



Southern Highland Craft Guild in Asheville, NC, Offers Member Group Show

The Southern Highland Craft Guild in Asheville, NC, is presenting *Wabi Sabi, Embracing the Art of Imperfection*, on view in the Main Gallery at the Folk Art Center, on the Blue Ridge Parkway, through Sept. 30, 2018.

The exhibition features 60 objects from makers of the Guild that showcase this traditional Japanese aesthetic of honoring the beauty of flaws. Works focus on juxtapositions of symmetry through gnarled wooden sculptures, rough textures in a wall hanging's fabric, or a woven pattern's simplicity.



Work by Amolia Willowsong

makers to work with flaws, or other brokenness within their process.

Guild member Sandra Rowland's quilted piece *Nobody's Perfect* delivers a message of acceptance with imperfection loud and clear with 'nobody's perfect' written on her wall hanging. Rowland says, "Rummaging around for something I'd misplaced, I turned up Mr. Potato Head. He fit the qualifications. Nothing's ever perfect, nothing's ever finished, nothing lasts forever!"

For woodworker Ray Jones, he often has to bypass areas of inconsistencies or irregularities in woods to create his clean and smooth boxes. "Instead of working around the void in this maple burl, I decided to highlight it in the design, and to celebrate the contrast between the natural, irregular surface of the burl," he says. Jones does however, find those inconsistencies to be equally enchanting and they often leave him curious about working with such deformations.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Guild at 828/298-7928 or visit (www.southernhighlandguild.org).

Work by Ray Jones

Curator Nikki Josheff received an overwhelming number of submissions for this exhibition. "It has been exciting to see the membership's enthusiasm for *Wabi Sabi*," she said. "With our history of cultivating fine craft for more than eight decades, there's often an expectation of perfection within our community. Our jury process is rigorous, and done through peer-evaluation to uphold a standard within a designated media." *Wabi Sabi* encourages participants to let go of creative pressures, perhaps expectations of perfection, that may limit one's imagination. Instead, it challenges



Pink Dog Creative Gallery in Asheville, NC, Offers Works by Holly de Saillan, Betsy Kendrick & Maria Andrade Troya

Pink Dog Creative Gallery in Asheville, NC, will present *Inimitable Creation: Clay+Paper+Paint*, featuring a mixed media exhibition highlighting the work of three Asheville area artists: Holly de Saillan, Betsy Kendrick and Maria Andrade Troya, on view from Aug. 3 through Sept. 2, 2018. A reception will be held on Aug. 9, from 6-8pm.

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Each artist works with a variety of processes, including two and three-dimensional media. Clay is their commonality, and while clay is amazingly responsive to the hand, it goes through countless changes in the firing processes. It often becomes something quite different from its beginning. Paint, collage and drawing however, tend to retain their characteristic appearances, as each mark remains. This show reveals their comfort in

exploring the creative tension that exists between those dimensions. The different ways that these artists express themselves whilst responding to their individual muses creates a dynamic and captivating visual dialogue for the artist and the viewer alike.

Holly de Saillan works with a variety of media, though clay has been her medium of choice since her high school years. She has

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