



## The University of North Carolina at Asheville, in Asheville, NC, Offers Award Winning Photographs

Winning photographs from UNC Asheville's Study Abroad Program's annual international photo contest will be on display through May 31, 2016, in the Blowers Gallery in the Ramsey Library in Asheville, NC.

The exhibit features 16 pieces in four categories: cross cultural, nature, people, and reflections. The winners of the contest include UNC Asheville students and staff members, Travis Bordley, Brooke Farmer, Annelise Ferry, Anna Gachechiladze, Brianna Ganskopp, Herbert Gunn, Michaela Hall, Alexandra Helms, Grace McLeod, Emily Powell, Forest Wallingford and Lauren Watson.

The exhibit also will include the winner of the second annual Chancellor's Purchase Award, which will be placed on permanent display on campus. This year's winner is "Tunnel Vision," a photograph taken in Scotland by UNC Asheville student Sarah Smith.

The annual international photo contest conducted by UNC Asheville's Study Abroad Program encourages student and faculty travelers to create a photographic record and share their overseas experiences



Work by Sarah Smith

upon their return to Asheville. Each year, more than 120 UNC Asheville students study abroad as part of university programs.

For more info check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Library at 828/251-6436 or visit ([www.library.unca.edu](http://www.library.unca.edu)).

## The Center for Craft, Creativity & Design in Asheville, NC, Features Outside the Box Jewelry Exhibition

The Center for Craft, Creativity & Design in Asheville, NC, is presenting *The Box: A Contemporary Jewelry Challenge*, on view in the Benchspace Gallery & Workshop, through May 21, 2016.

The exhibition was curated by Platforma, a contemporary jewelry initiative conceived by New York City-based curators Bella Neyman and Ruta Reifen.

Today, many jewelry artists are using non-precious materials to create unique wearable works of art. The curators of *The Box* sought to highlight this phenomenon by posing a design challenge to eight American artists.

They chose five materials commonly found at the dollar store and shipped them to the artists, who in turn had to create at least three unique works of wearable art

from them. The materials included a towel, an envelope, a CD-ROM, an eraser, and an aluminum Coca-Cola can. Each material is white in color, representing a metaphorical blank page or canvas for the artists to work on.

"For us this project was unlike anything that we have undertaken before. As curators we always get to choose work that we are familiar with. This project was built on trust - the artists did not know what the materials would be and we did not know what type of work they would make. We were all out of our comfort zone and it was thrilling," said curators Neyman and Reifen.

The materials in *The Box* posed a unique challenge to the artists - some chose to work with all the materials provided, others chose

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to use just one. With little time for experimentation, the artists were challenged to learn new techniques and decide whether to incorporate other materials, both foreign and familiar to them with a resulting body of work that is unexpected and strong. While all eight artists were given the same "blank page," they all produced pieces reflecting their distinct style of work.

"CCCD is excited to bring *The Box* to an Asheville audience," said Assistant Director Marilyn Zapf. "The innovation and creativity apparent in how each artist approached the challenge is inspiring."

Featured artists include: Joshua Kosker, Bruce Metcalf, Timothy Veske-McMahon, Mary Hallam-Pearse, Biba Schutz, Demitra Thomlousis, Vincent Pontillo- Verrastro, and Aric Verrastro.

*The Box* originated in Munich, Germany where it was part of Munich Jewelry Week from Feb. 25 - 28, 2016. The exhibition included the work of Bruce Metcalf (USA), Timothy Veske-McMahon (USA), Demi Thomlousis (USA), Réka Lörinz (HU), Sofia Björkman (SE), and Gisbert Stach (DE) and was a collaboration with Munich-based

Galerie Biro Junior.

Benchspace will be open late on Thursday, May 19, from 6-10pm, for The Society of North American Goldsmiths' annual Gallery Crawl during the SNAGNeXt conference. Explore metals-inspired and craft exhibitions while walking around the heart of Asheville, enjoying the vibrant arts community this Southern city is known for. All are welcome.

Founded in 1996, The Center for Craft, Creativity & Design (CCCD) is a national 501c3 nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the field of craft through fostering new ideas, funding craft scholarship, and backing the next generation of makers, curators and critics. CCCD has developed a strong national reputation as a significant resource for artists, museums, academic researchers, university students and arts organizations. Each year, CCCD administers over a quarter million dollars in grants to those working in the craft field.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 828/785-1357 or visit ([www.craftcreativitydesign.org](http://www.craftcreativitydesign.org)).

You can contact us by calling 843.693.1306.

The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be May 24th for the June 2016 issue and June 24 for the July 2016 issue.

After that, it's too late unless your exhibit runs into the next month. But don't wait for the last minute - send your info now.

And where do you send that info?  
E-mail to ([info@carolinaarts.com](mailto:info@carolinaarts.com)).