

Middleton Place & Edmondston-Alston House

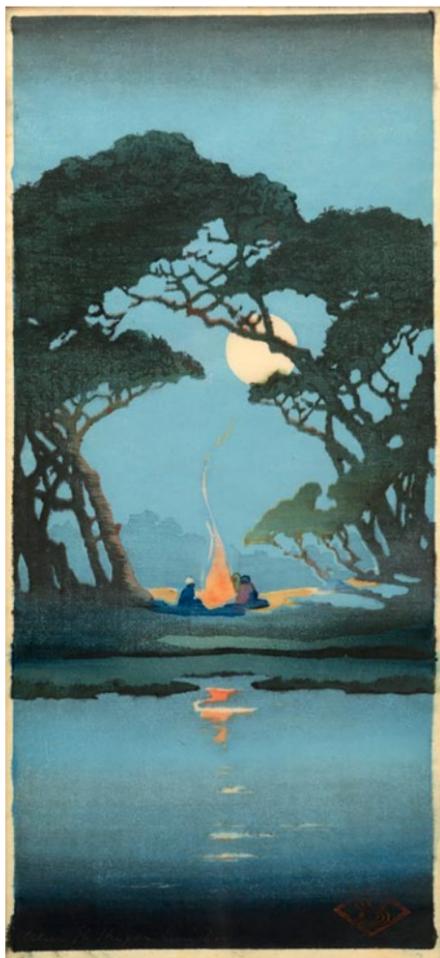
continued from Page 3 / [back to Page 3](#)

Born in 1876, Alice Smith was descended from Henry Middleton, who established Middleton Place, and his son Arthur Middleton, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. As an artist, the Lowcountry's natural environment was a strong pull for Smith, who on a Sunday stroll once walked the 17 miles from Charleston to Middleton Place with her father. Smith referred to Middleton Place as "a jewel thrown down in the green woods," and her vivid depictions of the magnificent oaks and gardens, rice fields and lakes, and Ashley River vistas are among the works that are featured in the book and will be on display in the exhibits.

Along with the exhibits, Middleton Place Foundation will be hosting dialogues and discussions throughout the year with authors, artists, educators, and historians. "The publication of *Alice: Ravenel Huger Smith, Charleston Renaissance Artist* and its accompanying exhibition provide the Foundation an opportunity to continue its mission to educate and engage in conversations about our complicated history," said Tracey Todd, Middleton Place Foundation President and CEO. "Alice Smith was once quoted as saying 'Open the windows of your mind to let in the fresh air.' Alice gives us an opportunity to learn more about ourselves and each other through the exploration of our shared history."

Alice: Alice Ravenel Huger Smith, Charleston Renaissance Artist, written by Dwight McInvaill, Caroline Palmer and Anne Tinker, is published by Evening Post Books in collaboration with Middleton Place Foundation. Available in hardcover for \$60.00 at the Middleton Place store, selected area bookstores, and online at (shop.middletonplace.org), net proceeds from the sale of the book benefit the Foundation.

Middleton Place Foundation, a public, non-profit educational trust, is responsible for the effective operation and preservation of Middleton Place National Historic Landmark and of the Edmondston-Alston House. The Foundation upholds the highest levels of historic preservation, research, education, and inclusive interpretation by sharing the



"Moonlight on the Cooper River", c. 1919, wood-block print on paper, 15 1/8 x 7 inches. Collection of Dr. & Mrs. Louis D. Wright

stories of the Africans, African Americans, and Europeans who lived and worked on these historic properties. Middleton Place Foundation connects people to the past, inspiring a deeper understanding of ourselves and each other through American history.

Middleton Place is located at 4300 Ashley River Road, west of the Ashley in Charleston, SC, 29414.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call 843/556-6020 or visit (middletonplace.org).

City of North Charleston, SC, Offers Works by Christine Bush Roman

The City of North Charleston, SC, is presenting *Loose Parts*, featuring works by Christine Bush Roman, on view at the City's Park Circle Gallery, through May 28, 2021.

The exhibition features new mixed media works by Johns Island based artist Christine Bush Roman, who was the winner of the 2020/21 North Charleston Arts Fest Poster Design Competition and her winning design, *Oak Circus*, will be featured in the exhibition, which is presented as a component of the annual North Charleston Arts Fest.

In *Loose Parts*, Bush Roman presents more than a dozen new mixed media pieces created with painting, drawing, and collaging techniques that express color, joy, and playfulness. The work is inspired by the phrase "loose parts," referring to childhood play materials with no explicit rules or instructions. These loose parts can be combined, restructured, taken apart, and put back together in multiple ways. Similarly, artists are continually tinkering with and reorganizing experiences and inspirations to create interesting works of art. The exhibition also references the creative process, which often involves the designing, deconstructing, and then rebuilding of concepts.

Bush Roman is an artist and educator. She earned her Master of Fine Arts Degree from the University of Georgia in 2013, and actively exhibits her paintings regionally, nationally, and with digital publications. Her colorful and vibrant mixed media works are rooted in drawing and painting techniques, but also incorporate collaged elements from found objects or textiles that have a history and story.

Bush Roman's current studio practice is primarily centered on work in acrylics, watercolors, inks, chalk pastels, and collage. Her pieces explore color, joy, and playfulness and reflect an artistic response to how



Work by Christine Bush Roman

we are constantly being changed and shaped by where we live, people we know, and major life events.

The Park Circle Gallery is located on Jenkins Avenue in North Charleston, in what was formerly known as the Olde Village Community Building. Admission is free and free street parking is available on Jenkins Avenue in front of the gallery, as well as on the adjacent streets and in parking lots close by. Staff and all visitors must wear a face covering while they are in the gallery and practice social distancing. Hand sanitizer will be provided upon entry.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the gallery at 843/637-3565, e-mail to (culturalarts@northcharleston.org) or visit the Arts & Culture section of the City's website at (northcharleston.org/residents/arts-and-culture/).

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