

Cherokee Alliance of Visual Artists in Gaffney, SC, Features Works by Lowcountry Artist Natalie Daise

The Cherokee Alliance of Visual Artists (CAVA) in Gaffney, SC, will present *Rice, Queens and Collard Greens*, featuring paintings by Lowcountry artist, Natalie Daise, on view in the Gaffney Visitors Center's CAVA Art Gallery, from May 8 through June 30, 2021. A closing reception will be held on June 30, from 5-7pm. The public is invited. Masks and social distancing will be expected.

The show will include 18 paintings, including several smaller and a few larger works. Much of her work explores the rich traditions of her African-American heritage and Gullah Geechee communities. According to CAVA's exhibit committee her style depends on bold images and makes bold statements.

For more than 30 years, Daise has developed and facilitated interactive learning experiences for educators, students, and audiences in schools, universities, conferences, and other venues. Her belief in the positive power of stories is demonstrated in her speaking as well as in the performing and visual arts. A self-taught, visionary artist, Daise's painting and functional art pieces arise from the tradition of storytelling.

She has been married to Ron Daise, her cheerleader, supporter, and committed partner in creativity and life since 1985. They have two children, Sara and Simeon, by birth, and one, Sabrina, by heart. Daise earned a BA degree from Vermont College in 1992 and a MA in the area of Creativity Studies in 2014.

Best known as "Ms. Natalie" on Nick Jr.'s award-winning television program, "Gullah Gullah Island", Daise is committed to making presentations that entertain, educate, empower and inspire.

Daise has received South Carolina's highest honor, The Order of the Palmetto and the South Carolina's Jean Laney Harris Folk Heritage Award, given for lifetime achievement and excellence in folk art.

Daise offers the following Artist's Statement, "A professional storyteller and self-taught artist, my paintings and multi-media



Work by Natalie Daise

art arise from the oral tradition. I explore the continuum of storytelling through the use of various mediums, surfaces, and natural and found materials, allowing the hand and eye to move a story into a place deeper, perhaps, then sound. This exploration reveals what may be hidden behind the words. The process of playing with and discovering what my hands and the materials will do is my spiritual practice and, as such, rises from an intensely personal place. My family of origin as well as the family I have created with my partner are important to this practice. Much of my work explores the rich traditions of the African American and Gullah Geechee communities that nurture my own creativity, as well as the process by which creative action shapes the communities themselves."

The Gaffney Visitors Center and the CAVA Gallery is housed in Gaffney's classical, turn of the century post office on W. Frederick Street in Gaffney. The gallery is open Mon.-Thur., from 8:30am-5pm and Fri., from 8:30am-3:45pm.

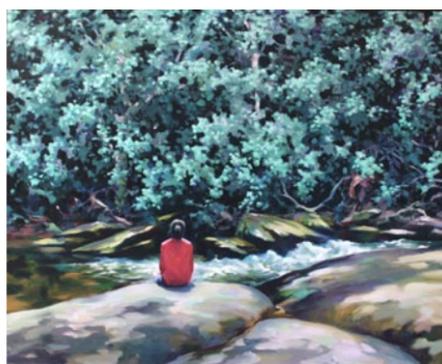
For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call Shelba Cook at 864/490-0609 or call the Visitors Center at 864/487-6244.

Arts Council of York County in Rock Hill, SC, Offers Works by Glen Miller

The Arts Council of York County in Rock Hill, SC, is presenting *Considering the Path*, works by Glen Miller, on view in the Dalton Gallery at the Center for the Arts, through June 13, 2021. A reception will be held on May 6, from 4-7pm.

Miller's current body of work incorporates several interrelated themes drawn from personal experience. The imagery for this work is largely from his experiences wandering the mountain trails and his Southern Appalachian roots. The work reflects Miller's love for natural design and native flora, his interest in the human connection to the natural world, and questioning the often disconnected inventions of culture that we use to give meaning to our lives. Miller's goal is not to record actual experience but to create images which suggest the moment, the remembered, the residual, the elements that become story. Often these are quiet places far removed from the constructs of society.

Miller has a BFA in drawing and painting from East Tennessee State University and an MA in Studio Art and Education from the University of South Florida with further graduate study from the University of Tennessee. A native of East Tennessee, Miller began his teaching career in South Carolina in 1979. He was a public school art teacher for seventeen years, taught adult classes and workshops, and taught at the university level for 20 years. Since his first solo exhibition at Hampton III Gallery in 2003 the artist has had 23 solo exhibitions and has been represented in many group and juried exhibitions and is represented in several personal and academic collections. The artist currently maintains a studio near Trav-



Work by Glen Miller

ers Rest, SC, and is represented locally by Hampton III Gallery in Greenville, SC.

More information can be found at (yorkcountyarts.org/2021consideringthepath).

Exhibits in the Dalton Gallery at the Center for the Arts are sponsored by O'Darby's Fine Wine & Spirits.

While at the Center for the Arts, please wear a facial covering at all times and maintain social distancing. The capacity of the building is limited to 50 visitors. Please schedule an appointment to visit the galleries in advance. Please be advised that the facility may be closed when the capacity reaches the maximum stated limit, for cleaning, and for private appointments. Find updated COVID-19 Visitation Guidelines at (<https://www.yorkcountyarts.org/visit>).

The Center for the Arts is located on East Main Street, in the Cultural District of Downtown Rock Hill.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the County at 803/328-2787 or visit (<http://www.yorkcountyarts.org>).

Jerald Melberg Gallery in Charlotte, NC, Offers Works by Brian Rutenberg



Work by Brian Rutenberg

Jerald Melberg Gallery in Charlotte, NC, will present *BRIAN RUTENBERG: Point of Pine*, on view from May 1 through June 12, 2021.

Jerald Melberg Gallery is pleased to present a solo exhibition of new abstract landscape paintings by Brian Rutenberg. With these new oil paintings on linen and paper, the artist returns once again to his reflections on the landscapes of the South Carolina Lowcountry. This is Rutenberg's eighth solo exhibition with the gallery.

Rutenberg states, "All of the paintings in this new series called 'Point of Pine' are meditations on imaginary trees as seen through veils of South Carolina Lowcountry heat. The solitary tree has been a primary image in my work for forty-five years; my first paintings were watercolors of a loblolly pine near my childhood home in Myrtle Beach... Little did I know, the directness and simplicity of those studies would provide me with a lifetime of imagery."



Work by Brian Rutenberg

A South Carolina native, Rutenberg received a BFA from the College of Charleston and an MFA from the School of Visual Arts in New York City. He was awarded an honorary doctorate from the College of Charleston and delivered the commencement speech in the spring of 2018. Among his numerous awards and achievements, he is a Fulbright Scholar, a New York Foundation for the Arts Fellow and an Irish Museum of Modern Art Work Programme Recipient. Since 1985 Rutenberg has been honored with over 100 gallery and museum exhibitions across the United States, including the Hoyt Center for the Arts (New Castle, PA), Saginaw Art Museum, Saginaw, MI, and Greenville County Museum of Art (SC).

Rutenberg offers the following statement about his exhibition, "Humidity made me a painter. All of the paintings in this new series called Point of Pine are meditations on imaginary trees as seen through veils of South Carolina Lowcountry heat. The solitary tree has been a primary image in my work for forty-five years; my first paintings were watercolors of a loblolly pine near my childhood home in Myrtle Beach, where I spent a lot

of time because I had buck teeth and was horrible at sports. Little did I know, the directness and simplicity of those studies would provide me with a lifetime of imagery."

"I do one thing. All of my paintings begin and end with the same image, a tree trunk and its shadow. That immovable point of contact: a trunk and a shadow moving away from it. The sound of the bell as it leaves the bell. A trunk and its shadow say, 'This is here.' By paying attention and drawing them in detail with pencil on paper, I can respond, 'I am here.'"

"Whenever I walk in the woods, I carry a stick with which to poke and point (a practice gleaned from reading about Walt Whitman). I pretend that my eyes are on the tip of the stick as it tracks across bumpy surfaces, creating a material correspondence between the thing and its relation to me. A tree doesn't follow the laws of perspective but is a complex bundle of overlapping and converging lines which make sense from every viewpoint. Our eyes can't view a tree in a single snapshot, but in hierarchies of information, we notice one thing, then another, and another."

"I compose my landscape paintings with these hierarchies in mind; one thing may appear more important than another but, like a tree, the image must work as a cohesive whole, no matter where you focus. The Western eye is trained to read from left to right. Therefore I compose with this lateral span in mind. My landscape paintings don't rely on linear perspective to establish pictorial depth, but are more akin to Egyptian friezes, in which a wide entablature is decorated with reliefs rhythmically arranged across shallow space. However, rather than a panoramic view from a static vantage point, I want your gaze to travel across the terrain like a tracking shot in a film, as if you're wandering in the woods, not talking, just walking."

"As I move around to the other side of the tree, that which was hidden becomes visible. Likewise, a painting doesn't reveal itself all at once, but in flecks of partial recognition. I love parades and processions for this reason. A procession abandons its starting point. Travel eliminates its origins. We are where we go. I paint because I can never see enough places. So, I return to one. My movement becomes a tree, the tree becomes a thought, and the thought returns me to the wealth of humidity."

Jerald Melberg Gallery is located on South Sharon Amity Road near the intersection with Providence Road.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 704/365-3000 or visit (www.jeraldmelberg.com).

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 2021 issue and June 24 for the July 2021 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).