

Crimson Laurel Gallery in Bakersville, NC, Offers New Exhibits

Crimson Laurel Gallery in Bakersville, NC, is offering several new exhibits including: *One of a Kind*, featuring works by Ron Meyers, on view from Dec. 6 - 30, 2014; *Soda Works*, featuring works by Carolanne Currier, on view through Dec. 30, 2014; and *Featured Artist: Woodfired and Functional*, featuring works by Matt Schiemann, on view from Dec. 6 - 30, 2014.

Ron Meyers has been in clay for over 30 years, and is known for his loose, whimsical and pictorial approach to utilitarian pottery. He received an MA in Art Education from the Rochester Institute of Technology for American Craftsmen, and, recently retired from teaching, is a Professor Emeritus at the University of Georgia. He is an internationally known artist whose work is collected in the US and abroad.



Work by Matt Schiemann

"Being a second-generation potter, my rural home was alive with handmade objects," says Schiemann. "This influenced both my growth as a person and as an artist. I envision my pottery in people's homes, filling their cabinets, displayed out on dining room tables, and laying used and enjoyed at the bottom of a sink. The home represents a place for family and friends to gather and enjoy each other's company. I want my pots to be a part of the conversations and stories that are shared during times of celebration as well as day-to-day happenings."

"Landscape also plays a large role in my pottery. During my childhood and into my adult life, my free time was spent lazily strolling down a country road and camping in the forests of local state parks. The hills, mountains and rivers that I interact with when I am hiking or camping are the reference points for the forms of my pottery. I currently live on the gulf coast of Florida. This too has had a massive affect on my work. Soft waves, beach textures and dunes have all played a roll in striving for a quiet sense of color and texture on my pots."

Schiemann adds, "It is the atmospheric kilns that I find most appropriate for creating the surfaces of my pots. It is important that the pots catch the flame and force it to flow through the crevices and around the body of the pot. I want my pots to catch the flame and be scarred by its movement. I imagine the flame moving through the kiln in much of the same manner a river would flow through a valley. I try to recreate the same feelings and emotions that I receive in nature and relive them in my work. My pottery allows me to experience personal memories and express emotions while still allowing the viewer to be able to relate to the forms and functions of the pieces."

Work from these exhibitions can be seen and purchased online beginning Friday, Dec. 5, at midnight.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828-688-3599 or visit (www.crimsonlaurelgallery.com).



Work by Ron Meyers

"Working in clay and making functional pottery has never been a problem for me," says Meyers. "I have never felt the need to dismiss or disregard the concept of function because it was something less than art. I have never found making useful pieces confining or restrictive. In fact, I find that the opposite seems true. The longer I stay involved, the more alternatives and possibilities there are that seem to present themselves. Along with the functional aspects of the piece, I strive to have the end product reflect my own sensitivity and awareness to the material itself and its traditions. The pieces that I'm most pleased with are those that come closest to best integrating the form and surface, the spontaneity and fluidity of the clay along with the object's use."

In the exhibit *Soda Works*, Carolanne Currier, shows that "It's Never Too Late!" to start a new career.

After a full career in the health field, Currier explains, "I discovered the joy of clay. I have been making pots for about 9 years. I enjoy making functional and decorative high-fired work, and have discovered that atmospheric firings (firings where heat is created by a flame that travels through the kiln) give me the look that pleases me the most. I like pots with a natural form and surface - pots that retain evidence of their plastic clay origin, and whose slips and earthy shino glazes record the path of the flame and the effects of prolonged heat. My pots are meant to be enjoyed in everyday life; for a cup of tea, a meal, or to hold a bouquet of flowers for the table. My goal is to combine the output of head, hands, and heart to make the ordinary a little more special."

Known for his woodfired functional pieces, each piece of Matt Schiemann's work documents the energy of the fire as it passes through and over his work while in the kiln.

Appalachian State University in Boone, NC, Offers 3 New Exhibits

Appalachian State University in Boone, NC, is presenting three new exhibits including: *Andrew Fullwood: Allurement*, on view in the Mayer Gallery, West Wing, from Dec. 5 through Mar. 21, 2015; *Tanja Softić*, on view in Gallery A, West Wing, Dec. 5 through Mar. 21, 2015; and *Les Caison III: The Things That Move Us Forward*, on view in Gallery B, West Wing, Dec. 5 through Mar. 21, 2015.

Originally a psychologist, sculptor Andrew Fullwood is a master carver from a family of five generations of furniture makers, originally from Hickory, NC.

"I'm known as the one who can't

make furniture," says Fullwood, humorously. "I grew up with equally compelling interests in art and nature, the latter of which lead to a career as a physician," says Fullwood.

Fullwood is a self-taught craftsman. "The processes and cycles (including attractions, instincts, birth, death) of natural creation are astonishing to me, as well as how life has so gorgeously diversified. Expressing elements of these cycles and creation of living things, whether they be a seed pod or a pregnant woman is a recurrent theme in my works," says

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