

Arts Center of Kershaw County

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the Arts Center's historic Douglas Reed House (ca.1812), the show will feature a selection of fine, handmade pieces in clay, glass, metals, and wood. Some of the items you will find include pottery, hand-blown glass, aprons, woodwork, soaps, candles, dog treats, herbed jams and syrups, jewelry, stuffed toys, ornaments, and so much more! Local potter and pottery instructor Debra Gregory will act as curator again this year. In-person shopping hours are 10:30am-4:30pm, Friday and Saturday and 1:30-4:30pm, on Sunday. Online shopping is a new facet of the Show this year. The Center wanted to make these special items available to everyone, particularly those who may not be out and about shopping this year due to COVID-19.

"Coordinating the artists for the Holiday House has given me the opportunity to meet new people and discover lots of beautiful handmade work. This year we will see the return of previous artists and new artists, and we are thrilled to offer a new way of shopping despite these difficult times," says Debbie Gregory.

This year's artisans include: Becky's

Soap Shoppe: handmade soaps, lotions, butters, etc.; Ruthann Brasington: felt artist; Marsha Chastain, stuffed toys and other fabric items; Craig Bell, honey and beeswax candles; Susan Ciotti, hand painted signs, etched glass and other items; Debra Gregory, pottery; E.J. Ham, wood and antler trays, serving pieces; Chuck Klemme, wood turned creations; Knot Board Designs, ornaments, signs, embroidered towels, jewelry; Harvee Kranz, hand painted ornaments; Gloria McKay Baskets; KS Wool Wonders, felted art, wooden art; Tammy Rudd, lampwork glass jewelry; Sallies Greatest Jams, jams and syrups; Anne Schultz, pottery; Truesdale Barkery, homemade dog treats; and P.A. Youngren, felted paintings. (This list is subject to change without notice).

All safety measures will be taken by the Arts Center in compliance with the CDC. Patrons will be spaced six feet apart, masks will be required, and hand sanitizer will be available throughout the facility.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (www.fineartscenter.org).

Asheville Art Museum Offers Exhibition of Sculptural Ceramics

The Asheville Art Museum in Asheville, NC, is presenting *Fantastical Forms: Ceramics as Sculpture*, on view through Apr. 5, 2021.

The 25 works in this exhibition - curated by associate curator Whitney Richardson - highlight the Museum's Collection of sculptural ceramics from the last two decades of the 20th century to the present. Each work illustrates the artist's ability to push beyond the utilitarian and transition ceramics into the world of sculpture.

North and South Carolina artists featured include: Elma McBride Johnson, Neil Noland, Norm Schulman, Virginia Scotchie, Cynthia Bringle, Jane Palmer, Michael Sherrill, and Akira Satake. Works by American artists Don Reitz, Robert Chapman Turner, Karen Karnes, Toshiko Takaazu, Bill Griffith, and Xavier Toubes are also featured in the exhibition.

"*Fantastical Forms: Ceramics as Sculpture* will offer visitors the chance to see a selection of large-scale ceramic works of art from the Museum's Collection," says Richardson. "Many of these sculptures have either not been seen for years or have never been seen before by the public. We're excited to bring not just one, but several colorful and imaginative sculptures out to be displayed together to create their own fantasy world. Several artists in the exhibition have a student-teacher relationship and it's fun to see how their styles run parallel and intersect one another."



Jane Palmer, "Untitled", circa 1990, glazed stoneware, 41 x 14 1/4 x 21 1/2 inches. Asheville Art Museum. © Estate of Jane Palmer.

Ceramics often serve a practical purpose and fired clay is traditionally used to make coffee mugs, plates, and vases - many of the things we use every day and have for hundreds of years. Around 1870, cerami-



Virginia Scotchie, "Object Maker Series", 2020, glazed stoneware. Asheville Art Museum. © Virginia Scotchie.

cists began experimenting with those functional shapes to make what they called "art pottery" as a decorative addition to one's home. After World War II more art students learned ceramics on the GI Bill; by the 1960s, artists had expanded the field even further, with some completely abandoning functionality as a prerequisite of ceramics. Those artists saw themselves as fine artists who created sculptures in clay, and eventually the art world followed suit. By the 1980s, artists who began the movement in the mid-century were well established and teaching the next generation of sculptural ceramicists. Many of their students went on to create fantastical and imaginative forms, both abstract and figurative.

This new exhibition is also complemented by *Muddying the Waters: Exploring Traditions in North Carolina Clay* on view through Feb. 1, 2021, which explores the movements and connections of makers as a way to push boundaries of regionality and tradition while highlighting the richness and complexity of makers and practices around North Carolina. The Museum also hopes this exhibition will encourage visitors to explore the SECU Collection Hall and discover other sculptural ceramic works of art.

The Museum's galleries, the Museum Store, and Perspective Café are open with limited capacity. Art PLAYce, our intergenerational makerspace, and the Frances Mulhall Achilles Art Research Library remain temporarily closed. Visitors may become Members at the welcome desk during their visit or online at (ashevilleart.org/membership). The Museum is also offering both onsite and virtual programs; a full calendar

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