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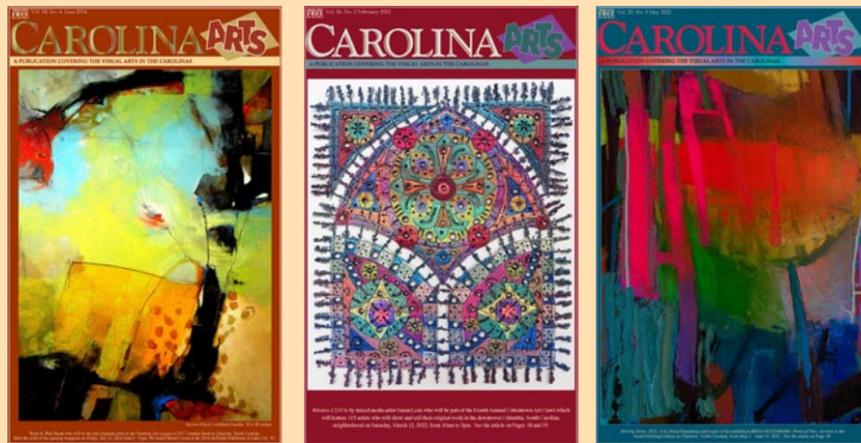
Overflowing by Sue Grilli

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Morris Center for the Lowcountry

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exhibitions, interactive and dynamic learning opportunities, cultural offerings, storytelling and other forms of art.

The *Language of Clay: Catawba Indian Pottery and Oral Traditions* was cre-

ated by and on loan from the University of South Carolina Lancaster.

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Hampton III Gallery in Taylors, SC, Offers Works by Tom Stanley

Hampton III Gallery in Taylors, SC, is pleased to host the third solo exhibition, *Uncharted Water*, of Tom Stanley's paintings which runs from Mar. 1 through Apr. 20, 2024. A catalog is available for this exhibition, including images of the exhibition works and an essay by curator, Luke Delello. A reception will be held on Mar. 8, from 6-8pm. On Mar. 9, from 11am-noon, we will gather for Coffee and Conversation, featuring Tom Stanley and Luke Delello. All are invited to attend both events.

Tom Stanley (b. 1950) currently lives in Durham, NC. Born in Fort Cavazos (Fort Hood), Texas, Stanley grew up in Concord, NC. Early in his professional life he worked in New Jersey and New York in what might be called the wall accessory industry. After earning an MA in Applied Art History and an MFA in Painting from the University of South Carolina in 1980, he served on the faculties of Arkansas College (now Lyon College) in Batesville, AR; and Barry University in Miami, FL. He was director of the Waterworks Visual Arts Center in Salisbury, NC, from 1985 until 1990 when he became the first full-time director of Winthrop University Galleries in Rock Hill, SC. For 10 years he served as chair of Winthrop's Department of Fine Arts until his retirement in 2017.



Work by Tom Stanley

portunity to grow again, a hope that there were more discoveries to be made."

"Works completed in the new studio represent a rethinking of painting and subject matter," adds Stanley. "Although the first works produced in Durham still relied upon mechanical drawing, they would eventually be free of representational imagery. And then the most recent series goes a step further. Titled *Uncharted Water*, these works not only abandoned symbolic images like boats, houses or interiors, but a long held, hard-edge practice is largely replaced by spontaneous color."

"Regardless of what changes this relocation might have brought to my work, or meant to me personally, I am ever mindful that we live in the midst of troubled times. We feel powerless to affect what we see and hear all around us in our shared world. So I have to ask, does this environment influence how I think, how I work? Are these paintings attempting to draw a map in response?"

"I am a privileged individual with a warm space in which I can put acrylic on canvas," says Stanley. "And yet in the midst of everything, I honestly do not know if these works hold meaning for anyone else. Unlike earlier work, these have no concrete imagery to rely upon as points of reference. And despite their evolving energy, I don't think there is a statement that clearly explains my intentions. I see these paintings merely as steps in acknowledging the world that I have come to know in my seventy-four years, and the possibility that some kind of joy might still exist. And all the while I cannot ignore the current environment in which we live. As an artist, I must work."

Hampton III Gallery is located on Wade Hampton Boulevard, Taylors,

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Work by Tom Stanley

Stanley offered the following statement: "The work in the Hampton III exhibition looks at paintings from two studios and, as such, a transition in my work. First of all it includes the last pieces completed before leaving South Carolina to a new home 140 miles north in Durham. With grad school, and later, a professional life at Winthrop, thirty-three years in South Carolina left a lasting impression. But moving somewhere new marked an op-

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