

Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center in Asheville, NC, Offers Exhibit Focused on Weaving

The Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center in Asheville, NC, will present *Weaving at Black Mountain College: Anni Albers, Trude Guermonprez, and Their Students*, on view from Sept. 29 through Jan. 6, 2024.

This is the first exhibition devoted to textile practices at Black Mountain College (BMC). Celebrating 90 years since the college's founding, the exhibition reveals how weaving was a more significant part of the College's legendary art and design curriculum than previously assumed.

The weaving program was started in 1934 by Anni Albers and lasted until Black Mountain College closed in 1956. Despite Albers's elevated reputation, the persistent treatment of textile practices as women's work or handicraft has often led to the discipline being ignored or under-represented in previous scholarship and exhibitions about the College; this exhibition brings that work into the spotlight at last.



Weaving made by student Fred Goldsmith at BMC, photo by Alice Sebrell

conversation with the rest of the BMC curriculum offers a new, rich, and detailed understanding of the weaving program's relationship to other disciplines. A particularly notable example of the ways in which this knowledge transfer functioned was the Harriett Engelhardt Memorial Collection, a collection of about 100 vernacular and ancient textiles curated by Anni Albers, which was used to teach students in the weaving program and was the subject of public exhibitions at the College.

The exhibition features objects from the Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center's permanent collection and loans from institutional and private collections. Many of the objects to be shown have either never been publicly exhibited, or never been shown in the context of BMC.

The exhibition also features work by selected contemporary artists whose work connects to the legacy of Black Mountain College's weavers: Kay Sekimachi, Jen Bervin, Porfirio Gutiérrez, Susie Taylor, and Bana Haffar.

The exhibition was curated by Michael Beggs and Julie J. Thomson.

The Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center preserves and continues the legacy of educational and artistic innovation of Black Mountain College. We achieve our mission through collection, conservation, and educational activities including exhibitions, publications, and public programs. The museum is located on College Street in Asheville.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 828/350-8484 or visit (blackmountaincollege.org).



Helen M. Post Medley portrait of Anni Albers at BMC

In addition to Albers, Trude Guermonprez taught her first classes in the United States at Black Mountain College, and other notable weaving faculty like Marli Ehrman and Tony Landreau brought their own perspectives on the discipline. Among their students, some went on to find work as weavers, teachers, and textile designers, including Else Regensteiner, Lore Kadden Lindenfeld, Marilyn Bauer, Don Wight, and Joan Potter Loveless. Other students did not pursue future work in weaving but became successful artists and designers in their own right, including Ray Johnson, Don Page, Claude Stoller, Jane Slater Marquis, and Robert Rauschenberg.

Through informal interactions, lectures, and exhibitions, weaving practices and ideas spread beyond the weaving program into other areas of the College, a transfer of knowledge co-curators Michael Beggs and Julie J. Thomson have termed "weaving literacy." Repositioning the textile work of students and faculty in

Folk Art Center in Asheville, NC, Offers 43rd Annual Heritage Day - Sept. 16, 2023

The 43rd Annual Heritage Day will be held on Sept. 16, from 10am-4pm, at the Blue Ridge Parkway's Folk Art Center in Asheville, NC. 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)?



Mary Nichols, spinning demo

During the World Gee Haw Whimmy Diddle competition, contestants are judged on the number of rotations between "gee" and "haw" they can complete during a given time. They may be asked to switch hands or whimmy diddle behind

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www.ashevillequiltguild.org/Opportunity-Quilt-2023

39th Annual Asheville Quilt Show

September 28 and 29, 9 - 5
September 30, 9 - 4:30

Over 300 quilts from across the country, \$12,000 in prize money, 27 Vendors, Gift Shop, Silent Auction, Quilts for Sale, Demonstrations by Expert Quilters, Special Exhibits, and a Sewing Station for Kids

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www.AshevilleQuiltGuild.org/quilt_show

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 sheep shearing, woodworking with traditional tools, weaving, spinning, dyeing, broom-making, stone carving, blacksmithing, soap-making, and print-making. 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 storytelling by Ashton Woody, and bluegrass music by Blue Eyed Girl, Janet Wiseman, Split Rail Bluegrass, and Buncombe Turnpike. 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



Connie Brown, quilt demo

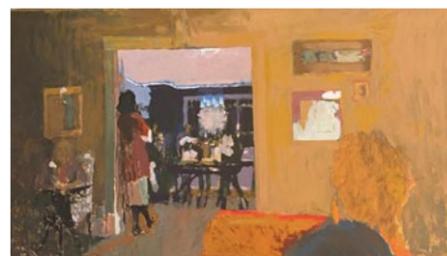
Interior. The Folk Art Center is located at Milepost 382 of the Blue Ridge Parkway, just north of the Highway 70 entrance in East Asheville, NC.

For more information, including a list of participating craftspeople, musicians, and demos being offered, call 828/298-7928 or visit (www.craftguild.org).

Blue Spiral 1 in Asheville, NC, Offers New Exhibitions

Blue Spiral 1 in Asheville, NC, will present several new exhibitions, on view from Sept. 1 through Oct. 25, 2023.

On view in the Main Level Gallery, will be *Animalia 2.0*, which showcases the unique perspectives of thirteen contemporary artists on the representation of animals. Mixed-media sculptures, paintings, drawings, glassworks, and photographs, invite you to reflect upon the connection between our own existence and that of the wild, natural world. Drawing inspiration from various disciplines such as biology, evolution, and



Work by Bill Killebrew

anthropology, the exhibition prompts reflection and reverence towards these illustrated

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