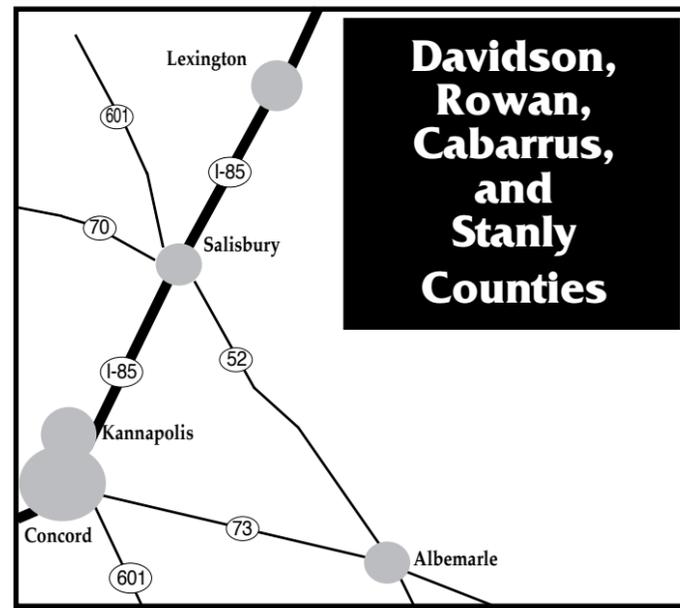
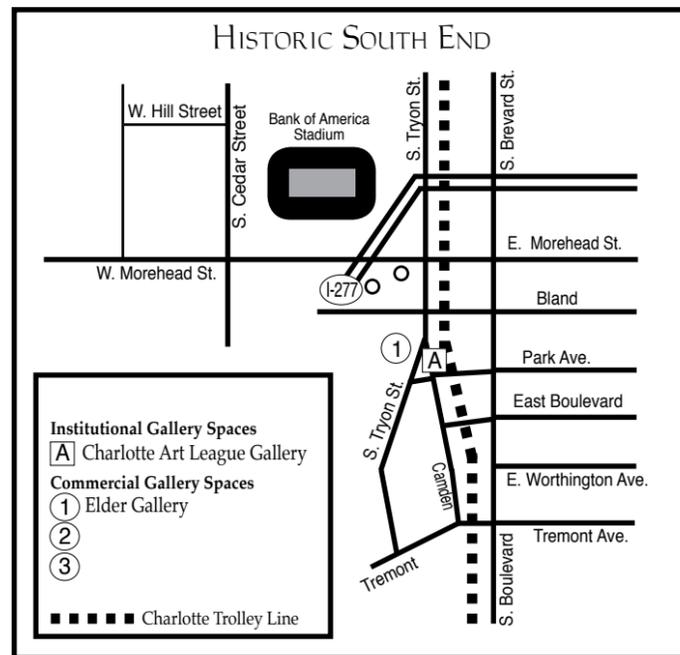


Charlotte, NC Maps

Uptown - South End & North



LACA in Charlotte, NC

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work on a wide scale for over ten years. During this time she has received many honors, including a grant from the New York Council for the Arts, and a prestigious Painting Fellowship from The New York Foundation of the Arts. She has had exhibitions in New York, Boston, Tokyo, and Mexico. Her work is in the collections of the Dana Farber Institute, HPFRANCE Tokyo, The Mint Museum in Charlotte, and the United States Art in Embassies Program. She lives and works in upstate New York.



Work by Cristina Toro

worldwide influence in contemporary art, and offers an engaging, artistic environment for cross-cultural dialogue and education. This effort is particularly important for the Charlotte region, an area with an ever-expanding diverse population and which is steadily gaining importance in the international fine arts industry.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Project at 704/837-1688 or visit (www.lacaprojects.com).

Latin American Contemporary Art (LaCa) Projects was founded in March of 2013 as the first platform in the Southeastern region of the United States dedicated solely to the presentation, development and promotion of Latin American contemporary art. With locations in both Charlotte and Buenos Aires, the gallery represents a small group of influential emerging and mid-career artists and also exhibits a broader range of works by established and Master artists. Through its exhibitions, LaCa Projects presents and shares works that broadly exemplify Latin America's significant, ongoing and

Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts+Culture in Charlotte, NC, Offers Four New Exhibitions

The Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts+Culture in Charlotte, NC, is presenting four new exhibits including: *Jordan Casteel: Harlem Notes*, *Zun Lee: Father Figure*, *Alison Saar: The Nature of Us*, and *The Future is Abstract*, all on view through July 8, 2017.

Jordan Casteel: Harlem Notes, is an exhibition of recent paintings by Harlem based artist, Jordan Casteel. The exhibition combines her exterior portraits with details

that explore intimacy and the document.

Each painting hints toward a treasure trove of stories and memories shared between Casteel and her subject. Perhaps as much autobiographical as observational, Casteel's paintings are imbued with the tenderness of her gaze. Family, neighbors, patrons - all enter her studio via a photographic snapshot captured in the specificity of their space before being projected in

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paint onto the surface that immortalizes. Resting with grandeur on the canvas, the subjects penetrate in a scale that is just slightly larger than life.

Through color, Casteel both embraces and push backs against signifiers of blackness revealing a multiplicity in tone and hue that feels supernatural in its matter-of-factness. Offering a chromatic spectrum that mirrors the complexity of being and circumvents any singular reading, these works tease what is familiar while chronicling what is lived in that very moment.

Building a tapestry of structure and dimension through a weaving of loose and tightly knit brush strokes, Casteel builds upon the canvas' plain surface an orchestra of color and texture. With the application of paint not unlike the caress of a familiar hand.



Alison Saar, *Weight*, 2012, Courtesy of the Artist and L.A. Louver Gallery

Casteel (b. 1989 in Denver, CO) received her BA from Agnes Scott College in Decatur, GA, for Studio Art (2011) and her MFA in Painting and Printmaking from Yale School of Art in New Haven, CT (2014). She has been an artist-in-residence at Yaddo, Saratoga Springs, NY, (2015) Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Process Space, Governors Island, NY, (2015), The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY (2015), and is currently an awardee for The Sharpe-Walentas Studio Program, DUMBO, NY (2016). Casteel is an Assistant Professor at Rutgers University-Newark. She currently lives and works in New York, NY and is



Brenna Youngblood, *Two Can Win*, 2013, Courtesy of the Artist and Honor Fraser Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

represented by Casey Kaplan, NY.

Zun Lee: Father Figure is at once documentary photography and personal visual storytelling. Through intimate black-and-white frames, the aim is to provide insight into often-overlooked aspects of Black fatherhood.

The project offers a close-up view into the lives of Black men with whom Zun Lee worked closely since 2011 and who are parenting under a variety of circumstances - as married and single fathers, social fathers, young and older, middle class and poorer. The everyday scenes bring into focus what pervasive father absence stereotypes have distorted - real fathers who are involved in their children's lives in very individual and specific ways. Men who may not be perfect but are not media caricatures.

The work quietly exposes the viewer to aspects of Black male identity and masculinity that many have not seen, or perhaps do not want to see. It shows these men not as victims of their circumstances but as empowered agents in their own lives, as capable parents, and above all as loving, wholesome human beings.

Alison Saar: The Nature of Us explores themes of motherhood, the role of women, the intensity of their hearts, and their embodiment as nature by highlighting the works of renowned artist Alison Saar.

Saar is one of the most acclaimed contemporary artists practicing in the United

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