

Artists Collective | Spartanburg

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– “They may strike viewers as lowkey and comfortable,” she says.

Story has been a member of the Artists Collective | Spartanburg for eight years and has served on its management board as receptions chair and now oversees ACS workshops. “I have a studio there, where my work is always on display. I am blessed by the encouragement of this generous community of artists and appreciate the opportunity to grow in my craft and to exhibit here.” She has had solo shows at the ACS each year since 2017 and had paintings accepted in juried shows in Spartanburg

and Anderson, South Carolina. She also has work exhibited in the Cable Gallery in Young Harris, Georgia, her hometown. She is a graduate of the University of Georgia in education.

The Artists Collective | Spartanburg, located on W. Main Street, provides a forum and home for the arts and creative population of Spartanburg, providing facilities and services to artist members for exhibits, performances and creation.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (artistscollectivespartanburg.org).

Mint Museum Uptown in Charlotte, NC, Offers Exhibit Focused on Seating

Mint Museum Uptown in Charlotte, NC, will present *The Art of Seating: 200 Years of American Design*, on view from Sept. 16 through Feb. 25, 2024.

The exhibition, drawn from the rich holdings of the Thomas H. and Diane DeMell Jacobsen Ph.D. Foundation, provides a rare opportunity to survey the history of American craftsmanship and ingenuity, seen through the lens of seating furniture. Featuring many of the most iconic designs and designers from the past two centuries, *The Art of Seating* encourages visitors to reconsider objects that are a ubiquitous and often overlooked part of our everyday lives, seeing chairs as not just functional objects, but as works of art in their own right. At the same time, the objects in the exhibition also have stories to tell about the history of our country, ranging from the contributions of immigrants to changing tastes in style and aesthetics to new innovations in technology and materials.



Unknown maker for Janes Beebe & Company, Bronx, NY. “Rustic Twig Bench”, ca. 1855. Cast iron and green paint. 33 1/4 x 35 1/2 x 21 1/2

ley Brothers, Frank Lloyd Wright, Charles and Ray Eames, Eero Saarinen, Isamu Noguchi, Frank Gehry, and Vivian Beer. The exhibition also features contemporary and historic designs by some of the biggest manufacturers to commission these pieces, such as Knoll, Herman Miller and Steelcase.

The exhibition was originally developed by the Museum of Contemporary Art Jacksonville and then toured to more than two dozen museums by International Arts & Artists, Washington, DC. It will be accompanied by a fully illustrated catalogue of the collection, produced by The Thomas H. and Diane DeMell Jacobsen Ph.D. Foundation and D. Giles Ltd. The installation will also include a video in which Dr. Jacobsen discusses the collection.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 704/337-2000 or visit (www.mintmuseum.org).



George Hunzinger (1835 – 1898), New York, NY. “Side Chair with Curule Base”, ca. 1870. Ebonized cherry, gilding, silk show cover.

More than forty examples of seating furniture from the Thomas H. and Diane DeMell Jacobsen Ph.D. Foundation are included in the exhibition and offer a stylistic journey from the early 1800s to the twenty-first century. Noted makers and designers include John Henry Belter, George Hunzinger, the Herter Brothers, the Stick-

Mint Museum Randolph in Charlotte, NC, Features Works by Walter Scott Lenox

Mint Museum Randolph in Charlotte, NC, will present *Walter Scott Lenox & American Belleek*, on view from Sept. 16 through Jan. 21, 2024.

Featuring 80 works from the Mint’s permanent collection, as well as other notable public and private collections, this exhibition focuses solely on the earliest decades of American Belleek production and the role Walter Scott Lenox played in its development as an art form.

Curated by Brian Gallagher, the Mint’s senior curator of decorative arts, The Mint Museum is the exhibition’s only venue.

In 1857, McBirney and Company in the village of Belleek in County Fermanagh, Northern Ireland, began producing a new type of porcelain renowned for its light, delicately thin, ivory-colored body. Named for the town in which it was created, Belleek porcelain quickly became



Ceramic Art Company, “Decanter Set”, Belleek porcelain silver. 6 11/16 x 6 5/8 in. (decanter); 2 1/4 x 2 1/16 in. (cup)

prized among discerning customers in the British Isles. As its popularity then spread across the Atlantic, several American ceramic manufactories in Trenton, New Jersey, sought to make their own version of Belleek.

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In 1882, Ott and Brewer became the first to succeed. The factory’s efforts were spearheaded by three men: John Hart Brewer, the factory’s forward-thinking entrepreneur; William Bromley, Sr., the former supervisor at McBirney and Company and the expert on Belleek manufacture; and Walter Scott Lenox, the creative force behind Ott and Brewer’s highly fashionable Belleek products.

In 1884, Lenox left Ott and Brewer to join Willets Manufacturing Company, where he supervised the firm’s decorating department. Five years later, Lenox left Willets to establish his own firm, Ceramic Art Company (later renamed Lenox, Incorporated). Under Lenox’s artistic supervision, all three firms - Ott and Brewer, Willets Manufacturing Company, and Ceramic Art Company - became renowned for the superb quality of their Belleek porcelain. Their products were prized by affluent customers and luxury retailers alike. Among the latter were Tiffany Company in New York, Bailey, Banks and Biddle in Philadelphia, and Marshall Field and Company in Chicago.



Ott and Brewer, “Coffeepot”, Jacobsen Collection, 11 x 7 in.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 704/337-2000 or visit (www.mintmuseum.org).

Bechtler Museum of Modern Art in Charlotte, NC, Offers New Exhibits

Bechtler Museum of Modern Art in Charlotte, NC, is presenting new exhibitions including:

Art of Another Kind: Selections of Art Informel, is on view in the Museum’s Second Floor Gallery, through Nov. 26, 2023.

Art Informel is a radical approach to abstraction that emerged in Europe in the years following World War II. In response to the horrors of the war, many artists rejected what they believed was realism’s susceptibility to nationalistic narratives, and sought to develop a universal visual language that communicated freedom, individual expression, and inner states of being. Championing this new artistic tendency, in 1952 the French curator and art critic Michel Tapié organized the groundbreaking exhibition *Un Art Autre* - or Art of Another Kind - and published an accompanying



Shiko Munakata, “Untitled” (detail), 1962, Woodcut on paper, 15 x 23 7/16 in. © 2023 Shiko Munakata

catalogue, in which he coined the term “Art Informel.” Based on the French word *informe*, meaning “unformed” or “formless,” Art Informel renounced traditional rules of representation and instead emphasized bold, gestural marks that conveyed vitality, emotion, and spontaneity.

Drawn from the Bechtler Museum’s permanent collection, the works on view are by a number of artists who were included in

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