



Groewood Gallery in Asheville

continued from Page 24

family members in Western North Carolina! For more information on Arts For Life, or to make a donation, visit (<http://www.artsforlifenc.org/>).

Established in 1992, Groewood Gallery is nationally recognized for its dedication to fine American art and craft. Located in historic Groewood Village adjacent to The Omni Grove Park Inn, the gallery is noted for its charming, old-world setting and rich craft heritage. This site once housed the weaving and woodworking operations of Biltmore Industries, an Arts and Crafts enterprise - originally backed by Edith Van-

derbilt - that played a significant role in the Appalachian Craft Revival during the early 20th century.

Today, Groewood Gallery offers two expansive floors of finely crafted furniture, ceramics, jewelry and more, contributed by over 400 artists and craftspeople from across the United States. The gallery also boasts an outdoor sculpture garden and presents rotating exhibitions throughout the year.

For more info check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/253-7651 or visit (www.groewood.com).

Asheville Gallery of Art in Asheville, NC, Features Works by Karen Keil Brown & Gayle Havens

Asheville Gallery of Art in Asheville, NC, will present *A Visual Contemplation: Land, Sea and Sky*, a dual presentation of works by Karen Keil Brown and Gayle Havens, on view from Apr. 1 - 30, 2019. A reception will be held on Apr. 5, from 5-8pm.

Their complementary styles showcase a breadth of vision and technique in landscape painting.

Karen Keil Brown seeks to discover a delicate balance between earth and sky, realism and abstraction. "I try to focus the viewer's vision on a moment of serenity to reveal an elemental and transcendent dance between atmosphere and light." The artist says she paints with an intuitive and expressive brushstroke.

Brown continues to experiment with new techniques by taking workshops and classes at the Arts Student League of New York in New York City. She creates her paintings using either acrylic or oil paints on canvas, while maintaining the meditative freedom and breath of her signature mark and style in either medium. "In the series for the show, I approach my landscape paintings with a brush and palette knife, bringing texture and energy to the canvas," says Brown. She primarily paints in her studio in the River Arts District.

Originally from New Jersey, Brown was raised in Asheville. She and her husband have three grown artistic daughters, she has worked as a professional artist for over



Work by Karen Keil Brown

30 years. She received her BA in Fine Arts from the University of North Carolina, Asheville, where she now serves as a Board Trustee. Brown is also an avid supporter of Arts for Life. Her paintings are found in numerous private and corporate collections and have been in exhibitions nationwide.

Gayle Havens says, "I paint in a representational and impressionistic manner, striving for simplicity, directness of brushstroke, and to honor the integrity of the subject. Landscapes and seascapes are primary sources for my inspiration. I am also drawn to quiet places where nature meets human artifacts and creates an enduring sense of place."

In order to honor the integrity and harmony of a subject, the artist says, she strives to capture its unique atmospheric quality and color; referred to by Impressionists as the "envelope of light." Havens uses a limited palette in each painting, often preferring muted, earth-colored pigments rather than more saturated colors to convey this atmosphere. Watercolors are her medium of choice. "They have utterly captivated my imagination with their transparent, fluid, and spontaneous attributes," says Havens.

Havens, a new member of Asheville Gallery of Art, studied studio art and art history as an undergraduate at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro and the University of New Mexico. She set aside painting for many years to run a business and raise a family, returning to it in 2006. Havens is a Signature Member of the Baltimore Watercolor Society and Virginia Watercolor Society, a juried member of the Women Painters of the Southeast, and a member of the Pennsylvania Watercolor Society, the



Work by Gayle Havens

Southern Watercolor Society, and American Watercolor Society.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/251-5796 or visit (www.ashevillegallery-of-art.com).

Spring has Sprung at Mica Cooperative Gallery in Bakersville, NC

Mica is ready for spring and so is Bakersville, NC. Come by on Apr. 4, our reopening day or join us downtown Apr. 5, 2019, from 4-7pm, for the first Bakersville Art Walk of 2019. Once again, the members of Mica, the contemporary craft cooperative in downtown Bakersville, have worked together to present a lovely collection of local fine contemporary craft.

2019 brings two new members to the long-standing craft venture: Sondra Dorn and Terry Gess. Both are well-established studio artists in Western North Carolina.

Dorn is no stranger to Mica - the gallery has shown her work over previous seasons. She's been repeatedly impressed with the quality of everyone's work, and the gorgeous way that everything is displayed at Mica. She looks forward to sharing her latest two-dimensional multi-layered wall work - variously comprised of fabric, thread, scissors and glue, paper and paints, pencils and pens, paint and acrylic mediums.

Terry Gess, who is married to Mica artist Carmen Grier, joins the gallery with his work in stoneware pottery. Over the past decade, Gess has developed a new palette of beautiful glazes and surfaces on pottery for the kitchen and the home. His work will enhance the strong collection of craft that Mica proudly displays.

This Spring, Mica will continue its popular showcase of visiting artists. From Apr. 4 to June 17, 2019, Bryant Holsenbeck, the Durham, NC, environmental artist will present a glimpse into the results of her wide-ranging pursuit of environmental activism



Work by Terry Gess

through art. Using found and recycled materials along with her deep willingness to experiment and explore, Holsenbeck offers a vivid sculptural artist-interpretation of the animals and natural world all around us. In support of her exhibit, Holsenbeck will present a short reading from her recently published book of essays, *The Last Straw: A Continuing Quest for Life without Disposable Plastic* on Apr. 5, 2019 at 4:15pm. Her presentation provides reflections on environmental initiatives, tips for living with a reduced plastic footprint, and artistic inspiration for the journey.

Mica showcases the craft work of its 15
continued on Page 26
Carolina Arts, April 2019 - Page 25