

City of Charleston, SC, Features Works by Mary Edna Fraser and Jeff Kopish

The City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs will present *Creek by Creek*, featuring works by Mary Edna Fraser and Jeff Kopish, on view at the City Gallery in downtown Charleston, SC, from Mar. 18 through May 8, 2022.

Creek by Creek is a collaborative effort by artists Mary Edna Fraser and Jeff Kopish, underscoring the perils of plastic pollution and the importance of protecting the Lowcountry's unique waterways. Featuring an array of Fraser's batiks on silk and oil paintings and Kopish's ceramic and found object sculptures incorporating everything from recycled plastic to actual trash, this exhibition aims to further educate the public on environmental issues through the lens of art, and to remind viewers of the consequences of their own actions within the larger ecological systems of which they are a part.

The artists' new work, and their ecological concerns, is being presented in concert with three indispensable area groups: Charleston Waterkeeper, the Coastal Conservation League, and the South Carolina Environmental Law Project. Specifically, the exhibition will focus on eight areas of concern: the endangered African American communities of Cainho and Phillips, the Beidler Forest Audubon Center and Sanctuary, Captain Sam's Spit, Crab Bank, the Great Pee Dee River, Hobcaw Barony, Shem Creek, and James Island Creek.

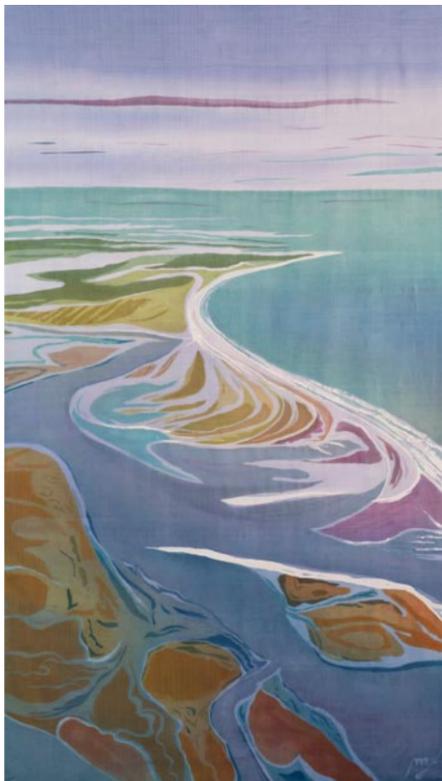
"My work is not what is important," says Fraser. "It is the collective work done by all three groups. How they protect what we hold dear... passing the baton to win new battles. This is an environmental activist show to encourage action and counter apathy."



Work by Mary Edna Fraser

The pioneering work of Charleston artist Mary Edna Fraser has been collected and exhibited worldwide. Her silk batiks (an ancient resist process using wax and dye on cloth) and oil paintings range from panoramic to plein air. The common thread in her career of four decades is environmental awareness. Her art has supported the efforts of Charleston Waterkeeper, the Coastal Conservation League, SC Environmental Law Project, Water Missions International, The Nature Conservancy, Sierra Club and Environmental Defense Fund. Her blog, Delete Apathy, is a venue for activism, from local to global.

NASA recognized Fraser as their Artist of the Year in 1995 and she was featured demonstrating batik in DC at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival. The Verner Award was presented in 2016, South Carolina's highest honor for an artist. Fraser has lectured internationally in Indonesia, Taiwan, and Australia. Venues such as the National Academy of Sciences, Duke University Museum of Art, and the National Science Foundation have hosted the artist's over 100 one-woman exhibitions. National Geographic and Ted Turner have broad-



Work by Mary Edna Fraser

cast her endeavors. Beginning with the aerial viewpoint of her Grandfather's vintage 1946 Ercoupe plane, she has captured the bigger picture. Science has become more beautiful and accessible through the lens of Fraser's art.

Jeff Kopish has been creating art in Charleston for almost thirty years and has been using alternative materials and repurposing discarded objects in his work since elementary school. In college, he studied science and received degrees in bacteriology and environmental change; while there, he continuously took ceramic courses as stress relief. After college, he served as a US Peace Corps volunteer and saw how ingenious people can be; necessity and a lack of resources make for creative thinking. This point of view became front and center of what he considered important. He has maintained his commitment to helping the environment by creating as much art with society's debris: His giant octopus ("Pugita") at Taco Boy on Folly Beach, SC, was made from the trash of one holiday weekend. He is happily supported by family, friends, locals, tourists, architects, designers and businesses, and gives heartfelt thanks to all.

Due to the ongoing situation related to COVID-19 in South Carolina, City Gallery guests are asked to reserve free tickets for timed admission into the gallery in advance of their visit. Tickets can be reserved online at (www.charleston-sc.gov/citygallery) or by calling the gallery at 843/958-6484 during normal business hours. COVID safety protocols, including social distancing and masks, are encouraged for all visitors. Masks are required for any unvaccinated guests.

City Gallery, located at Joe Riley Waterfront Park, is owned by the City of Charleston and operated by the City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs, presenting an annual program of exhibitions and events featuring the finest contemporary art from local, regional, national and international artists, with a focus on the Lowcountry. City Gallery is located on Prioleau Street in downtown Charleston.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the gallery at 843/958-6484 or visit (www.charleston-sc.gov/citygallery).

Gallerie members. She has been involved in the local art scene for just over twelve years – beginning when she joined the Society of Bluffton Artists. Inspired and encouraged

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by so many talented local experts, it wasn't long before she was ready to try her hand at painting professionally.

Long before that, Sease fondly remembers painting walls and cabinets with her husband and son, as they decorated the family's house with fantastic works of animals and marshes. This gave her the idea – and courage – to apply these skills to her work as a graphic designer, adding illustrations that added clarity and whimsy to her clients' projects.



Work by Murray Sease

Now a staple of the Bluffton art community, Sease is doing what she loves – painting in oil on canvas the people, animals, and places representing who and what made her fall in love with the lowcountry.

Sease and her husband, Bill, recently made the short trek south to learn and photograph the rich history of Cumberland Island in Georgia. The island and surround-



Work by Murray Sease

ing area has reinvigorated her love for painting the South, and she has every intention of continuing to explore regional areas to capture their essence on canvas.

Sease especially loves painting animals. A family connection with the Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue mission in Texas has inspired an ongoing series of paintings which she has committed to sharing a portion of all proceeds with the Rescue. It turns out donkey rescues exist, and are necessary, all over the world, including some right here in South Carolina. As she and many other local artists have ascertained, painting for worthy causes just gives extra purpose and meaning to a joyful pursuit.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings or visit (lapetitegallerie.com).

Coastal Discovery Museum on Hilton Head Island, SC, Features Works by Beaufort County Students

Coastal Discovery Museum on Hilton Head Island, SC, will present the 2022 *High School Regional Art Competition*, featuring works from students of Beaufort County, on view in the Main Gallery, from Mar. 11 through Apr. 15, 2022. A reception and awards ceremony will be held on Mar. 16, from 5-7pm.

You will be amazed by the quality and creativity of our Beaufort County high school students. The Coastal Discovery Museum, in partnership with the USCB Center for the Arts, is hosting the first county-wide juried exhibition featuring the best artwork from area high school students.

This year we received submissions from Battery Creek High, Beaufort High, Bluffton High, Bridges Prep, Hilton Head High, Hilton Head Prep, Island Academy, May River High, and Whale Branch Early College High. Works include painting, drawing, photography, digital art, mixed media, ceramics, and 3D design. The exhibition will be juried by internationally recognized collage and mixed media artist James Denmark, Savannah-based

painter and gallery director Carmen Maria Aguirre, and photographer and educator Mel Schnur. Monetary awards for the top entries will be announced at the opening reception.

According to our Director of Exhibitions who is organizing this show, "One of the truly great things about a show like this is that it both encourages our young artists, while also inspiring our visitors to look at the world that surrounds us through the eyes of the next generation." And look in your mail for a cool postcard from the Coastal Discovery Museum.

In conjunction with the exhibition, the museum sponsored a competition to design the postcard invitation. We are pleased to announce that Chelsea Fleming of Hilton Head Island High School is this year's winner. All of the submissions were imaginative and visually engaging, so a selection will also be exhibited as part of the show.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 843/689-6767 or visit (www.coastaldiscovery.org).

Art League of Hilton Head on Hilton Head Island, SC, Features Works by Addison Palmer

Art League of Hilton Head on Hilton Head Island, SC, will feature *Addison's Paintings Honoring 50 Years*, featuring works by local painter Addison Palmer, on view in the Art League Gallery, from Mar. 8 through Apr. 16, 2022. A reception will be held on Mar. 16, from 5-7pm.

Lowcountry favorite Addison Palmer will be helping Art League celebrate its 50th anniversary this year by displaying his wildlife and landscape paintings at Art League Gallery this spring. Palmer, a lifelong artist who grew up on Hilton Head, is an award-winning painter and teacher with hundreds of works in private and business collections around the world.

"Addison is truly a local fixture; he's had several shows at Art League alone. The quality of his work—particularly in his bird paintings—is distinctive and immediately identifiable," says Kristen McIntosh, Art League General Manager. "You know immediately that you're looking at an Addison Palmer bird. Both the



Work by Addison Palmer

Lowcountry and Art League are lucky to have him."

In addition to creating art, Palmer also teaches painting classes and workshops, including on over 30 world cruises. His awards include inclusion in the exclusive 2018 "Birds in Art" international art show. His work can be seen in galleries all along the East Coast.

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La Petite Gallerie in Bluffton, SC, Features Works by Murray Sease

La Petite Gallerie in Bluffton, SC, will present an exhibit of works by member artist, Murray Sease, on view from Mar. 1 - 31, 2022.

Sease, is one of the original five La Petite Gallery members. She has been involved in the local art scene for just over twelve years – beginning when she joined the Society of Bluffton Artists. Inspired and encouraged

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