

Southern Highland Craft Guild in Asheville, NC, Offers Annual Heritage Day - Sept. 17, 2022

The Southern Highland Craft Guild in Asheville, NC, will present the 42nd Annual Heritage Day, at the Folk Art Center, just off the Blue Ridge Parkway, on Sept. 17, 2022, from 10am-4pm.

This free celebration of mountain heritage is held by the Southern Highland Craft Guild featuring demonstrations of traditional crafts accompanied by music.

A highlight of the event is the Annual World Gee Haw Whimmy Diddle competition held at 2pm. A Whimmy Diddle is an Appalachian mountain toy traditionally made from two sticks of rhododendron. Notches are carved into one stick and a propeller is attached to the end. Rubbing the notches with the second stick makes the proper spin. Can you get it to gee (spin to the right) and haw (spin to the left)?



Split Rail Bluegrass Band

During the World Gee Haw Whimmy Diddle competition, contestants are judged on the number of rotations between gees and haws they can complete during a given time. They may be asked to switch hands or whimmy diddle behind their back. All ages may compete with trophies given for best child, adult, and professional. Winners receive a moon pie and bragging rights.

Ongoing demonstrations will include traditional woodworking with traditional tools, weaving, spinning, dyeing, broom-making,



A previous Whimmy Diddle winner.

stone carving, blacksmithing, soap-making, and printmaking. Visitors will have the opportunity to try their own hand at some of the crafts at an activity table.

A music stage will provide further entertainment with bluegrass and gospel music. The band schedule can be found online at (craftguild.org).

The Blue Ridge Parkway's Folk Art Center is the ideal place for Heritage Day! There is free parking and a grassy area for picnics and relaxation. Spend an early autumn day in WNC honoring and learning about the crafts of yesteryear. Tour the Folk Art Center and maybe take a walk through the woods.

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 Guild is an authorized concessioner of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. The Folk Art Center is located at Milepost 382 of the Blue Ridge Parkway, just north of the Highway 70 entrance in East Asheville, NC.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, all the Guild at 828/298-7928 or visit (www.craftguild.org).

WNC Ag Center in Fletcher NC, Offers Quilt Guild Annual Show - Sept. 30 - Oct. 2, 2022

The 38th Annual Asheville Quilt Show will take place on Sept. 30 - Oct. 2, 2022, at the WNC Ag Center on 765 Boylston Hwy. in Fletcher, NC, 28732. Sponsored by Moda Fabrics and Supplies and Explore Asheville, there will be over 300 quilts from around the country, over 20 vendors and over \$10,000 in prize money.

For the past 2 years, the Quilt Show was cancelled due to COVID Concerns, but is now back better and stronger than ever.

Which Came First - The Chicken or The Egg?

Quilting is a traditional art sprung from our heritage and a craft born of necessity for warmth, comfort and beauty. In most cases people quilt on their own but may seek out like minded people to share the experience with and eventually form a sewing bee or if more organized with community goals, a Guild. These Guild members would band together to put on exhibits or a Quilt Show, perhaps as fund raisers for a cause.



Work by Katherine Zimmerman from a previous show

For The Asheville Quilt Guild, just the opposite happened. In 1982 organizers for the Bele Chere Festival of Asheville approached a quilter about putting on a Quilt Show as part of Bele Chere. This quilter Barbara Swinea



Work by Linda Roy from a previous show

found others to work on it with her. Over time, 65 women in 1987 formed the Asheville Quilt Guild, a raffle quilt was made annually and a quilt show was put on to raise money for the guild.

This group of progressive quilters has grown to include nationally recognized fiber artists, teachers, mentors and community advocates. With 271 members, they still make raffle quilts (now called Opportunity Quilts) as well as quilts for a variety of community causes such as Habitat for Humanity, newborns at Mission Hospital, Project Linus, Veterans, Transformation Village and Camp Blue Bird for cancer victims, and Kids Sewing. Quilters of all levels are invited to join, and they still put on a Quilt Show.

Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for students 13-18, and free for children 12 and under. There will be demonstrations, a silent auction, special exhibits, gift shop, Kids Sewing Station, quilts for sale and this year's Opportunity Quilt Raffle- Flutterby pattern by Jen Kingwell.

Hours are 9am-5pm on Friday and Saturday, and 10am-4:30pm on Sunday. Parking is free and food will be available on site.

For more info check our NC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (<https://www.ashevillequiltguild.org/quilt-show-1/>).

Asheville Gallery of Art in Asheville, NC, Features Works by Anne Marie Brown

Asheville Gallery of Art in Asheville, NC, will present *Full Circle*, featuring works by Anne Marie Brown, from Sept. 1 - 30, 2022.

Anne Marie Brown started her career as a florist in New Jersey in her 20's. "I owned a shop with a boyfriend who was into houseplants, and I loved flowers! I would do an arrangement and fall so in love with it, that I would do a small watercolor of it." Many careers later, Brown again picked up a brush and started painting when, as a realtor in Florida in 2007, the market tanked. "I'm not sure how I started painting again, I guess it was sheer boredom."

Brown started doing outdoor art shows with the Delray Art League in Delray Beach, FL. And to her surprise and delight, the pieces were selling. Thus started a 10 year journey of the outdoor art circuit. She attended shows all over Florida, and eventually started travelling up the east coast.

"I went from watercolor to acrylic, and finally to oil. By the time I got to oil painting, I had moved to Asheville, and started participating in plein air events." The rolling mountain ranges were exceptionally inspirational to her after all the ocean scenes she'd been exposed to. "I went up to the Blue Ridge Parkway in October, 2014, and that was it! I had to move here!"

Brown's first and strongest passion is painting, particularly flowers and land-



Work by Anne Marie Brown

scapes. "I also create needle felted animals, and do jewelry work in silver, but painting is my first love, and I devote most of my time to it." She has won numerous awards, participated in multiple juried shows, and even ran an artists' cooperative in Delray Beach called "The Arts Arena".

Now, her heart is settled within these Blue Ridge Mountains, and she hopes that the scenes that touch her heart, will touch yours, and thus, the circle is complete!

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/251-5796 or visit (www.ashevillegallery-of-art.com).

Blue Spiral 1 in Asheville, NC, Offers New Exhibitions

Blue Spiral 1 in Asheville, NC, will offer several new exhibitions including the following:

On view in the Main Gallery, from Sept. 2 through Oct. 26, 2022, is the exhibit, *Cut and Paste: Collage Works*.

Collage, derived from the French word "coller", to glue, is the joining of paper and other found objects onto paper, canvas or wood. This exhibition shows a wide range of artists who utilize collage as one of their main modes of creative expression. They run the gamut from the traditional joining of paper to paper to incorporating digital techniques to create and enhance the collage. Artists work in paper, fabric, recycled materials, wood and natural objects.

Participating artists include: Janice Colbert, Vicki Essig, Luke Haynes, Bryant Holsenbeck, Kreh Mellick, Isaac Payne, Jon Sours, David Samuel Stern, Akiko Sugiyama, and Katie Walker.

On view in the Small Format Gallery, from Sept. 2 through Oct. 26, 2022, is the exhibit, *Alain Mailland*.

Using mainly precious roots and species from his native country of France - pistachio, hackberry, root of heather - Alain Mailland creates sculptures representing a correspondence between animals, minerals, and plants. Mailland began his journey as a carpenter and mason. He gradually changed his focus from wood joining to woodturning and has since dedicated himself exclusively to this craft. Mailland developed his own distinctive style and technique, particularly in hollowing. He developed specialized tools to turn wood into flowers and carve works evoking marine life or biological specimens.



Work by Alain Mailland

Mailland lives and works in Chambrigaud, France.

On view in the Showcase Gallery, from Sept. 2 through Oct. 26, 2022, is the exhibit, *A Gathering: Mary Engel and Charles Keiger*.

Combining serene, sentient beings with surreal, and often absurd characters, Mary Engel and Charles Keiger present a gather-



Work by Ken Carder & Steve Ward

ing of creatures great and small. Engel's trinket and gem encrusted animal sculptures celebrate the beauty and nobility of animals, while also drawing attention to the threat to their existence. Keiger's folk-inspired narrative paintings feature animals in protagonist roles, exercising dominion over their fantastical surroundings.

Mary Engel received her BS degree from Illinois State University and her MFA degree from the University of Georgia. Her work has been exhibited throughout the United States. She currently works from her studio in Northwestern Georgia.

Charles Keiger earned an MFA from the University of Georgia. He has exhibited his work extensively in the Southeast. His work is in numerous private collections throughout the country. Keiger works from his studio in Atlanta, Georgia.

On view in the Lower Level Gallery, from Sept. 2 through Oct. 26, 2022, is the exhibit, *Step Into the Light: Alex Bernstein and Mitchell Lonas*.

Using carved glass and incised aluminum, Alex Bernstein and Mitchell Lonas respectively create intimate narratives which, unlike the cold, hard materials they use, soften as gestural qualities and subject matter are revealed. Key to both artists' work is light. Light energizes and brings their work

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