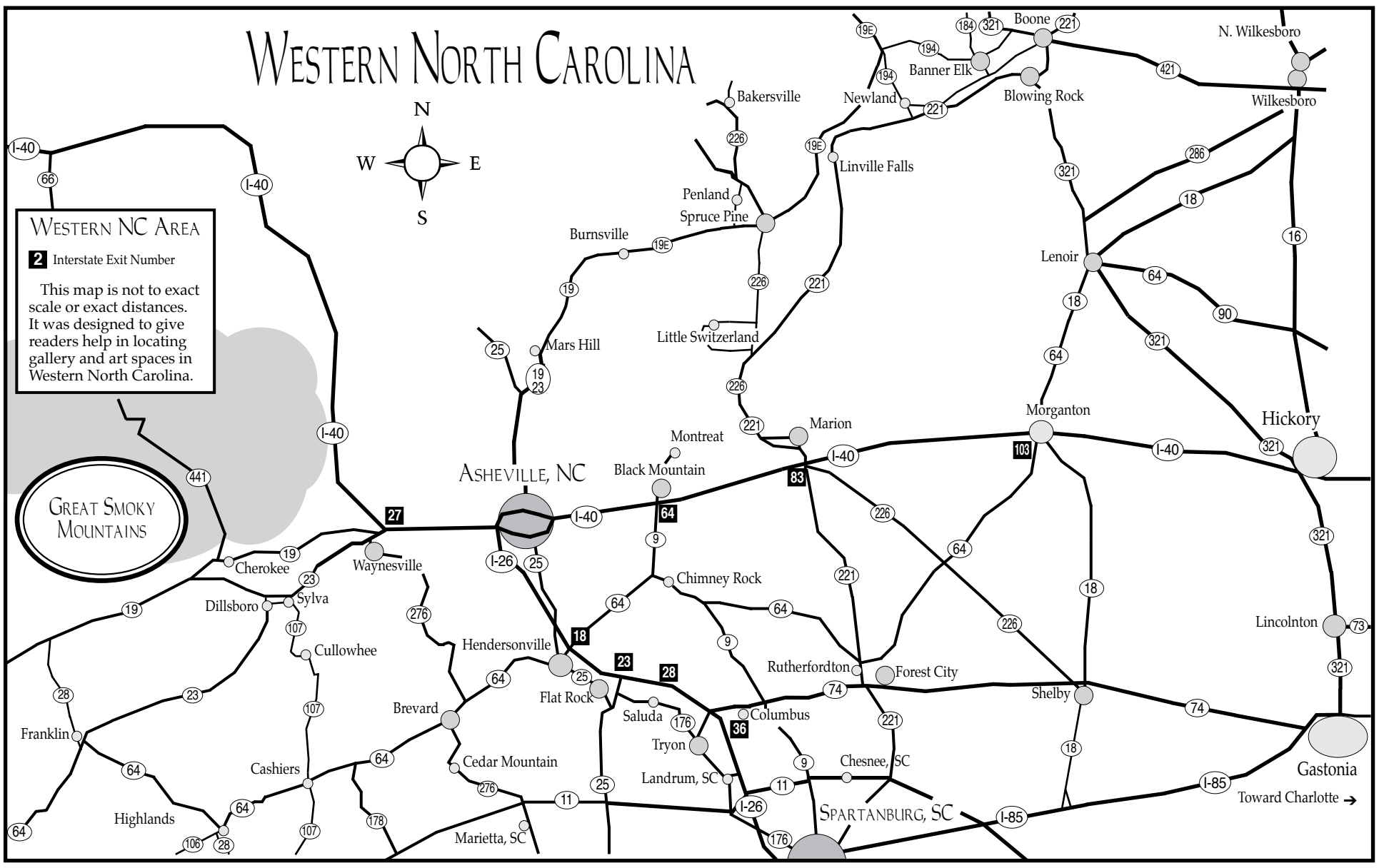

Asheville Art Museum

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and Gijs Bakker, among others.

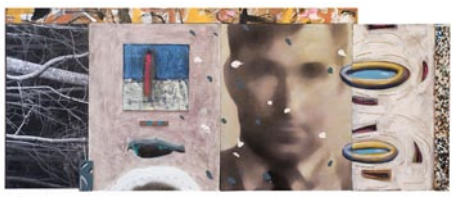
This exhibition is organized by the Asheville Art Museum, with special thanks to the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

The Museum thanks the Farago Family Foundation for their generous sponsorship of this exhibition and Jim and Julia Peterson for their support.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (www.ashevilleart.org).

Asheville Area Arts Council Features Works by Mark Flowers

Asheville Area Arts Council in Asheville, NC, will present *Working Memory*, featuring mixed media paintings by Asheville artist Mark Flowers, on view in the Asheville Area Arts Council Gallery located in the Grove Arcade, from May 7 through June 15, 2015. A reception will be held on June 5, from 5-8pm.



"The Preacher's Fall" by Mark Flowers, 22" (h) x 54" (w) mixed media

"My work has many layers; formally, it is about shape, objective and non-objective imagery existing in the same field," says Flowers. "The interaction of image, shape, and surface appeals to me. Conceptually, they are about telling small stories of insight. I see my work as visual poetry making sense of the world around me."

"The title of the show, *Working Memory* is a response to past memories rising to the surface. Art has a way of making the best ideas permanent while others are lost to a short term level of importance," adds Flowers.

Flowers' mixed media works on wood combine found objects, manipulated surfaces and imagery. He has a BFA from University of South Carolina and an MFA from Western Michigan University. He has had 28 one-person exhibitions of his work starting with one at the Asheville Art Museum in 1980. Flowers' work can be found in many public institutions and over 300 private collections. He has exhibited regionally, nationally and internationally.

Flowers and his artist/wife, Kristy Higby own "Mountain Tea Studios" located in the community of Alexander, just north of Asheville.

The Asheville Area Arts Council is one of the oldest arts councils in the country. Formed from a working committee of the Junior League, the Civic Arts Council (CAC) was incorporated in 1952. Staffed by volunteers, the CAC kept files and held meetings in the facilities of member organizations. As a member organization, it created an annual ball, the Beaux Arts, to celebrate the volunteers of local agencies.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings or call the Council at 828/258-0710.

Grovewood Gallery in Asheville, NC, Offers Works by John Jordan

The Grovewood Gallery in Asheville, NC, will present *Surface & Texture: The Work of John Jordan*, on view from May 23 through Aug. 30, 2015. A reception will be held on May 23, from 3-6pm. May 23 - August 30, 2015

Grovewood Gallery is honored to host a solo exhibition for award-winning woodturner John Jordan. The Nashville, TN, artist, known primarily for his textured and carved hollow vessels, will have 30+ pieces on display in *Surface & Texture: The Work of John Jordan*.

Jordan was made an Honorary Lifetime Member of the American Association of Woodturners in recognition of his contributions to the growth of the wood-

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turning field. His work can be found in many prestigious permanent collections, including the White House Collection of American Crafts in Washington, DC, the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian American Art Museum, and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, England.

Jordan makes simple but finely detailed vessels. Initially turned on the lathe, each piece is then carved and textured, using a variety of different hand and small powered tools. This texturing process is very labor intensive, and can take as much as several days to weeks to complete. There is little room for error during this carving - one small slip can ruin the piece.

"Manipulating the color and patterns in the wood to complement the form, and the texturing and carving to create visual and tactile contrasts are important parts of the process and the result," says Jordan. "These pieces are simply decorative vessels that reflect my interest in surface textures/contrasts and form, and the personal responses that I have to them, which I suspect are similar to the feelings that makers of objects have felt for thousands of years."

Jordan says that he is "inspired by many natural things – trees, rock formations, coral reefs – since all of these things exhibit pattern, texture, etc." He also draws inspiration from "ethnic objects such as pots, weavings and baskets."

The woods Jordan uses for his vessels are from dumps, construction sites, or downed trees from storms and old age. He says he "finds great satisfaction in creating elegant objects from material that was destined to be buried or burned."

Occasionally, Jordan even picks up woods in his travels (also dump woods). "There are a few pieces in the show made from woods from Hawaii, Texas, California, and Florida, but there is no endangered, exotic wood used. Walnut, maple, cherry, ash and oak are some of the woods I use the most."

Work by John Jordan

Grovewood Gallery is a family owned, fine crafts destination that showcases traditional and contemporary crafts, all handmade by American artisans. The gallery is located in a beautiful, historic setting adjacent to The Omni Grove Park Inn in North Asheville. Also located on the Grovewood grounds are the Estes-Winn Antique Car Museum, the North Carolina Homespun Museum, and Grovewood Studios (working artist studios).

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

Woolworth Walk in Asheville, NC, Offers Work by Ann & Sandy Batton

Woolworth Walk in Asheville, NC, will present *Batton Clayworks*, featuring works by Ann and Sandy Batton, on view in the FW Front Gallery, from May 1 - 30, 2015. A reception will be held on May 1, from 5-7pm.

Potters Ann and Sandy Batton of Batton Clayworks are a husband and wife team, creating handmade pottery together for over ten years. Their story began by meeting in the middle. Sandy is from the tiny town of Port Gibson, MS, and Ann grew up in the suburbs of FairFax, VA. Along the way and a few years after graduating college, they met in Asheville, NC, in the year 2000.

The two started making pottery together in a tiny, unheated shed. A wheel, an electric kiln, a table and shelves were squeezed into the space. They had to store their clay and glazes in the kitchen, so the chemicals would not freeze. Firing the kiln was also a challenge because they could not run the stove simultaneously. As Ann and Sandy's relationship and ideas blossomed, so did the business.

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