

Some Exhibits Still on View

continued from Page 50



Maija Isola. Finnish, 1927–2001 | Marimekko. Helsinki, Finland, 1951– | Unikko (detail) designed 1964, printed 1966–67 | Cotton | Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Benson. Collection of The Mint.

tanical Motifs in Craft, Design, & Fashion, on view through Aug. 10, 2014. The Mint is celebrating spring's arrival by transforming galleries into virtual gardens of flowers drawn from the museum's renowned permanent collection with this new exhibition. The forms, colors, and textures of the botanical world have long inspired artists from across the globe in glass, ceramic, textile, and jewelry design. *Allure of Flowers* presents a survey of outstanding works from the mid-nineteenth century to today that illustrate the evolution of floral ornament in modern and contemporary applied art. For further information call the Museum at 704/337-2000 or visit (www.mintmuseum.org).

Durham Arts Council in Durham, NC, Offers Works by Laura Williams & John Dempsey

The Durham Arts Council in Durham, NC, is presenting *Under Botanical Influence*, featuring works by Laura Williams, on view in the Allenton Gallery, through Apr. 27, 2014 and *Between Landscape and Place*, featuring works by John Dempsey, on view in the Semans Gallery, through Apr. 27, 2014.

Under Botanical Influence, the most recent series of photographs by Laura Williams, a Chapel Hill, NC, based photographer, began with collecting organic matter found on walks close to her home. As the organic objects dry out they become increasingly gestural. She randomly arranges the objects on layers of glass and photographs them through a variety of lenses. What she sees through the lens is another world.

Williams searches for an image that evokes a clear physical "feeling"—something that provokes a memory. She says, "The sensation of finding the right image is much like the recalling of a dream that lies just under the surface as you wake." Laura Williams received a BFA from the University of Vermont and attended Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture. Her work has been shown recently

at Light, Art + Design in Carrboro, The Light Factory *Annalee* in Charlotte, the Kiernan Gallery in Lexington, VA, and The Framer's Corner in Carrboro, NC.

Between Landscape and Place, by Michigan-based artist John Dempsey, is a series of paintings and laser photographs composed in order to confront a variety of environments and perspectives simultaneously. They bring together spaces such as factories, churches, government facilities, public spaces and landscapes to provoke an immediate response and comparison. These paintings compress the experience of our environment sequentially, by immersion and over real time, temporally, spatially and causally.

Dempsey is an Associate Professor of Art at Mott Community College in Flint, MI. Born in Detroit, MI, Dempsey earned his BFA from Michigan State University and his MFA from Central Washington University. He has two daughters who currently live and work in Durham, NC - Sarah and Meghan Dempsey.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Council at 919/560-2787 or visit (www.durhamarts.org).

North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh, NC, Presents Contemporary Latino Prints and Children's Book Illustrations

Beginning April 13, 2014, the North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA), in Raleigh, NC, presents *Estampas de la raza Prints for the People: The Romo Collection*, a series of 61 bold, colorful prints that chronicle the unique heritage, history, and experience of contemporary Mexican American and Latino artists, on view in the East Building, Level B, Meymandi Exhibition Gallery, through July 27, 2014. Concurrently, the Museum presents *Tall Tales and Huge Hearts: Raúl Colón*, an exhibition of children's book illustrations by Raúl Colón, on view in East Building, Gallery 2, through July 27, 2014.

Estampas (Spanish for prints) de la raza (the race or the people, often referring to Mexican and US heritage) is the first comprehensive examination of contemporary Mexican American and Latino prints and their place in the context of American art and the history of printmaking.

Ranging in date from 1984 to 2011, the works in *Estampas de la raza* explore social, political, and economic issues, as well as issues of identity and race often faced by Mexican American and Latino artists. The exhibition is organized according to the following themes:

Identity: Prints in this category portray the search for Mexican American identity. These artists may declare independence and strength through the use of bold colors and subjects with steely gazes; acknowledge mixed heritage and the blending of Mexi-



Raul Caracoza, *Young Frida (Pink)*, 2006, screen print, 36 1/8 x 26 1/8 in., Collection of the McNay Art Museum, Gift of Harriett and Ricardo Romo, 2009.42, © 2013 Raul Caracoza

can and American identities; or address the evolving identity of Americans, particularly those of Mexican American heritage. Other prints attempt to define or comment on one's own cultural identity—showing pride in a particular culture, people, or place, or depicting individuals in tension with their heritage and cultural status.

continued above on next column to the right

Triangle Art Works is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing services, support and resources to the visual and performing arts and creative industries.

Triangle Art Works can help you connect quickly and easily with the arts community to find arts-related groups, resources, jobs, and news.

WWW.TRIANGLEARTWORKS.ORG
INFO@TRIANGLEARTWORKS.ORG
FACEBOOK.COM/TRIANGLEARTWORKS
[TWITTER: @TRIARTWORKS](https://TWITTER.COM/@TRIARTWORKS)

CONNECT • INFORM • CREATE • SUPPORT • PROMOTE

Carolina Clay Resource Directory is our attempt at *Carolina Arts* newspaper to create a focal point for info about the clay community in both North and South Carolina. We may not be everything some want, but we'll try and bring our readers the most news about what's going on, where you can find it, and info about the individuals and organizations involved in the Carolina community. Whether you call it clay, pottery, ceramics - if you don't see what should be here - just let us know about it so we can add it to the mix.

For the Carolina Clay Resource Directory go to:
www.carolinaarts.com/ccrd/carolinaclay.html

For the Carolina Clay Resource Directory Blog go to:
<http://carolinaclayresourcedirectory.wordpress.com/>

Struggle: Many of these prints examine Mexican Americans' and Latino Americans' struggles for equality and labor rights. For example, artist Ester Hernandez's darkly humorous *Sun Raid* illustrates the continuing struggle for migrant field workers' rights, while Michael Menchaca's *Cuando...*, an image of sombrero-wearing cats crossing—and drowning in—the Rio Grande, uses symbols to bring awareness to the issue of US–Mexico border control and politics. Several prints explore other issues, such as drug use.

Tradition, Culture, Memory: Many of these prints examine themes of tradition. For example, Angel Rodriguez-Diaz's *Stepping into the Light—Quinceañera*, shows a girl participating in the centuries-old cultural tradition of the quinceañera, when a young woman celebrates the move from childhood to adulthood on her 15th birthday. Other prints illustrate the melding of Mexican and American cultures, featuring an image of a Mexican symbol—such as a flag or figure—paired with an American item or theme. Finally, several of the prints are inspired by family memories, with images of family members cooking favorite foods or playing music.

Icons: Hispanic cultural icons, such as artist Frida Kahlo, political figure Che Guevara, and Catholic saint the Virgin of Guadalupe, appear frequently in these prints. "Artists depict such images to venerate significant icons as well as to promote a particular social or political viewpoint," explains Jennifer Dasal, associate curator of contemporary art at the NCMA. Other cultural icons represented include Golden Age Mexican film stars and luchadores, Mexican freestyle wrestlers.

Other voices: These prints may consist of abstract, eclectic images; comment on more widespread economic or social issues; or show a blending of narratives that transcends culture, time, or location.

"The prints in *Estampas de la raza* are certainly remarkable and thought-provoking simply from an aesthetic viewpoint, but because of their cultural and political content, we also expect the prints to stir up conversation among our visitors," says Dasal. "We



Raúl Colón, *Coyotes Howling*, 2003, from *Rise the Moon* (Dial, 2003), watercolor and colored pencil on paper, 19 x 22 in., Courtesy of the artist, © 2003 Raúl Colón

hope that the prints—with their bold colors and striking imagery—spark interest in the artists' fascinating heritage and culture and the issues that continue to concern them today."

In conjunction with *Estampas de la raza*, the Museum presents *Tall Tales and Huge Hearts: Raúl Colón*. Colón, who was raised in Puerto Rico and now lives in New York City, has illustrated over 30 children's books featuring thrilling legends and heartwarming stories from many cultures, among them *Doña Flor*, *Tomás and the Library Lady*, and Jill Biden's book *Don't Forget, God Bless Our Troops*.

Colón's watercolor, pencil, and etched works dazzle with their charm, depth, and bright color. Since beginning his artistic career in the 1980s, Colón has received numerous honors, including the Pura Belpré Award, which honors a Latino/Latina writer or illustrator whose work best celebrates the Latino cultural experience in a work of children's literature.

A selection of books illustrated by Colón will be available at reading areas in the exhibition gallery.

Estampas de la raza/Prints for the People: The Romo Collection was organized by the McNay Art Museum.

Lead sponsorship for *Estampas de la raza* is provided by the Elizabeth Huth Coates Charitable Foundation of 1992. In Raleigh the exhibition is presented by PNC, and the supporting sponsor is Lord Corporation. This exhibition is also made possible, in part, by the North Carolina De-

continued on Page 52