

Hampton County Arts Council in Hampton, SC, Features Works by Gina Moore and Emrie Trent

Hampton County Arts Council in Hampton, SC, is presenting two new exhibits including: a large collection of mixed media pieces by Columbia, SC, artist Gina Moore, on view in the Stanley Arts Center and an exhibit of paintings by local artist, Emrie Trent, on view in the Palmetto Gallery, located in the Palmetto Theater. Both exhibits will be on view through June 5, 2021. A Meet and Greet with the artists will be held on May 1, beginning at 7pm. Light refreshments will be offered and wine will be available for a cash donation. Admission is free.

Initially, Gina Moore was formally trained as a painter, and always loved the tactile qualities of paint and canvas. Moore earned her BFA painting from the University of South Carolina, followed by an MA in illustration from Syracuse University, and a MFA in Painting, again from USC.



Work by Gina Moore

Half of the work in the Hampton showcase is nonobjective and formalistic, integrating the juxtaposition of shapes, colors and textures to create tensions of surfaces and other formal elements using a mix of 2D and 3D elements and materials.

These nonobjective works stand in contrast to works on the other side of the gallery from Moore's "Heredity Series." These works are derived from vintage family photos, recapturing nostalgic memories and personal reflections. Group and individual portraits are rendered using mixed media and/or graphite on various found and repurposed objects/surfaces, many reclaimed from antique furniture. Most pieces begin with a gouache under painting, and worked over with graphite and/or colored pencils. Some works are embellished with stenciled patterns, typography, and incorporate collage.

"We take great pride in being one of the



Work by Gina Moore

only fine art venues in this part of the state and remain committed to presenting fine art of the highest caliber. We are excited to present this exhibit to the community," said John Wright, Hampton County Arts Council vice-chair and curator of Hampton's two county owned galleries. They are located at 109 & 105 Lee Avenue, in the heart of downtown Hampton, SC.



Work by Emrie Trent

Next door, in the adjacent Palmetto Gallery, an exhibit by local artist Emrie Trent will be on display. Trent is an emerging artist who is exhibiting her work for the first time. She favors whimsical elements and local scenes painted in acrylic on canvas or on found objects, like antique records.

The exhibits will be open by appointment, Tue.-Fri., by calling 803/842-9842 or e-mailing to (Hamptoncountyarts@gmail.com). Additional evening and weekend open house dates will be posted on the arts council website.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (www.HamptonCountyArts.org).

Artists Collective | Spartanburg, SC, Features Works by Jim Weber

Artists Collective | Spartanburg, SC, will present *Bowls: Imagine Life Without Bowls*, featuring works by Jim Weber, on view in Gallery III, from May 4 - 29, 2021.

Jim Weber can't imagine a world without bowls, and he's spent his life creating them to make sure they remain.

"Bowls would have been the first of utilitarian vessel forms," says the artist, a native of Greenville, SC. "Everybody uses bowls, from the poorest 'disposable' tea-bowl to the most elegantly displayed tureen. Life as we know it would not function without the simple bowl."

Weber has been a full-time potter most of his life; 2021 is the 50th year of his making the vessels from clay.

Visitors to the exhibit will see bowls of varying shapes and sizes of decorative and functional purposes. "The tens of thousands I've made before these have a major part in the making of these that will be on display." Those in the exhibit will be available for purchase, ranging in price from \$10 to \$200 or more.

Weber was inspired to do the exhibit because "I'm good at making bowls. I have spent the most time at my wheel, making bowls, these past 50 years. Bowls are the first firings of basically every beginning pottery student. Bowls can connect a lot of visual space, and so, are a very practical means of decorating large modern rooms in home or office."

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Works by Jim Weber

As a young child, Weber watched local potters demonstrate their skills at a local arts festival. "The community would have to survive with one less fireman or policeman or doctor or whatever. I wanted to be a potter.

"My pots are for the most part vessels," he adds. "The potters of my earliest memories made traditional, utilitarian sorts of pots. Those influences shaped me into the potter I am today as surely as I shape my own work. Function, form and color are my primary considerations when potting. I rarely embellish or sculpt artistic designs as an act of creative composition. I use clay more as a building material than as a canvas on which to paint - less artist, more engineer."

Weber says the trend in pottery today seems to lean heavily toward objects of art

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that happen to be made of clay with increasingly less emphasis on traditional utilitarian forms. "While I celebrate the former, I regret the loss of the latter," he says.

The bowls in the exhibit are "a continuing refinement of the same forms I've made my entire life, with their origin all linked by the main qualities - function, form and color. I expect these pots will be some of the best work I've ever done. I hope so."

His work often has been described as "'pretty' and 'so functional,' and every so often 'well-made.' Sometimes all of the above," he says. "It is always gratifying and sometimes, even humbling."

Weber, who has been a member of the

Artists Collective | Spartanburg, SC, Offers Works by Local Artist Bailie

The Artists Collective | Spartanburg, SC, will present *In the Midst of a Trauma*, which explores mental illness by local artist Bailie, on view in the Solomon Gallery, from May 4 - 29, 2021.

Well-known Spartanburg artist Bailie's abusive childhood - one without a father figure - profoundly affected his life, leading to his seeking therapy, which in turn inspired him to put the spotlight on mental illness through his art.

Bailie hopes viewers of the 42-piece exhibit will get an insight into several different mental illnesses as well as his own journey to recovery.

"I hope the show encourages people to come forward with their illnesses and not hide them," says Bailie, a volunteer at the Artists Collective. "I want the exhibit to let them know it's ok to have a mental illness and it's not something to be held in the dark any longer. I hope by people seeing me come forward, it will convince them to, as well. I want to help people feel comfortable talking about it."

For the project, Bailie interviewed six people, all with different mental disorders. "For each subject there will be an encaustic painting of them as well as a 12-question interview," he explains. "There also will be sculptural representations of their disorders along with statistics and information about each. All who were interviewed were pre-screened by a professional therapist."

Also included will be a display showing how Bailie's own trauma evolved and affected him throughout his life. These will include paintings, drawings and multimedia pieces. "My hope is that by revealing my own experience, others will be inspired to get treatment instead of spending a lifetime in anguish."



Work by Bailie

The local community is supporting the project with several public and private donations, which Bailie hopes will make it possible for the multimedia works to become a traveling exhibit reaching more people. The Carolina Center for Behavioral

Artists Collective | Spartanburg, SC, Features Works by Patrick DeCrane and Gale Roberts

The Artists Collective | Spartanburg, SC, will present *Reflections and Substance*, featuring works by veteran artist Patrick DeCrane and relative newcomer to the art scene Gale Roberts, on view in Gallery II, from May 4 - 29, 2021. A reception will be held on May 20, from 5-9pm.

The exhibition should provide viewers with a window into the everyday world as

Artists Collective | Spartanburg since 2019, says that during his lifetime of making and selling pottery, "I've been to many different towns and cities that all had some local, obvious extension of the artist community within. I'd never seen the like until I first walked in the doors of ACS."

The Artists Collective | Spartanburg, located on W. Main Street, provides a forum and home for the arts and creative population of Spartanburg, providing facilities and services to artist members for exhibits, performances and creation.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (artistscollectivespartanburg.org).



Work by Bailie

Health and Mental Health American of Spartanburg County also are supporting and donating to the exhibit.

The works are a departure from Bailie's usual works. "Normally my work is dark, fun and whimsical, but never expressions of emotions," he says "This is the first body I have ever done from my soul expressing how I feel inside."

"If I save one person, I win," he adds.

Bailie, a Georgia native, owns Bailie Studios in Spartanburg. He is on the South Carolina Arts Commission roster of approved artists in education, a former resident artist at the South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind and former assistant director of the Colors program at the Spartanburg Art Museum. He has taught publicly and privately for 20 years and currently is an adjunct professor at Wofford College.

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well as a reflection of what's beyond, the Upstate artists say. The exhibition includes watercolors by DeCrane and acrylic paintings by Roberts.

"There are often reflections in everything we see each day, and we don't notice them," says DeCrane. "Stop. Look closely. What reflections do you see beyond your initial

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