

# Craven Arts Council in New Bern

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Jenson now resides in New Bern where he continues to pursue his artistic goals. He is known for his large-scale heavily patterned work where each part of the canvas has something interesting for viewers to look at. It's *5 O'clock Somewhere* is a series of five abstract paintings, in part inspired by Kandinsky, which explore the many layers of partaking of various spirits and

socializing with friends and strangers alike. Paintings exploring themes such as "Ladies Night", "Beer-Thirty" and "Beethoven's 5th" will be on display.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Council at 252/638-2577 or visit ([www.cravenarts.org](http://www.cravenarts.org)).

## Duke University in Durham, NC, Offers Exhibition Taken From Its Collection

Duke University in Durham, NC, is presenting *Love & Anarchy*, on view at the Nasher Museum of Art, through Feb. 18, 2024.

On the surface, love and anarchy may seem like unrelated or even conflicting notions. Love is synonymous with care, compassion, and affection, while anarchy is generally accepted as an absence of authority, a state of disorder, or an ungovernable condition. These concepts, more than tangentially related, are often intertwined and even sometimes mutually dependent. Indeed, moments of disarray and frustration are intrinsic to love, while love sometimes emerges out of disorder and chaos. Drawn from the Nasher Museum's extensive historical and contemporary collections, *Love & Anarchy* demonstrates some of the ways in which these two concepts have inspired artists, visually and conceptually, over millennia.

Love has been a subject in art for eternity. In antiquity, Aphrodite, goddess of beauty and love, and her offspring, Eros, repeatedly appeared in painting, sculpture, and pottery. From an ancient Greek depiction of the goddess to a 12th century sculpture of the Virgin enthroned to Marc Quinn's 21st century rendering of animal carcasses in *Mother and Child*, Aphrodite's image resonates across eons. Contemporary depictions of love reveal recognizable poses, gestures, or touch as in Zanele Muholi's photograph, *Katlego Mashiloane* and Nosipho Lavuta, *Ext. 2*,

*Lakeside, Johannesburg.*

Anarchy is often represented through similarly personified motifs. War, for example, repeats in works ranging from a 6th century BCE Greek amphora to Dapper Bruce's colorful recent drawings. In resistance to war, power, and oppression, depictions of a chaotic psychological or social state are suggested in Lou Stoumen's dancers at a rock concert from the late 1960s, Kambui Olujimi's decimated monument in *Late Stage Love Affairs*, and many other works. Some artists poignantly interweave the concepts of love and anarchy, as in Sherrill Roland's *With Heart, Letter #021414*, illustrating their interconnectedness and interdependence. As a result, *Love & Anarchy* exhibits the nuanced ways these two seemingly disparate themes intertwine over time throughout our visual culture.

This exhibition was organized by Marshall N. Price, Chief Curator and Nancy A. Nasher and David J. Haemisegger Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art.

*Love & Anarchy* is made possible by the Nancy A. Nasher and David J. Haemisegger Family Fund for Exhibitions; the Derek and Christen Wilson Fund for the Nasher Museum of Art; and the John and Anita Schwarz Family Endowment.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 919/684-5135 or visit ([www.nasher.duke.edu](http://www.nasher.duke.edu)).

## NC's Uproar Festival of Public Art Announces Winners of People's Choice, Jury Prizes Totaling \$29,000

Following a month of dozens of outdoor, bold works of art being displayed throughout the downtown areas of Chapel Hill, Carrboro, and Hillsborough, in North Carolina, the Uproar Festival of Public Art concluded with an awards party on Aug. 12, where three jury prizes and two honorable mentions were presented, along with the Robert & Mercedes Eichholz Foundation People's Choice prize, a runner-up prize, and 15 sponsor's choice awards.

Eryn Donnalley of Hillsborough, NC, is the \$10,000 Robert & Mercedes Eichholz Foundation People's Choice Prize winner for her work, "Return to Self," located at Carrboro Town Hall. The circular mosaic and wood mandala - mounted to a light panel - signifies Carl Jung's individuation process, or the return to self, a process by which the conscious and unconscious aspects of a person become fused together. Donnalley's art is meant to be a conversation, an invitation, and an evocation for the human spirit. She takes a deep dive into anxiety, depression, and complex-PTSD in her creations, while finding refuge in the creative process itself.

The jury's \$10,000 first-place winner is Davis Erickson for his work, "New Money." Erickson lives in Orange County, North Carolina, and seeks to inspire others to fill their days with what brings them happiness and fulfillment. His lifelong dedication to the arts has enabled him to paint over 30 murals around the country: San Diego, Dallas, Chicago, St. Paul, Kansas City, Miami, Atlanta, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and several towns in North Carolina.



Work by Erin Donnalley

"New Money" was installed on the exterior of the Old Orange County Jail in Hillsborough. The two murals pay tribute to Erickson's "personal hero and true angel," Harriet Tubman, and references the 2013 proposal to put Tubman's likeness on the US \$20 bill. Erickson used spray paint to mimic the look of intaglio etching. Learn more by listening to the audio description for "New Money."

The jury's \$5,000 second-place winner is WALSH/BLAZING for their multimedia projection installation, "Changing Worlds Now." Based in Durham, NC, WALSH/BLAZING is a collaborative art practice

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that includes painting, video, installation, commercial commissions, and projection. Carin Walsh and Jenny Blazing use visual art to reframe environmental issues and generate conversations about measures to solve them. They bridge art and science by employing a research-based approach to environmental messaging through visual art. Uproar's audience experienced "Changing Worlds Now" - with its images projected onto a wall in large scale - at the Eno Arts Mill in Hillsborough. Incorporating local landmarks and reflections from nearby residents, the piece takes viewers on a journey through the industrial age to the present moment, when the climate crisis is recognized as a massive threat to national security and as a potential catalyst of mass extinctions. The piece ends with a future that is still unwritten, waiting on society's actions or lack thereof.

The jury's \$2,500 third-place winner is Wayne Vaughn of Graham, NC, for his work, "Passage." Installed at River Park in Hillsborough, "Passage" consists of five identical shapes that resemble the letter "C," each 10 feet tall. Made of textured steel rusted to a reddish brown, three of the shapes are in an upright position and two are placed horizontally. Vaughn's work is inspired by nature and industry, inviting the audience to play, question, and respond. Two honorable mentions recognize a pair of works that came within a fraction of a point of the jury's third-place score. Each of these artists received a cash prize of \$500:

"Weave Your Dreams" is a colossal dream catcher by Michelle Spaulding of Hillsborough, hanging at the entrance of the Orange County Historic Courthouse in Hillsborough. Consisting of nine multi-colored pieces made of plastic hoops and acrylic yarn, the work represents the many paths that Spaulding took on her artistic path.



Work by Davis Erickson

"Seeing Through the Fog" is a large-scale, mixed-media construction and painting - installed on the exterior of the Eno River Mill - by Britt Flood of Chapel Hill. Flood used acrylic paint on multiple cutouts of foam board pieced together to form an irregular shape, 20 feet at its highest point and 12 feet at its widest. The work depicts a human face - some of it obscured by painted brush strokes of various colors. Flood describes painting as an extension of the parts of herself that she cannot, or doesn't know how to, verbalize.

Additionally, a \$500 award was granted to the runner-up in the People's Choice contest: Carrboro's Sydnee Yates, Jesse Barnes, and Logan Johnson created "Moosh's Final Gift," which pays tribute to Moosh, Yates' beloved cat, and tells the story of how Moosh became braver over time. The acrylic and mixed media painting on wood featured projection effects. It was installed at the Carrboro parking deck at 300 E. Main Street and then at Lapin Bleu in Chapel Hill.

Uproar's jurors were Larry Wheeler, retired director of the North Carolina Museum of Art; Stacey L. Kirby, installation artist and the winner of ArtPrize 8; and interdisciplinary award-winning artist Antoine Williams.

"The 60 inaugural Uproar artists created vibrant, courageous, and thought-provoking public art pieces," says Stacey L. Kirby, who spoke on behalf of the jury panel at the awards party. "We, as jurors, were delighted to experience impressive works made with a variety of materials and techniques that exemplify a deep commitment to their creative practices. We look forward to seeing what the future holds for these talented artists who dedicated their time and passion to showing up strong for this community event."

The jurors evaluated all 60 works independently. Artistic merit represented 40% of the score, while visual impact and creativity each represented 30%. Works receiving high scores in creativity were unlike any work the jurors have seen.

More than 6,000 votes were submitted to



Work by Elizabeth Laul Healey

determine the People's Choice winner. Festival goers were encouraged to scan a QR code at every installation in order to score the work on a scale of 1 to 10. The voting began July 15 and ended on Aug. 11, 2023.

Artists from North Carolina, South Carolina, Arkansas, and Georgia participated in the inaugural festival, which kicked off on July 14, with 60 works including two-dimensional pieces, sculptures, projections, and installations.

A free festival, Uproar prioritized accessibility. The outdoor locations were easy to navigate, and audio descriptions were offered for individuals with low vision. Uproar's Google Map of art locations garnered more than 30,000 views during the festival.

The awards party was presented by Eno River Mill and held at Eno Arts Mill in Hillsborough. Blue Cactus and Triangle Afrobeat Orchestra performed.

Inspired by ArtPrize in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and ArtFields in Lake City, South Carolina, Uproar was the first festival of its kind in the state. The Orange County Arts Commission, along with nine community partners, created the festival to celebrate artists, engage art lovers of all types, and support and celebrate the community. Since summer can be a slow time for small business owners, Uproar was also designed to boost the local economy.

All donors who contributed \$1,000 or more were able to select their favorite piece to receive a Sponsor's Choice Award including:

**Application Architects** selected "Oye Buey" by Nico Amortegui; **Gail and Phil Cooley** selected "What's Up? Homage to Vern" by Timothy Werrell; **Triangle Media Partners** chose "Totem of Potter's Creed" by ClayWorks Pottery Guild; **The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation** selected "Vital Cloud" by Eliza Redmann; **DB Sutton & Company Salon & Spirits** selected "Passage" by Wayne Vaughn; **Whitehall Antiques** selected "Blue Lotus Goddess" by Theresa Arico; **Anita Mills and Andrea Selch** chose "Don't Tell Me to Get a Grip" by Julie Slattery; **Caterri Woodrum** selected "Eastern Swallowtail" by Cricket Forge; **Pinnacle Financial Partners** selected "Eastern Swallowtail" by Cricket Forge; **Bluestem** selected "Flo" by LeRoi DeRupertis; **Robert & Mercedes Eichholz Foundation** selected "Moosh's Final Gift" by Sydnee Yates, Jesse Barnes, & Logan Johnson; **Cassilhaus** chose "New Money" by Davis Erickson; **Elizabeth Matheson** selected "Passage" by Wayne Vaughn; **Eno River Mill** selected "Seeing Through the Fog" by Britt Flood; and **Thomas Stevens Gallery** selected "Braid" by Harry McDaniel.

The Town of Hillsborough announced an Uproar Purchase Award, committing to buy a festival work. Mayor Jenn Weaver revealed at the awards party that town officials chose "Perpetual Bond" by TJ Christiansen of Durham, which depicts a mother giraffe standing with her teenage calf.

The Town of Chapel Hill announced an Uproar Commission Award: Artist Nyssa Collins of Gibsonville, NC (who created "Ambassador of the Eons Mammoth" for the festival) will be hired during the 2023-24 fiscal year to create a custom work for the town.

Uproar's community partners included: Chapel Hill Community Arts & Culture, Visit Hillsborough, Town of Carrboro, Orange County, Chapel Hill/Orange County

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