

Rob Shaw Framing and Gallery in West Columbia, SC, Features Works by Sonya Diimmler

The Rob Shaw Framing and Gallery in West Columbia, SC, will present an exhibit of works by Sonya Diimmler, on view from Aug. 5 - 24, 2022. A reception will be held on Aug. 5, from 6-9pm.

Known locally for her dramatic use of color, Diimmler paints South Carolina landscapes and abstracts along with her favorite subjects and muses, her bulldog Smedley and her Boston Terrier Mattie. Her work has earned awards at the SC State Fair, at the Union County Arts Council, and at the Crooked Creek Art League, where she serves as the workshop coordinator and is a past president.

Diimmler's body of work "Seeking Solace" was featured in a solo show at Columbia Metropolitan Airport in 2021.

Regardless of the subject, "painting is an emotional and physical response to the world," Diimmler asserts. "I paint what excites me—most often dogs or cloudscapes." Deriving satisfaction from "line and gesture," she prefers painting "large and loose without regard for the details of realism." Her goal is "to convey energy and joy



Work by Sonya Diimmler

to the viewer."

Rob Shaw Framing and Gallery, which opened in April of 2019, is a full-service frame shop and fine art gallery. The gallery's monthly exhibits showcase South Carolina's many talented artists with diverse styles.

Following Diimmler's exhibit, the gallery will feature a pop-up show for work by Dr. Seuss from Aug. 26 - 28, 2022.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings or call the gallery at 803/369-3159.

The South Carolina Chapter of The National Association of Women Artists is Accepting New Members

While encouraging contemporary and emerging artists, The National Association of Women - South Carolina Chapter honors and continues the long and important contributions of women artists to the history of American culture and art.

Members of the National Association of Women Artists who seek more local connections, networking, and exhibit opportunities in South Carolina, may join the SC Chapter.

To join NAWA, visit (thenawa.org). The deadline is Sept. 15, 2022.

The National Association of Women Artists (NAWA) fosters public awareness of, and interest in, visual art created by women in the United States.

In 1889, the five women founders of NAWA envisioned an organization which would promote higher standards for women artists and provide them with the opportunity to exhibit their work.

The history of NAWA is a testament to the strength and resilience of a group of strong women who would not accept being shut out of the art salons, galleries and art exhibitions open to male artists during the 19th century.

The annual exhibitions were a great success, attracting the participation of women artists such as Mary Cassatt, and Rosa Bonheur. As the organization grew, its membership included prominent artists like Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney and Anna Hyatt Huntington.

Many members and supporters have exhibited in major museums and have taken their rightful place among the recognized artists of their time. Louise Nevelson, Alice Neel, Marisol, Judy Chicago, Miriam Schapiro, Janet Fish and Audrey Flack, and other contemporary talented artists joined the organization making NAWA a valid force in its time.

NAWA members represent all areas of the visual arts. Benefits of membership are many, including substantial awards, the opportunity to display artwork throughout the US in our exhibitions, and inclusion in NAWA's Annual Catalog.

The SC Chapter of NAWA extends this mission into our region, promoting the visual arts through exhibitions of its members' works, professional development, and awards. The chapter includes nationally and internationally known award-winning artists. NAWASC has held exhibitions at prestigious places including The Vendue in Charleston, SC; Aiken Center for the Arts in Aiken, SC; and Coastal Discovery Museum on Hilton Head Island, SC. There are scheduled exhibitions at SC Museums.

Visit (nawasc.org) for information on the SC chapter or send specific questions regarding the SC Chapter by e-mail to (art.sc@gmail.com).

There is no additional application process to be a chapter member, once accepted into NAWA at the National level.

Orangeburg County Fine Arts Center in Orangeburg, SC, Offers Group Exhibition

The Orangeburg County Fine Arts Center in Orangeburg, SC, is presenting a collection of works by school district students and instructors, on view in the Lusty Gallery through Aug. 26, 2022.

Paul Abrahamsen, the visual arts instructor at Bethune-Bowman Middle/High School, in Bowman, SC, readily admits to learning as much from his students as they learn from him. What his students have learned has earned them recognition for innovative works and invitations to display at the Orangeburg County Fine Arts Center.

"Paul Abrahamsen's ability to inspire students to explore their creativity as artists is evident in the work they produce. Why not invite him and other instructors to show their students who they are as artists? What in life inspires them?," posed Vivian Glover,



Work by Tunisha Berry Summers

director of community arts and development at the Arts Center.

Abrahamsen, along with Jasmyne Wall, art instructor at Edisto Primary School in Edisto, SC, and Tunisha Berry Summers,

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who teaches art at Robert E. Howard Middle School in Orangeburg, SC, accepted an invitation to display their works alongside those of students from the Orangeburg County School District, while also providing insights into themselves as artists who teach.

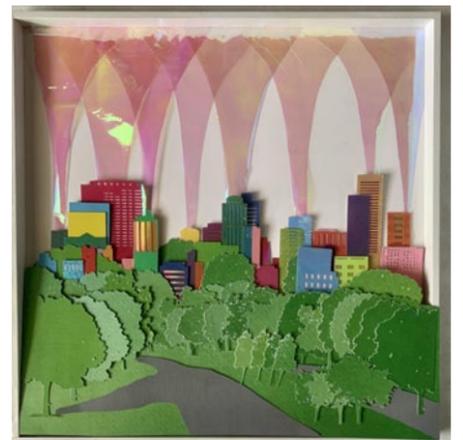
"I spent over 30 years working in the Graphic Arts field before I got into teaching. I worked as a technical illustrator using conventional hand tools on a drafting table, in computer graphics with basic animation and imagery generation and as an art director in the screen-printing industry," offered Abrahamsen.

"I emphasize the elements of art, especially the three that I believe are foundational to all the others: line, shape and color. Every piece of visual art has to incorporate these three. I want to make sure that each one of my students has a firm grasp of these three elements," added Abrahamsen. "I also strive to pass along the realization that the content areas that they are studying in school are inextricably linked to each other. They are not random pieces of information or learning. There is a connectivity and art is the arena for that connection, the crucible that helps connect all of these seemingly unrelated dots of information."

Three Tractors, an image rendered through photography and digital manipulation, one of Abrahamsen's pieces, demonstrate his skills as a graphic artist. His student, Shatoya Armstrong, untitled piece, celebrates line, shape, and color.

Tunisha Berry Summers, with a myriad of skills and experience with art and craft projects, brought pieces to the Arts Center including a landscape and a still life in watercolor and two pieces suggesting collage art. *The Musicians*, in its depiction of jazz moods and music reveals an instructor who, as artist, appreciates character. This work, in acrylic, is part of an abstract series of African American musicians Summers has worked on throughout her career.

"I fell in love with art at an early age and have always loved drawing, painting, and creating various crafts." Summers credits her art teachers for helping her develop her skills and guiding her to becoming a teacher. "I've been teaching art for 27 years and I love



Work by Jasmyne Wall

every bit of it!"

Jasmyne Wall is showing five pieces in her mixed-media series "Pray for Your City". Her works are inspired by a deep faith in God and His teachings. "The Bible explains God's perspective on many things, but not many people read enough of it to see His perspective. So, my goal in my art is to visually express His words, to allow the viewer to 'see what God sees' in a way that inspires people to want to know Him more and trust Him more." Wall sees her work as an interpretation of the artistry she finds in God.

Wall's teaching method is tailored to her young students. Helping them to articulate what about a piece of art impresses them is always a means of inspiring them. "I like to teach by introducing a work of art to my students and ask a lot of questions about the piece. I like to gradually lead them to higher level thinking, requiring more thought, such as interpreting what the artist was thinking in creating the work and why."

Wall's enthusiasm and devotion to her students infuses the classroom, "My students are joyful, eager to learn. This inspires me to have them use bright neon colors and high contrast in their works of art. New materials are exciting for them, and it inspires new forms of creativity in their projects. It is my hope that their joy inhabits their artwork and is translated to viewers."

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, or call 803/536-4074.