



## Asheville Quilt Guild Offers Its Annual Quilt Show at the North Carolina Agricultural Center in Fletcher, NC

The Asheville Quilt Guild will present its 39th annual Quilt Show, from Sept. 28-30, 2023, at the North Carolina Agricultural Center in Fletcher, NC. Featuring nearly 300 quilts, works from fiber artists, as well as wearable art, many of these items are for sale. The Asheville Quilt Show began as a small show in a beloved Asheville Street Fair known as Bele Chere. For over three decades our 501c3 non-profit organization, the Asheville Quilt Guild, has been dedicated to the preservation and advancement of the American Heritage Artistic Craft of Quilting.

Our reputation for excellence and our generous prize money draws quilt entries from the southeastern region of the USA and beyond. Many attendees are inspired to become quilters, or to better their craft, after a stroll through our amazing display. Over 25 vendors offer a varied selection of fabric, sewing, quilting notions, handmade items, and other surprises. There are also ongoing free demonstrations which provide ideas, instruction, and new techniques.

During Show hours, refreshments are available at an on-site café. Show hours are: Sept. 28 & 29, from 9am-5pm and Sept. 30, from 9am-4:30pm, at the Davis Center at the Western North Carolina Agricultural Center, at 761 Boylston Highway, Fletcher, NC, 28732.

Also shown here is a picture of the Asheville Quilt Guild 2023 Opportunity Quilt, "What Goes Around Comes Around" created by the Piecemakers Quilting Bee and quilted by Shelli Yanik. Raffle tickets for a chance to win this quilt will be available for purchase at the show, or online at ([www.ashevillequiltguild.org/Opportunity-Quilt-2023](http://www.ashevillequiltguild.org/Opportunity-Quilt-2023)). The quilt is 69 x 85 inches. Drawing will be held at the show on Sept. 30, at 3pm, and the winner does not have to be present.

It was 1987 and after talking for months about starting a quilt guild, Linda Cantrell said the words at the right time to Barbara Swinea. By the end of the evening they had 20 people signed up to join in a class taught by Barbara. After months of work and discussions they held our first meeting at A.B. Tech Campus. There were 65 women there the first night. The



2023 Opportunity Quilt up for raffle

quilt books to Pack Library. In February of 89 they set up our own library. The quilt guild's Community Project (completed in 1989) was to make quilts for the residents of St. Dunstons, a home for mentally challenged adults.

Asheville Quilt Guild was incorporated in November of 1988 as a non-profit with a charter to give exhibits to the community and share their knowledge of quilting. For further information about the show visit ([www.ashevillequiltguild.org](http://www.ashevillequiltguild.org)).

The Asheville Art Museum in Asheville, NC, is presenting *Romare Bearden: Ways of Working*, on view in the The Van Winkle Law Firm Gallery, Level 1, through Jan. 22, 2024.

Bearden's work reflects his improvisational approach to his practice. He considered his process akin to that of jazz and blues composers. Starting with an open mind, he would let an idea evolve spontaneously. "*Romare Bearden: Ways of Working* highlights Bearden's unique artistic practice and masterful storytelling through art," says Pamela L. Myers, Executive Director of the Asheville Art Museum. "We are thrilled to collaborate with Jerald Melberg Gallery to present these extraordinary works on paper in conversation with Bearden's collage *Sunset Express*, 1984 in the Museum Collection (on view in the Museum's SECU Collection Hall). This exhibition will also provide a glimpse into the cultural histories and personal interests that influenced his art-making practice, and we hope it encourages introspection and dialogue with our visitors."

Jerald Melberg states, "Romare Bearden's groundbreaking artistic practice continues to captivate audiences worldwide. With an unparalleled legacy of creativity and innovation, Bearden's contributions to art remain deeply influential years beyond his life." We have enjoyed organizing this exhibition with the Asheville Art Museum to showcase his artistic genius and inspire visitors from the Western North Carolina region and beyond."

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Romare Bearden, "Lullaby at Birdland", circa 1980, monotype, 29 1/2 x 41 1/2. Jerald Melberg Gallery © The Romare Bearden Foundation / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York.

This exhibition is made possible in part by the Judy Appleton Fund. Many thanks to the Jerald Melberg Gallery for the loan of these important artworks and to Mary and Jerald Melberg for their long-standing support of the arts, artists, and the Asheville Art Museum.

Established by artists and incorporated in 1948, the Asheville Art Museum is committed to being a vital force in community and individual development and providing lifelong opportunities for education and enrichment through the visual arts.

The Museum presents a robust schedule of engaging exhibitions featuring American art of the 20th and 21st centuries. It also offers a myriad of innovative programs for all ages, including classes and workshops for adults, college students, children, and families; guided and group tours; concerts and performances; volunteer programs; year-round and summer internship programs; film screenings; lectures and panel discussions; school and teacher programs; special events; and much more.

In 2019, Asheville Art Museum revealed its major building expansion and renovation project, increasing its capacity to conserve, exhibit, and interpret art of national and regional significance and serve the community and its many visitors.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings or visit ([ashevilleart.org](http://ashevilleart.org)).