

# Craven Arts Council in New Bern

continued from Page 27

an Art History degree from Brown University in 1960, which included classes at the acclaimed Rhode Island School of Design. Her early work, created while taking care of her three sons, focused on functional works sold to local wholesalers.

In 1976 Curran was introduced to the world of miniatures for dollhouses, and quickly realized her niche in creating historically accurate replicas of traditional pottery. She was quickly recognized for her talent with purchases from the Enchanted Doll House and Bennington Museum, followed by inclusion in the

International Guild of Miniature Artisans and their annual exhibition in New York City.

In 2005 Curran moved to North Carolina and helped to establish City Potters in 2014. She has won numerous awards and commissions for her work, including her most recent inclusion in the *Badass Miniatures* show in Yonkers, NY.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Council at 252/638-2577 or visit ([www.cravenarts.org](http://www.cravenarts.org)).

## Fine Art at Baxters in New Bern, NC, Offers Work by Catherine Thornton

Fine Art at Baxters in New Bern, NC, will present *Time, Space and Feathers*, featuring works by Catherine Thornton, from June 8 through July 7, 2018. A reception will be held on June 8, from 5-8pm, during the downtown Art Walk.

The exhibition features the work of artist and sculptor Catherine Thornton. This exhibition is a contemporary avian imagery that explores the fascinating concept of time and space with an interactive twist.

"For me, art, creativity is still an inscrutable mystery. It is like the wind. It comes from somewhere we don't see and goes somewhere we couldn't anticipate. Sometimes it's a welcomed breeze sometimes a purging storm. After all the planning, scrutiny and analyses, why this piece will work and that piece will not is completely up in the air. I love the process- most of the time!" says Thornton.

Thornton earned her BFA in Painting and Sculpture from Longwood College (currently Longwood University) in Farmville, VA, while in her mid 30's, but she was not able to consistently pursue her art career for another fifteen years. In those fifteen years, however, ideas, concepts, and techniques were explored, diligently



Work by Catherine Thornton

filed away on several sketchpads, envelopes and dinner napkins and assigned to the future.

Thornton's professional launch came about through a summer course at Penland School of Crafts and consequently being accepted into what she notes as a "nurturing and progressive artist community."-Artspace. Thornton is tenaciously inquisitive with an appetite for discovery. She states, "I regret the day when I wake up to find no new thing, no reason to grow." Her work reflects that attitude.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call 252/634-9002 or visit ([www.fineartatbaxters.com](http://www.fineartatbaxters.com)).

## Burroughs-Chapin Art Museum in Myrtle Beach, SC, Offers Exhibit Focused on Water

The Franklin G. Burroughs-Simeon B. Chapin Art Museum in Myrtle Beach, SC, is presenting *The Water's Fine*, featuring works by five contemporary artists depicting - what else? - people in the water, in black-and-white photography and hyper-realistic painting. The exhibition, which runs through Sept. 2, 2018, features artists Samantha French (Brooklyn, NY), Carl Kerridge (Myrtle Beach, SC), Wayne Levin (Honolulu, HI), Matt Story (New York, NY) and Charles Williams (Greensboro, NC).

Perfectly fitting for viewing at an art museum located just a stone's throw from the ocean, museumgoers will see a variety of striking, large-scale images of people swimming, floating, turning flips, body-surfing, diving into or contemplating getting into the water.

Samantha French, a graduate of the Minneapolis College of Art and Design, captures the idea of escape, the tranquility and nostalgia for the lazy summer days of her childhood summers spent in the lakes of Northern Minnesota through images derived from multiple photographs translated into oil paintings. In her artist's statement she notes that her works attempt to recreate "the feeling of being immersed, cool and wet, warm and sun-drenched."

Carl Kerridge, a native of Norwich, England, learned his love of photography as a child; he currently runs a full-time digital media studio in downtown Myrtle Beach. His series of abstract photographs titled *Beauty Beneath* explores the play of light, shadow and rippled reflections surrounding nude figures below the water's surface.

Wayne Levin has spent a career photographing the vast and mysterious  
Page 28 - Carolina Arts, June 2018



Work by Samantha French

underwater world in black and white. A graduate of the San Francisco Art Institute in CA and his MFA from Pratt Institute in NY, he is also a published author, receiving the Hawaii Book Publishers Association's award for Book of the Year (1998); as well as a recipient of photographer's fellowships from the Ohio Arts Council (1989), and the National Endowment for the Arts (1984).

Matt Story, a graduate of the University of California Los Angeles, has worked not only as a painter but also as a technical illustrator, graphic artist and in film and television production. His painting style, reminiscent of classical masters of the Renaissance, consists of building up thin glazes and painting, as he describes it, "fat over lean."

Contemporary realist painter Charles Williams' compelling art intends to capture human emotive responses to the natural environment - especially the ocean. A native of Georgetown, SC, Williams explored his own near-drowning experience in an exhibition at the Art Mu-

continued on Page 29



"Boids #2" by Catherine Thornton

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