

# Heritage Trail Pottery Tour & Sale

MEET THE POTTERS AND  
VISIT THEIR STUDIOS ON  
THE 2020 HERITAGE TRAIL  
POTTERY TOUR AND SALE  
April 25 - 26, 2020

over 20 Artists at 7 Studios  
Greenwood, Johnston & Edgefield,  
South Carolina  
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Heritage Trail Pottery Tour & Sale



## Artists Collective | Spartanburg

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ent, but when they combine their efforts, they produce some of the most beautiful pieces of art to be found anywhere. His sturdy vessels and her eye for design come together so well. I see it as a reflection of their relationship.”

A native of Greenville, SC, Jim discovered pottery as a teenager in 1972 when he took a class at the Greenville County Museum of Art. He continued his training until 1986, when he began producing a full line of traditional stoneware pottery as a full-time professional. Jim’s larger vessels are well suited for use as accent pieces in open architectural spaces in homes, businesses, and corporate environments. From 1996 to 2003, Jim and Sally owned a gallery in Griffin, GA, (his family’s homeplace) where they also produced and taught pottery.

Raised in Asheville, NC, Sally started her ceramic career in 1986, when she took pottery classes at Haywood Community College. She does, however, consider herself to be self-taught. “Everything is an inspiration, texture, sights, and history,” she said. “The carving of the clay is my forte. Using the clay as a canvas, I portray the world around me. I’ve carved some of my favorite artists’ work - Monet, Van Gogh, Alphonse Mucha, Georgia O’Keeffe, and Maxfield Parrish. Now, I’ve fallen in love with women’s draped clothing like flowers of the world.”

In 2016, the couple moved to Duncan, SC, and soon joined Artists Collective | Spartanburg. “We are thrilled to be part of Artists Collective | Spartanburg,” she said. “And we are thrilled to be exhibiting there. Being part of Artists Collective | Spartanburg has given us a creative family to call our own.”

In describing his work, Jim said: “My pots are - for the most part - vessels. The potters of my earlier memories made traditional, utilitarian sorts of pots. Those influences, coupled with my geographic



Works by Jim Weber

location and its historic implications, shaped me into the potter I am today as surely as I shape my own work. Function, form, and color are my primary considerations when potting. I rarely embellish or sculpt artistic designs as an act of creative composition. I use clay more as a building material, than as a canvas on which to paint: less artist; more engineer. The trend in pottery today seems to lean heavily towards objects of art, which happen to be made of clay, with increasingly less emphasis on traditional utilitarian forms. While I celebrate the former, I regret the loss of the latter.”

Until they relocated to Upstate South Carolina, the couple lived in his great-great-grandfather’s “dog-trot”-style log cabin in Milner, GA, where they reared two sons. The ancestral home was built prior to 1825 and sheltered six generations of his family. During the couple’s tenure there, they made pottery, taught, demonstrated, and exhibited. “It has been more than 40 years since my first class, and over 50 years have passed since that first demo at a local art festival,” Jim said. “I am nearly now the potter I once thought I’d be. I am blessed.”

Most of the work in the *Mud Magic* exhibition will be for sale, ranging in price from \$15 to \$500.

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Artists Collective | Spartanburg (formerly West Main Artists Co-op) is one of the leading nonprofit arts agencies in Spartanburg. It has more than 50 members and houses about 30 individual studios in a converted old Baptist church on West Main Street, Spartanburg. In addition, the building houses two stages, one large gallery (the sanctuary), two smaller galleries, and retail space for smaller gift-

type items. Routinely, Artists Collective | Spartanburg has three concurrent exhibitions each month by its members and guest artists. In addition, it has a working pottery studio, a printery, and the largest collection of locally made and for-sale art in Spartanburg.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or visit ([WestMainArtists.org](http://WestMainArtists.org)).

## Greenville Technical College in Taylors, SC, Features Works by Amber Eckersley & Logan Woodle

Greenville Technical College in Taylors, SC, is presenting *fixins'*, featuring works by Amber Eckersley and Logan Woodle, on view in the Benson Campus Galleries, through Feb. 21, 2020.

*Fixins'* is a visual feast of remembered downhome family dinners. The *fixins'* for this family feast include memories of beloved, homemade foods, memories of the folks themselves, and a retelling of their wise stories and yarns. *Fixins'* contrasts Eckersley’s large scale, abstract and elegant photographs of food or food containers with Logan Woodle’s usable but hardly practical cast metal food preparation utensils.

Eckersley’s “Leftovers” series are large scale, stylized photographs of food scraps or well-used food containers centrally placed on a fabric background. Each of her familiar objects are recorded as flat shapes offering the opportunity to rethink these objects as abstractions and also remember our own personal encounters with green bean ends, corn cobs, or a well-used muffin pan. She honors the memories conjured by these objects by presenting them out of context as worthy, formal, elegant abstractions. She states, “This world represented, this life, is dynamic and has a depth far beyond the quaint nostalgia associated with the South.”

Logan Woodle has cast precious



Work by Amber Eckersley

copper, brass, sterling, even gold into elegant food prep utensils for making or presenting “low on the hog” foods that laughingly recount the wise and kindly stories of his grandfathers’ courageous, hard scrabble farm life. Woodle remembers hogs head cheese, chitlins, biscuits as sustenance but also as particular treats or rewards. According to Woodle, “Through it all, stories told over meals taught lessons, brought hope, and gave people permission to laugh.” and served as *fixins'* with dinner.

Both Eckersley and Woodle mention the South as a particular archive of memories provided by families sharing food and stories. Personal memories inspired by food and family is correctly attributed to the South but is probably also a universal attribute of any culture that honors family and food, valuing the memories of both as

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