at Asia Society Museum in New York City. In addition to investigating themes of Buddhist sculpture, Hindu

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