

City of Charleston, SC, Offers Exhibition Looking at Charleston's Architecture

City of Charleston, SC, and City of Charleston Office of Cultural Affairs, is presenting *The City Luminous: Architectures of Hope in an Age of Fear*, featuring immersive architectural installations, on view at the City Gallery at Waterfront Park, through May 5, 2019.

Featuring immersive architectural installations, this exhibition invites visitors to experience the philosophical and aesthetic model of a thriving, cosmopolitan city. The *City Luminous* fuses timeless values of human-scaled and ornamented architecture with radiantly modern materials and fabrication techniques, giving public expression to hope that humanity can build upon common ground to claim a more harmonious and beautiful world.

At the center of *The City Luminous* is a twelve-sided Paradise Pavilion, designed by Andrew Gould of New World Byzantine. Drawing upon Daoist, Jewish, Christian, and Islamic traditions, this piece features intricate, robotically carved patterns. Surrounding installations include a columnar

hallway, evoking great spaces of world history, as well as an interactive Girih wall, with movable tiles created by abstract mathematics.

The City Luminous is curated by College of Charleston's Jessica Streit, assistant professor of art and architectural history, and Nathaniel Walker, assistant professor of architectural history. Collaborators include colleagues from College of Charleston, Clemson University, American College of the Building Arts, Datum Workshop for Advanced Fabrication, and LS3P, among other local institutions and firms.

City Gallery will host a curatorial talk on Apr. 13, at 3pm.

Established in 2003, the City Gallery at Waterfront Park is a free and non-profit gallery owned by the City of Charleston and operated by the Office of Cultural Affairs.

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

Redux Contemporary Art Center in Charleston, SC, Offers Two New Exhibitions Curated by Jen Ervin

Redux Contemporary Art Center in Charleston, SC, will present *The Arc*, a multi-media presentation that bridges black and white Polaroid work with experimental films by artist Jen Ervin and *Illumination, Ritual and Reflection*, a group show featuring the work of Rebecca Drolen, Noelle McCleaf, Jordanna Kalman, Richard McCabe, Neal Casal, Ashley Gates, John Lusk Hathaway, Michael McCraw and Jesse Koechling. Both shows will be on view from Apr. 5 through May 23, 2019. A reception will be held on Apr. 5, from 5-8pm.

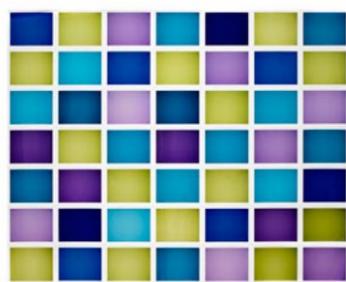
Ervin is a Redux Studio Artist alumna (2011-2014). Her series, *The Arc*, began during her residency at Redux in May of 2012 and continued for a period of six years, ending recently in 2018. The series ritualizes the waxing and waning of summer and the wild desire to remain in its embrace.

The works selected are presented as a rhythmic exploration of place - measured in seasons and sequenced repetition - during her family's retreats to their historic cabin set along the Little Pee Dee River in South Carolina. Visually rich in sensory memory, history and mysticism, Ervin's work alludes to a narrative with no beginning, middle or end, yet offers continuum. It will be installed in an asymmetrical grid to reflect the poetic nature of the work. The films offer an extension of experience to the viewer, drawing in on the intangible, a sense of mythical timelessness in regard to place.



Work by Jen Ervin

Illumination, Ritual, Reflection, curated by Ervin, is an exhibition that brings to focus nine contemporary photographers creating provocative work that continues a historical dialogue regarding creativity and how it can elucidate the relationship between the self and the ever-shifting land-



Work by Richard McCabe

scape (societal, ecological, and psychic).

Invited artists include: Rebecca Drolen, Noelle McCleaf, Jordanna Kalman, Richard McCabe, Neal Casal, Ashley Gates, John Lusk Hathaway, Michael McCraw and Jesse Koechling. The work presented varies from unique Polaroids to large format photography, digital animation to dark room imaging, and extends widely in genre and in scale; yet, shares a vision of universal ideals.

This photographic exhibition places emphasis on the external form (the object) and how it transcribes meaning, the creative process, and the practice of experimentation to revitalize concepts of narrative, scale and beauty. It is offered up as a contemplative experience to the viewer - one with underlying themes of identity, memory and the sublime. This is seen through various processes, compositional arrangements (repetition and color), or by the complex layering of life's rituals through words and pictures. These works unify under the artists' intention of exploring uncharted perspectives to existential and cultural questioning/reasoning.

Through a variety of approaches, these nine artists are able to convey the impalpable, provoke critical awareness (of self or world), shift perspectives, spark curiosity, and initiate connectivity. Overall, this exhibition demonstrates the momentum of the spirit and how art serves to enrich our lives through illumination, ritual and reflection.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 843/722-0697 or visit (www.reduxstudios.org).

Charleston Artist Guild Features Works by Betsy Jones McDonald

The Charleston Artist Guild in Charleston, SC, will present *Carolina Sunsets*, featuring an all new release of several beautiful original oil paintings from local artist, Betsy Jones McDonald, on view in the Guild Gal-

lery, from Apr. 1 - 30, 2019. A reception will be held on Apr. 5, from 5-8pm.

The exhibit includes many large format oil paintings of our beautiful Lowcountry *continued above on next column to the right*



William Halsey

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marshes illuminated by beautiful sunset skies. The paintings capture the beauty and color of our surroundings from the artist's unique perspective. McDonald studied fine art at Columbus State University and worked in design and advertising, furthering her eye for great composition.

McDonald paints using only the primary colors (red, yellow and blue), plus white and custom mixes all of the beautiful colors for her paintings. The emphasis is on both color and brushstroke. "I love the colors of the marsh and the way they change with the seasons, light and tides," she says. "Every time that you look at the marsh, you see something different and I am fascinated by that." McDonald also teaches oil painting and color mixing through her workshops in Pawleys Island, SC.



Work by Betsy Jones McDonald

Sales made at the gallery support the nonprofit Guild's community outreach work.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or call Steve Jacobs at 843/722-2454.

City of North Charleston, SC, Features Works by Steven Bleicher and Elizabeth / Sidebotham

The City of North Charleston's Cultural Arts Department is pleased to announce that mixed media works by Steven Bleicher of Conway, SC, and the artistic duo Elizabeth / Sidebotham of Chicago, IL, will be on exhibit at the North Charleston City Gallery, located in the Charleston Area Convention Center, from Apr. 1 - 29, 2019.

Southern Stories of the King's Highway by Steven Bleicher deals with America's fascination and mythology of "the open road," specifically the country's great highway systems. In *Southern Stories of the King's Highway*, he presents a series of intimate mixed media assemblages that encapsulates the migrative sense of being on the move through The King's Highway; specifically, the areas that extend to Florida, Georgia, and North and South Carolina.



Work by Elizabeth / Sidebotham

reminder of the nascent beginnings of our nation.

Bleicher is a South Carolina native, residing in Conway. He received his BFA and MFA from Pratt Institute in New York. His pieces have been included in numerous major collections along with being widely exhibited both nationally and internationally. He has also collaborated on a permanent public art installation with Jennifer Wen Ma called *Man and Nature in Rhapsody of Light* at the Water Cube, located in Beijing, China. Apart from being an artist, Bleicher is also an educator. He is currently a tenured professor and the director of special programs and projects for the Thomas W. and Robin W. Edwards College of Humanities and Fine Arts at Coastal Carolina University.

Better Together is an exhibit created by husband and wife duo, Erin Elizabeth and Harry Sidebotham II - more commonly assuming the identity of Elizabeth / Sidebotham. Elizabeth is a conceptual artist that explores unconventional materials, such as cake and sprinkles paired with gold leaf, to address questions of banality, celebration, and experiential value. Her counterpart, Sidebotham II, is a painter that utilizes traditional media and techniques to delve into scientific theories such as parallel dimension theory.

Together, Elizabeth / Sidebotham create kaleidoscopic artwork infused with

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Work by Steven Bleicher

Heavily influenced by the coastal landscape and roadside attractions from the past and present along the famed highway, Bleicher's photorealistic graphic renderings developed from site sketches and photographs are complemented by metaphorical elements such as maps to signify the journey, as well as found objects from the area. "The King's Highway is not just a place; it is a state of mind," Bleicher explains. This state of mind is at the core of our "American psyche, culture, and history," serving as a