

# NC Institutional Galleries

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Jiro Okura, "The Mountain Lake Screen Tachi", 1990, synthetic gold leaf on walnut, 5 two-sided folding screens, each four panels, length variable, height between 86 and 120 inches. Collection of the Virginia Tech Foundation, Inc. © Jiro Okura.

of 65 rare vintage or early prints surveying Lewis Hine's life's work documenting the travails and triumphs of immigration and labor. It culminates in his magnificent, oversized photographs of the construction of the Empire State Building in 1931. "Our Strength Is Our People" coincides with the complementary exhibition, "Old World/New Soil: Foreign-Born American Artists" from the Asheville Art Museum Collection. **Aug. 20 - Nov. 1** - "Rural Avant-Garde: The Mountain Lake Experience". Contemporary art, interdisciplinary research communities, and the inspiration of Appalachia converge in "Rural Avant-Garde: The Mountain Lake Experience". This exhibition showcases a selection of collaborative creative works that emerged from nearly four decades of the Mountain Lake Workshop series, a program sited in rural southwestern Virginia. Founded by artist and scholar Ray Kass in 1980 and co-organized with influential art critics Dr. Donald B. Kuspit and Dr. Howard Risatti, as well as the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (VMFA), the workshops integrated the arts and sciences in a dynamic experimental creative process that pushed past the traditional boundaries of art, dance, and performance. Community-centered from its inception, the Mountain Lake Workshop demonstrated the relevance of the arts across disciplines, as well as social and participatory learning. **Judith S. Moore Gallery, Through Sept. 13** - "Huffman Gifts of Contemporary Southern Folk Art," features gifts of contemporary southern folk art including paintings, ceramics, and more from the collection of Allen and Barry Huffman. Allen and Barry Huffman have been collecting contemporary southern folk art for the past 40 years. Both collectors are originally from the South, and their journey together has led them around the southeastern United States, from Florida to Alabama to their hometown of Hickory, NC. In each place, they formed bonds with regional artists and learned first-hand the narratives of each artwork. Within their collection are subsets of folk art, including self-taught artists driven to share their messages, crafts for the tourist market, and southern pottery. The guiding principle evident throughout their collection and the generous donation of contemporary southern folk art that they have gifted to the Asheville Art Museum is the story told by each of these artists through their artworks. **Explore Asheville Exhibition Hall, Through Oct. 4** - The Asheville Art Museum is organizing a group of three exhibitions drawn from the Museum's Collection in conjunction with the 2021 Summer Olympics in Tokyo. "With these three exhibitions, the Asheville Art Museum is looking forward to bringing the Olympics to Asheville," says Whitney Richardson, associate curator. "Athletes, sports fanatics, and those who enjoy art that captures the human athletic form will, I hope, all find something valuable in visiting these exhibitions. Some of the artworks are by renowned artists and some depict world-famous athletes, but it all speaks to the importance of the Olympics—and sports in general—in our lives and how we honor our athletes." **Debra McClinton Gallery, Through Jan. 17, 2022** - "Walter B. Stephen Pottery: Cameo to Crystalline," features art pottery and functional vessels from each stage of Stephen's career, from his origins discovering the medium alongside his mother Nellie C. Randall Stephen in Shelby County, TN, from 1901 through 1910 to his multi-decade production just outside of Asheville. Artist Walter B. Stephen (Clinton, IA 1875–1961 Asheville, NC) contributed to Western North Carolina's identity as a flourishing site for pottery production and craftsmanship in the early 20th century. In 1926, Stephen founded his third and last pottery studio, Pisgah Forest, in Arden, NC, which he operated until his death in 1961. It was at this studio that the artist perfected the "cameo" decoration technique for which he became best known. His hand-painted images, achieved with layers of white translucent clay, often feature American folk imagery, from covered wagons and livestock to cabins and spinning wheels. **Ongoing** - The Asheville Art Museum, the hub for 20th- and 21st-century American art in Western North Carolina, has re-opened to the public. The \$24+ million,

state-of-the-art facility encompasses 54,000 square feet and adds 70 percent more Collection gallery space. For the first time in the Museum's history, it has the capacity to host major traveling exhibitions from nationally recognized museums. The expansion increases its physical space and dramatically increases its role as a community center, educational resource, economic engine for WNC, and cultural concierge for the region's residents and visitors. Opening exhibitions include: "Appalachia Now! An Interdisciplinary Survey of Contemporary Art in Southern Appalachia," is the inaugural special exhibition of the newly renovated Museum. Curated by Jason Andrew, the juried exhibition features 50 artists of diverse backgrounds from the Southern Appalachian states of North Carolina, Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. The exhibit provides a regional snapshot of the art of our time—a collective survey of contemporary Southern Appalachian culture. "Intersections in American Art," is the largest presentation ever drawn from the Museum's Collection of 5,000+ works and 4,000+ architectural drawings. It celebrates the unique qualities of art from Western North Carolina, placed within the context of art from across the United States. The intersections of regional and national art are highlighted throughout the galleries, as are three specific ways of understanding the works here: Time & Place; Experiments in Materials & Form; and Collaboration & Interdisciplinary Dialogue. Admission: Yes. Hours: Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Fri. till 8pm & Sun., 1-5pm. Contact: 828/253-3227 or at ([www.ashevilleart.org](http://www.ashevilleart.org)).



Work by Karen Keil Brown

**Asheville Gallery of Art, Ltd.**, 82 Patton Avenue, across from Pritchard Park opposite the old location, Asheville. **Aug. 1 - 31** - "The Nature of Summer," a group show featuring 21 of the gallery artists. A reception will be held on Aug. 6, from 5-8pm. Summer brings the spirit of adventure, bright colors, landscapes bursting with life, and extra time for travel, friends, and family. The sights and sounds of the Blue Ridge Mountains beckon tourists and locals alike, inviting discovery and exploration. In "The Nature of Summer," AGA artists share the unique energy this season brings to them and their artwork. **Ongoing** - Featuring original works of art by 31 local artists in oils, acrylics, watercolor, pastel, encaustic, and prints. Hours: Mon., 11am-6pm & Fri.-Sat., noon-5pm or by appt. Contact: 828/251-5796 or at ([www.ashevillegallery-of-art.com](http://www.ashevillegallery-of-art.com)).

**Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center**, 120 College Street, Asheville. **Ongoing** - "Leap Then Look Digital Exhibition, a virtual exhibit at (<https://bit.ly/2lwoyku>). This digital exhibition brings together images and texts from Leap Then Look's BMC+AC Active Archive Digital Residency. "Leap Then Look" is a collaboration between British artists Lucy Cran and Bill Leslie. Together the duo creates artworks, participatory projects, workshops, and events for people of all ages and abilities. Over the 10 days of the Active Archive residency, Leap Then Look responded to the history of BMC—the images, stories, happenings, and people. They used Instagram (@bmc\_museum / @leap\_then\_look) to post archival images and quotes, and to create new work in response to the college's diverse history. Their focus was on process, experience, and material exploration. It was an invitation to the public to join in actively engaging with the archival material, opening up the historical archive and practices of Black Mountain College, making them relevant and accessible for the twenty-first century. **Ongoing** - An exhibition space dedicated to exploring the history and legacy of the world's most acclaimed experimental educational community, Black Mountain College. Hours: Wed.-Sat., noon-4pm or by appt. Contact: 828/350-8484 or at ([www.blackmountaincollege.org](http://www.blackmountaincollege.org)).

**Center for Craft**, 67 Broadway, Asheville. **John Cram Partner Gallery, Through Aug 20** - "ROLODEX. Craft a Conversation," is a growing index of self-identified Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) working in craft today. Initiated by Warren Wilson College's MA in Critical Craft Studies in April 2021, this project is centered on people, their descriptions of

themselves, and their connections to craft - rather than on the objects they create. This exhibition is a rapid response to rising violence against AAPI communities in the US. **Bresler Family Gallery, Through Sept 3** - "Suite Américaine," is a solo exhibition by artist and material culture scholar, BA Harrington, which inflects historical American furniture forms with a contemporary feminist imagination. Developed with support from the Center or Craft's Craft Research Fund Artist Fellowship, Harrington uses Colonial and Early American gender-specific furniture forms to demonstrate the revolutionary potential of furniture to actualize the creative agency of women. **Ongoing** - Encompassing an additional 7,000 square feet of program space, including expanded galleries, event and meeting spaces, and coworking space serving the creative sector, this one-of-a-kind National Craft Innovation Hub will engage both the national craft community and western North Carolina residents, further establishing the Center for Craft as a thought-leader in what craft means today, as well as how to support emerging voices and makers. Hours: Mon.-Sun., 10am-6pm. Contact: call 828/785-1357 or at ([www.centerforcraft.org](http://www.centerforcraft.org)).

**Flood Gallery Fine Arts Center**, 109 Roberts St., Asheville. **Ongoing** - Dedicated to advancing the careers of emerging and mid career artists, as well as educating the public and furthering the understanding of contemporary art and its importance within the community and beyond. Hours: Mon.-Sat., 11am-5pm & Sun. 1-5pm. Contact: 828/273-3332 or at (<https://floodgallery.org/>).

**NC Glass Center**, 140 Roberts Street, Suite C, Asheville. **Ongoing** - The North Carolina Glass Center is a non-profit, public access glass studio providing daily educational offerings & demonstrations. We are proud to represent the work of our artists and instructors in the NCGC glass gallery. Hours: Mon.-Sun., 10am-6pm. Contact: 828/505-3552 or at ([www.ncglasscenter.org](http://www.ncglasscenter.org)).

**Odyssey Co-Op Gallery**, 238 Clingman Avenue, Asheville. **Ongoing** - Our Gallery features works by 25 local clay artists, working in a variety of styles to create functional and non-functional pottery and works of figurative and abstract sculpture. Hours: Wed.-Mon., 11am-5pm. Contact: 828/505-8707 or at (<https://www.odysseycoopgallery.com/about/>).

**Southern Highland Craft Guild, Biltmore Village**, 26 Lodge Street, former Biltmore Oteen Bank Building in Biltmore Village, Asheville. **Ongoing** - Featuring a wide range of work by members of the Southern Highland Craft Guild. including: pottery, glass, wood, jewelry, fiber, metal, paper, mixed media and natural materials. Hours: Mon.-Sat., 10am-7pm and Sun. noon-5pm. Contact: 828-277-6222 or at ([www.craftguild.org](http://www.craftguild.org)).



Work by Teresa Hays

**Southern Highland Craft Guild at the Folk Art Center**, Blue Ridge Parkway Milepost 382, Asheville. **Main Gallery, Through Aug. 22** - "Graduating Class of 2021 of Haywood Community College's Professional Crafts Program". The show continues the historical relationship between the Southern Highland Craft Guild and Haywood, an educational center of the Guild. One of the most anticipated shows of the year, the class of 2021 represents works of wood, metal, clay, and fiber. This new generation of craft is lead by instructors Amy Putansu in fiber, Brian Wurst in wood, Emily Reason in clay, and Robert Blanton in metals & jewelry. **Permanent Collection Gallery, Ongoing** - "Craft Traditions: The Southern Highland Craft Guild Collection". The Guild's Permanent Collection is comprised of approximately 2400 craft objects and dates from the late 19th century to present. Beginning with a donation from Frances Goodrich in 1931, the Permanent Collection serves the Guild's mission of craft conservation and education. This

new installation will feature over 200 works that highlight our holdings in traditional art: wood-carving, pottery, dolls, basketry, weavings and furniture. The subject of this ongoing exhibition is craft history – that of the Southern Highland Craft Guild and the Studio Craft Movement. **Focus Gallery, Through Aug. 3** - "Magic is in the Air". The exhibit will feature the work of five Guild members: Cindy Billingsley, Sharon Gordon, Jane Cole, Jeanne Rhodes-Moen, and Lisa Besler. Disciplines represented are metalsmithing, rag-weaving, quilting, hand-built ceramics, and leather work. **Aug. 7 - Nov. 9** - "Sparkle," featuring the work of five Guild Members. Disciplines represented include metalsmithing, wheel-thrown ceramics, batik, hand-dyed and sewn apparel, and glass blowing. Members featured are Jason Janow, Erin Janow, Robin Ford, Teresa Hays, and Dawn Hinsley-Jones. Hours: daily from 9am-6pm. Contact: call 828/298-7928 or at ([www.southernhighlandguild.org](http://www.southernhighlandguild.org)).

**Southern Highland Craft Guild on Tunnel Road**, 930 Tunnel Road, Asheville. **Ongoing** - Work by members of the Southern Highland Craft Guild in various media. Hours: Mon.-Sat., 9:30am-5pm. Contact: 828/298-7903.

**YMI Gallery**, YMI Cultural Center, 39 S. Market Street @ Eagle Street, Asheville. **Ongoing** - "In the Spirit of Africa". Featuring traditional and contemporary African masks, figurative woodcarvings, beadwork, jewelry, and textiles. Discover the purpose of mask and sculptures, which reflect African ancestral heritage and learn to appreciate symbolism and abstraction in African art. **YMI Conference Room, Ongoing** - "Forebears & Trailblazers: Asheville's African American Leaders, 1800s -1900s". The permanent exhibit offers a pictorial history of African-Americans from throughout Western North Carolina. Photographs of both influential and everyday people create a panorama of the variety of life among blacks in the mountain region. Here are the young and old, the prominent and the unknown, the men and women who helped create our city's life. **YMI Drugstore Gallery, Ongoing** - "Mirrors of Hope and Dignity". A moving and powerful collection of drawings by the renowned African-American artist Charles W. White. **Entry, Ongoing** - "George Vanderbilt's Young Men's Institute, 1892-Present". Admission: Yes. Hours: Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm. Contact: 828/252-4614.

**ALTERNATE ART SPACES - Asheville**  
**The North Carolina Arboretum**, Milepost 393, Blue Ridge Parkway, 100 Frederick Law Olmsted Way, Asheville. **Throughout the Gardens, Through Sept. 26** - "Wild Art!" This outdoor sculpture exhibition features works by 17 local and national artists drawing inspiration from the natural environment. Situated throughout the Arboretum's spacious, open-air gardens, the show offers guests a doorway into the wild world from the comfort and safety of cultivated landscapes transformed by art. The 18 sculptures on display represent a variety of approaches to the theme of "wild art," from the literal to the abstract, and are crafted from a diverse array of materials that will delight and inspire. **Ongoing** - The Asheville Quilt Guild features a permanent, rotating quilt exhibit at Arboretum's Education Center. Visitors can also enjoy the Arboretum's Quilt Garden year-round, with plantings and patterns that change with the seasons. Admission: Yes. Hours: Education Center hours: Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm. Contact: 828/665.2492 or at ([www.ncarboretum.org](http://www.ncarboretum.org)).

## Beaufort

**Mattie King Davis Art Gallery**, historic Rustell House of the Beaufort Historical Association, 100 Block Turner Street, Beaufort. **Aug. 7 - Sept. 30** - Featuring works by local artists Debra Stinson and Tracy Huley. A reception will be held on Aug. 7, from 5:30-7pm. **Ongoing** - The Mattie King Davis Art Gallery, Carteret County's Oldest Gallery, is housed in one of the Historic Site's oldest buildings and features over 100 local and regional artists. An extensive collection of fine art, pottery, crafts, and gifts can be found at this special gallery. Hours: Mon.-Sat., 10am-4pm. Contact: 252/728-5225 or at (<https://beauforthistoricsite.org/gallery/>).

## Blowing Rock

**Blowing Rock Art and History Museum**, corner of Chestnut and Main streets, downtown Blowing Rock. **Fort Gallery, Through Aug. 21** - "TRANSFORMATION". Guest Curated by Larry Wheeler, Carlos Garcia-Velez, and Allen Thomas. The photographer is an artist who applies a lens to the world and the contemporary social order. "TRANSFORMATION" is a gathering of powerful and intriguing images that open stories of our times and portray a world undergoing transformation. The exhibition will also explore the transformation of the photographic process. Photography as an artistic medium has been the beneficiary of changing technologies and new materials in the last quarter century. The artist now has dramatic latitude in terms of scale and visual media. Photography is no longer just a pretty picture

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