

Francis Marion University

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sculpting. It allowed her to experiment, and fuse together old-world artistry with her skills and abilities across a wide variety of art forms to create totally new and unique mixed media pieces.

"The concept for this exhibition comes from my fascination with human psychology, and my drive to translate it into art. How do we come to a given conclusion, or arrive at a certain decision? How do we deal with difficult situations, when we are at a crossroads, or put into a scenario we never thought we would be faced with? How do we handle trauma? What kinds of coping mechanisms do we develop?," said Yukhno.

"The pieces in this show address some of the hardest aspects of our lives: facing our fears, denial, peer pressure, societal and personal expectations. I look at what role society plays in our lives, how it can be a force of good to mold us, but also how it dictates what we think, gags what we say and prevents us from being who we are inside."

"I also explore the pursuit of what makes you uniquely 'you', uncover things we sometimes don't even know ourselves," adds Yukhno. "What informs our life choices? What are we willing to give up? How do we know if it was the right decision?"

"All of these things are the pieces of the puzzle that makes each of us who we are. The dark things, happy things, dreams, ambitions, passions, love... the good and bad, the black and white, and the gray, the things that are hidden, or lying just beneath the surface."

Susan Fecho offers the following statement about her work, "My recent work interprets the past as a personal, cultural, and archetypal artifact. The human body, ar-

chitectural unit, and surrounding landscape become metaphors in my work. Trained as a traditional printmaker, I am intrigued by the richness and variety inherent in varied techniques."

"Storytelling is at the core of my work, with the sculptural book as a mode of telling stories, expressing feelings, and sharing imagery," adds Fecho. "Through my work, the familiar reappears in unfamiliar configurations; a new sense of significance is imparted to an otherwise everyday object. My creative interests extend beyond the viewed subject, encompassing sculptural elements, allegorical imagery, and whimsical puns. In my work, there are varied layers of material and multiple facets of meaning."

Fecho, a Professor of Art at Barton College, has shown in 25 solo exhibitions and over a hundred invitationals. Her published images have been accepted into several major collections: the Smithsonian Institution's American Art Museum/National Portrait Gallery Library, Washington, DC; the Word and Image Department, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, England; and the Museum of Women Artists, Washington, DC.

Fecho is a multi-media printmaker/surface designer with an earned MFA from East Carolina University as well as post-graduate studies from various institutions including; Jan Van Eyck Academie, Humboldt Field Research Institute, Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design, Northern Illinois University and Penland School of Crafts. She has exhibited regionally, nationally and internationally – and has received numerous awards, grants and residencies.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listing or call Walter Sallenger, Gallery Curator at 843/661-1385.

Coker College in Hartsville, SC, Features Works by Kathleen Thum

Coker College in Hartsville, SC, will present *OilWorks*, featuring drawings, paintings and wall installations by Kathleen Thum, on view at the Cecelia Coker Bell Gallery, from Feb. 4 through Mar. 4, 2019. A reception will be held on Feb. 4, from 7-8pm.

Thum's drawings, paintings and wall installations, which explore the ongoing shifting of power between mankind and earth, have been widely exhibited. Selected group exhibitions include *SouthxEast* at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, FL, *Man + Land + Water* at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, SC, *Nowhere Everywhere* at the Cambridge School of Weston, MA, *Interventions* at Ohio State University in Mansfield, OH, and *Salvage* at Parkland College, Champaign, IL.

Thum's recent past Solo and Two-Person shows include exhibitions at University of Alabama in Huntsville, Rogue Community College in Grant Pass, OR, Furman University in Greenville, SC, and Broward College in Davie, FL. Her work is also included in the 2014, 2015 and 2017 *Manifest International Drawing Annual Exhibition in Print* publications and the June/July Issue of *New American Painting* in 2016.

Thum has been awarded several fellowships to attend artist residencies, such as the Jentel Artist Residency in Wyoming, the Vermont Studio Center, the Saltonstall Foundation for the Arts and the Women's Studio Workshop. She has received a Quarterly Support Grant from the South Carolina Arts Commission and was a recipient of the New York Foundation for the Arts Mark Program.

Thum presented her artwork at the 2016 International Petrocultures Conference in St. John's, Newfoundland and plans to present new work at the upcoming 2018 Petrocultures Conference in Glasgow,



Work by Kathleen Thum

United Kingdom.

Thum received her BFA from Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore and her MFA from Bowling Green State University in Ohio. She currently teaches Drawing as an Associate Professor in the Art Department at Clemson University in upstate South Carolina, where she lives with her husband and eleven year old son.

The Cecelia Coker Bell Gallery is located in the Gladys C Fort Art Building, on the Coker College campus, in Hartsville, SC.

Coker College upholds and defends the intellectual and artistic freedom of its faculty and students as they study and create art through which they explore the full spectrum of human experience. The college considers such pursuits central to the spirit of inquiry and thoughtful discussion, which are at the heart of a liberal arts education.

For further info check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the exhibition director, Renny Prince, at 843/383-8156, or visit (www.ceceliacokerbellgallery.com).

The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be Feb. 24th for the March 2019 issue and Mar. 24th for the April 2019 issue.

After that, it's too late unless your exhibit runs into the next month. But don't wait for the last minute - send your info now.

And where do you send that info?
E-mail to (info@carolinaarts.com).

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The Official Art Show of the Azalea Festival

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Sunset River Marketplace in Calabash, NC, Offers Works by Sandy Adair, Susan Sharpe and Vasanto

Sunset River Marketplace in Calabash, NC, will present *Elemental Visions: Fiber Art* by Adair, Sharpe and Vasanto, on view from Feb. 1 through Mar. 9, 2019. A reception will be held on Feb. 1, from 5-7pm.

The exhibition features abstracts, wearable art, macramé, tapestries and more created by Sandy Adair, Susan Sharpe and Vasanto. The Blue Ridge Mountains with their ever-changing moods provide inspiration for these three western North Carolina artists. Color, texture and textile artifacts are combined expertly by the hands and hearts of these women.

Adair says, "Like many families searching for a simpler, closer to the earth life, our family of four with two kids, an aquarium full of fish and five cats arrived in Boone, NC, in 1974 in an old VW van. That was the beginning of a wondrous adventure."

She started creating macramé plant items and abstract landscape wall hangings. Soon, after a tapestry course with Susan Sharpe, she was creating abstract tapestry landscapes. After receiving scholarships to Penland Craft School, she was juried into Southern Highlands Craft Guild in 1986.

She has received numerous awards including Featured Tapestry Artist of the Year for the Year of the Tapestry and the Biltmore House in Asheville, NC. Her piece titled "Appalachian Sunset" was featured in the movie 28 Hours. Her work has also been included in several books and publications, including *Fiber Arts Design Book V*, *Better Homes and Gardens*, *Making Amazing Art*, *1000 Artisan Images*, *The Romance of Country Inns*, *Southern Aviator* magazine and *Wilma* magazine. Today, Adair is still inspired by her love of the earth and nature.

Vasanto (her public art name) learned to knit as a child, and then began spinning, dyeing, crocheting, weaving and felting with wool fiber. She says, "Soft, rich and



Work by Vasanto

extremely versatile, wool is a natural fiber that yields beautiful dyed colors and sculptural forms."

Vasanto's wearable art includes felted wool hats in a variety of shapes and forms that convey unique personalities and vibrant energies. She creates nuno felted scarves in silk and wool by layering color and texture. Nuno felting is a fabric felting technique developed by Australian Polly Stirling in the 90s. The name is derived from the Japanese word "nuno" meaning cloth. The technique bonds loose fiber into a gauzy lightweight fabric.

Vasanto explains, "I often start with a single color or combination that I want to play with. Colors inspire me and stimulate ideas and imagery both from my past and the present. Lately I have been making felt fabric collages, some abstract, others more pictorial or landscapes."

Vasanto studied with a number of respected fiber artists, including Beth Beede, Inge Evers, Chad Hagen, Jean Hicks and Polly Stirling. She went on to teach her own workshops at SAFF (Southeast Animal

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