



Asheville Art Museum in Asheville, NC, Features Glassworks From Its Collection

The Asheville Art Museum in Asheville, NC, *Western North Carolina Glass: Selections from the Collection*, on view in the Judith S. Moore Gallery, Level 3, through Apr. 15, 2024.

Western North Carolina is important in the history of American glass art. Several artists of the Studio Glass Movement came to the region, including its founder Harvey K. Littleton. Begun in 1962 in Wisconsin, it was a student of Littleton's that first came to the area in 1965 and set up a glass studio at the Penland School of Craft in Penland, NC. By 1967, Mark Peiser was the first glass artist resident at the school and taught many notable artists, like Jak Brewer in 1968 and Richard Ritter who came to study in 1971. By 1977, Littleton retired from teaching and moved to nearby Spruce Pine, NC, and set up a glass studio at his home.

Since that time, glass artists like Ken Carder, Rick and Valerie Beck, Shane Fero, and Yaffa Sikorsky and Jeff Todd - to name only a few - have flocked to the area to reside, collaborate, and teach, making it a significant place for experimentation and education in glass. The next generation of artists like Hayden Wilson and Alex Bernstein continue to create here. The Museum is dedicated to collecting American studio glass and within that umbrella, explores the work of Artists connected to Western North Carolina. Exhibitions, including *Intersections of American Art*, explore glass art in the context of American Art of the 20th and 21st centuries. A variety of techniques and a willingness to push boundaries of the medium can be seen in this selection of works from the Museum's Collection.

The Asheville Art Museum, the hub for

Southern Highland Craft Guild Offers Wood Day at the Folk Art Center - Aug. 12, 2023

Wood Day returns to the Folk Art Center auditorium in Asheville, NC, with master woodworkers of the Southern Highland Craft Guild on Aug. 12, 2023, from 10am-4pm.

On the second Saturday of August, makers of the Southern Highland Craft



Harvey K. Littleton, "Lemon/Cranberry Lyrical Movement," 1989, blown, cut, polished Barium/potash glass with multiple cased overlays of Kugler glass. Gift from the James & Judith Moore Glass and Craft Collection, Asheville Art Museum. © Estate of Harvey K. Littleton.

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.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 828/253-3227 or visit (www.ashevilleart.org).

Guild will convene at the organization's headquarters, the Folk Art Center, to showcase a variety of woodworking techniques at the annual Wood Day on Saturday, Aug. 12, from 10am to 4pm. Visitors are invited to join more than 15

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fine masters of wood as they demonstrate their craft. From 1-3pm, enjoy the annual carve-off competition during the event where woodcarvers attempt to be the fastest at carving wooden birds. This event is free to the public and includes opportunities to get hands-on with basic woodworking techniques.

The material of wood has multiple sources, such as branches, trunks, roots and even bark, that are used in both function and decoration. Its earliest forms were generated for basic living, as a means of shelter or protection. Pieces of Egyptian furniture from around 2500 BC survive as literal examples of man's ability to create objects of beauty from wood. Being one of Appalachia's indigenous resources, trees formed items for the early settlers of this region, such as tables, chairs, bowls, coopered barrels, as well as wagons and homes. Over time, woodwork transitioned into a leisure activity through whittling and carving.



Derek Hennigar, at Wood Day 2022

This free event not only educates the public on the rigors and talent that goes

Mark Bettis Gallery in Asheville, NC, Features Works by David Sheldon

Mark Bettis Gallery, located in the River Arts District in Asheville, NC, will present *We Are The Mountains*, a celebration of the people, animals and natural wonders of Western North Carolina, featuring works by David Sheldon, from Aug. 12 - 26, 2023. A reception will be held on Aug. 12, from 5:30-7:30pm.

David Sheldon, unveils a new selection of paintings and sculptures. Unabashedly sentimental, and overflowing with joy, the works in this exhibition celebrate the people, animals, and natural wonders of Western North Carolina. Whether one comes from a family that has lived here for generations, or is a newly arrived resident, the mountains, streams and forests of Western North Carolina hold a special place in



WNC wood carvers, Wood Day 2022

into woodworking, but serves the mission of the Guild in preserving a longtime culture and heritage.

Admission to Wood Day and the Folk Art Center is free. The Folk Art Center is located at Milepost 382 on the Blue Ridge Parkway in east Asheville. Headquarters to the Southern Highland Craft Guild, the Center also houses three galleries, a library, a craft Shop and a Blue Ridge Parkway information desk and bookstore.

The Southern Highland Craft Guild is a non-profit, educational organization established in 1930 to cultivate the crafts and makers of the Southern Highlands for the purpose of shared resources, education, marketing and conservation. The Southern Highland Craft Guild is an authorized concessioner of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

For a complete list of makers participating in Wood Day, and to learn more about Southern Highland Craft Guild programs at the Folk Art Center call 828/298-7928 or visit (www.craftguild.org).



Work by David Sheldon

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