

City Art in Columbia, SC, Features Works by Jen Spaker

City Art in Columbia, SC, is presenting *Landscapes Across the South*, featuring works by Jen Spaker, on view through Mar. 21, 2020.

“For 2020, I decided to try something new - creating large landscape paintings,” said Spaker. “Many of these paintings were adapted from smaller plein air or ‘on location’ sketches and paintings. Others are of scenes I photographed while taking evening walks or on long drives. While I’ve painted large paintings before, I’ve never done an entire show of paintings of this scale.”



Work by Jen Spaker

“A lot of these paintings are based on scenes from The Lowcountry of South Carolina or the Fort Mill and Rock Hill, SC area. The *October River* is the Catawba River in Rock Hill. The *Golden Spice* and *Field Day* paintings are from the wooded trails around Fort Mill. I like to paint my surroundings and since I recently moved from Fort Mill to the Charleston area, I’ve had lots of new exposure to Lowcountry scenery. *Evening Pond* is a scene from the ponds around my temporary apartment in Mount Pleasant, SC, prior to moving into my permanent home in the same town. Other South Carolina scenes are represented in *Old Marion Road* from the Florence area and in *Gervais Street Bridge* from here in Columbia.”

“Sometimes I like to take a break from landscapes. The barn paintings come from scenes in Virginia and West Virginia photographed during drives to Pittsburgh, PA, to visit my extended family. The Converse



Work by Jen Spaker

sneakers may seem a bit out of place with all the landscapes but come from a fun personal story that I’d be happy to tell you,” adds Spaker.

“I paint a lot of still life as well, but that’s for another show. I paint in both oil and acrylic which creates a different effect. I love the colors and softness of oil paint, but also love the fast-drying acrylics because I can paint quickly, and the clean-up is so easy. I’m often more attracted to the shapes, shadows and design of a scene rather than the actual subject matter. I enjoy painting directly from life and feel strongly that it makes me a better painter. I drag my easel outside in all types of weather and just paint, paint, paint.”

“I’ve always been a painter and am largely self-taught,” says Spaker. “I have degrees in nursing and psychology and for a while tried to forget about painting to focus on a more ‘practical’ career but kept coming back to it. I’ve worked part-time and raised three daughters with my husband, Dave. I’ve always made time for art and now have a lot more time to invest in painting. I’ve taken many workshops with top artists and travel to the Plein Air South convention in Apalachicola, FL, every year. I find inspiration working alongside other artists, enjoy experimenting with different styles and the process of bringing ideas to life on canvas.”

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 803/252-3613 or visit (cityartonline.com).

Stormwater Studios in Columbia Offers Works by Laurie McIntosh

Stormwater Studios in Columbia, SC, will present *Beautiful Swimmers*, featuring works by Laurie McIntosh, on view from Feb. 27 through Mar. 8, 2020. A reception will be held on Feb. 28, from 5-8pm.

The exhibition features a collection of more than a dozen, mostly large-format, oil paintings in addition to a brilliant display of papier mâché life from the sea.

Formerly of Vista Studios/Gallery 80808 from 2010 until 2016, McIntosh founded Northlight Studio in Camden, SC, in 2016 where she currently works and paints. McIntosh is a SC native who earned a BA in Fine Art from the University of SC in 1982 and went on to train at the Center for Creative Imaging, Penland School of Crafts, and more.



Work by Laurie McIntosh

Previous noteworthy exhibitions include *All the In-Between: My Story of Agnes*, which served as the inspiration



Work by Laurie McIntosh

for an annotated art book written by the artist in 2012, the *SC State Museum 30th Anniversary Juried Exhibition* in 2019, and a number of juried and invitational solo and group shows throughout SC. In 2019 McIntosh was commissioned to create public art for the “Art Bus” for Comet Public Transportation, also in Columbia, and, in 2018, she exhibited a solo show, *Environmental and Poetic Abstractions* at the Fine Arts Center of Kershaw County.

An aquaphile by nature, the artist’s concept for the exhibition *Beautiful Swimmers* came from her passion for weightlessness and the freedom from physical and mental burden it implies. “My mom made me take synchronized swimming when I was a kid in Greenville, SC,” McIntosh says, and images of the art form appear in this collection. Recognizable

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figures from her 2012 series *All the In Between* also reappear.

“Upon the winding down of my last series, *Environmental Abstractions*,” she continues, “I had a strong desire to simplify my images, introduce more pattern and invent more space within the painting. In the process of sketching and pushing these ideas around, figures, pattern, and open spaces began to make the images feel very light and weightless and my swimmers began to immerse.”

McIntosh’s *Beautiful Swimmers* offers the viewer a world of two-legged, four-legged and no-legged creatures expressed through an assortment of art mediums, inviting the viewer to suspend gravity and dive into an art setting where their terrestrial troubles will temporarily float away.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call the Studios at 803/661-9357 or visit (www.stormwaterstudios.org)

Arts Center of Kershaw County in Camden, SC, Features Works by Caroline Waterman & Ginger Wagoner

The Arts Center of Kershaw County in Camden, SC, will present *Intimacies*, featuring works by Caroline Waterman and Ginger Wagoner, on view in the Bassett Gallery, from Feb. 7 - 28, 2020. A reception will be held on Feb. 7, from 5:30-7pm.

Caroline Waterman grew up in Dublin Ireland. She moved to the United States in 1986 and lives in Charlotte, NC, with her husband and three children. She took film photography classes in Dublin in the 1980’s and again in Boston. She completed her BFA in Photography from UNCC in the spring of 2016.

During her time at UNCC Waterman explored various historic processes and concentrates on large format analog photography. She specializes in Silver Gelatin Lith and Platinum Palladium printing. Her work deals with the themes of memory and loss and she has drawn on her connections to family, heritage and place as inspiration.

Waterman has conducted workshops on Lith printing at UNCC, at Appalachian State University and at the Light Factory. She has exhibited her work at UNCC and The Photo Place Gallery in Vermont, The South East Center for Photography in Greenville SC, Photosynthesis Gallery in Connecticut and ECU. Waterman



Work by Caroline Waterman

recently had a solo show at Through This Lens Gallery in Durham, NC, in September 2017 and group shows at C3lab and Goodyear Arts in Charlotte, September 2018. Her work has been published in *The Hand* magazine and *Lightleaked*.

Waterman offers the following artist statement: “This work is an attempt to document a sense of presence and

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