

MCCOLL
CENTER
FOR
VISUAL
ART

WINTER 2012





EXPLORING THEMES OF IDENTITY AND CULTURE, THE WORK OF ALUMNI ARTISTS HENRÍQUEZ AND CLARK MEET AND CROSS INTO A SHARED SPACE WHERE ART AND HISTORY CONVERGE.

converge

JANUARY 27 TO MARCH 24, 2012

RECEPTION: JANUARY 27, 6-9 PM

Drawn to everyday objects, **Sonya Clark** employs the use of plastic combs, hair, and American money to reference her place within the confines of history and African and African-American culture and heritage. She investigates the historical context of hair and its meaning related to “the first textile artists,” African-Americans who manipulated their hair with combs. Individuals including Madame CJ Walker who reinvented the hair-straightening comb thus becoming the first African-American woman to become a millionaire are represented in her unique portraits of American citizens. With contemporary references including President Obama, Clark’s work in *Converge* collapses the time between the Emancipation Proclamation and today. Clark received a BFA from the Art Institute of Chicago and an MFA from Cranbrook Academy of Art. She has exhibited her work in more than 250 museums and galleries internationally and has been awarded the Pollock-Krasner Award, a Rockefeller Foundation Residency, and a Smithsonian Artist Research Fellowship.

LEFT IMAGE **SONYA CLARK // MOM’S WISDOM OR COTTON CANDY**
2011, 24” x 30”, photograph

Cuban-born **Quisqueya Henríquez** incorporates collage and drawing over appropriated and often distorted images of twentieth-century artists and architects to investigate her place within the framework of art history. By marrying personal imagery with familiar images like the Whitney Museum of Art’s lobby and the site of a Gordon Matta Clark installation, Henríquez provides a commentary on her own challenges regarding access, support, and inclusion. Ironically, many of these images she uses are from artists who, in their own artistic practice also borrowed from other artists to raise questions about their respective places in the world and their roles as well. Henríquez graduated from the Instituto Superior de Arte in Havana, Cuba. She has exhibited her work internationally. Her work can be found in private and public collections including El Museo del Barrio in New York and the Museum of Contemporary Art in North Miami, Florida. She was recently named as one of the 25 art world trendsetters by *ARTnews*.

COVER IMAGE **QUISQUEYA HENRÍQUEZ // PERSONAL ECSTASY**
2011, 29” x 38”, ink jet print, cutouts, balsa wood, drawing

This exhibition is made possible with a generous grant from the Wells Fargo Foundation.

WINTER WELCOME

What happens when artists inquire about social norms? What is revealed when different kinds of people meet, mix, blend, and question?

The 2012 Winter Session at McColl Center for Visual Art is a blatant invitation to explore new ways to encounter. We entreat you to look, listen, and learn about issues that matter – history, identity, culture, inclusion, access, acceptance, and more.

We believe there is wisdom in the Center's Winter Session and invite you to find it in the works of art on display and in the studios of each of our resident artists. As our visitor, you will find many levels to explore and much to consider. If you are intrigued and transformed, we have succeeded!

PLAN YOUR VISIT

Thursdays & Fridays, 2 to 7 PM
Saturdays, 11 AM to 6 PM
Free Admission

TOURS

Free docent-led tours are offered each Saturday at 11:30 AM. Group tours are available by appointment.

WHAT'S ON VIEW

Converge

Main Gallery
January 27 to March 24, 2012
Sonya Clark & Quisqueya Henríquez

Winter 2012 Exhibition

2nd & 3rd Floors
January 27 to March 24, 2012
Margarita Cabrera
Rashaad Newsome
Dawit Petros
Mary Giehl
Matthew Steele
David Theissen
Patricia Leighton & Del Geist

The Wells Fargo logo consists of the words "WELLS" and "FARGO" stacked vertically in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font, set against a red square background.

The Converge exhibition and the 2012 Winter Artist-in-Residence Program is made possible with a generous grant from the Wells Fargo Foundation.



MARGARITA CABRERA

Knight Artist-in-Residence, El Paso, TX
Mixed Media/Ceramic, Studio 315
January 9 to February 19, 2012

Margarita Cabrera is a Mexican-American artist, activist, and organizer whose soft vinyl sculptures representing potted plants and automobiles address timely issues related to border relations, labor practices, and immigration. Turning crafts and their manufacture into a vehicle for social commentary, Cabrera draws on the community to help create collaborative works of art that are used as a platform to raise political and socio-cultural consciousness as a means for survival and empowerment for the Spanish-speaking immigrant community. Rather than limit her practice to address social problems, Cabrera prefers to generate solutions which can provide opportunities for cross-border economic equity. Cabrera has exhibited her work nationally and is the recipient of a Joan Mitchell Foundation Grant and Art-Pace Residency.



DAWIT PETROS

Knight Artist-in-Residence, Brooklyn, NY
Mixed Media/Installation, Studio 218
January 9 to March 19, 2012

Dawit Petros has lived in three different continents: Africa, Europe, and North America. The effects of his nomadic life are evident in his work, which is inspired by history, cultural memories, and minimalism. Petros uses mixed media, installation, video, performance, and photography as a springboard for conversations between subject, object, and location and the transformation that happens through migration. Exploring ways in which the viewer can reflect their own experiences, Petros creates compositions that foster a sense of belonging and constantly shift meaning because of each viewer's context. Petros has exhibited his work throughout the US and Canada, including the Studio Museum of Harlem, and is the recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship.

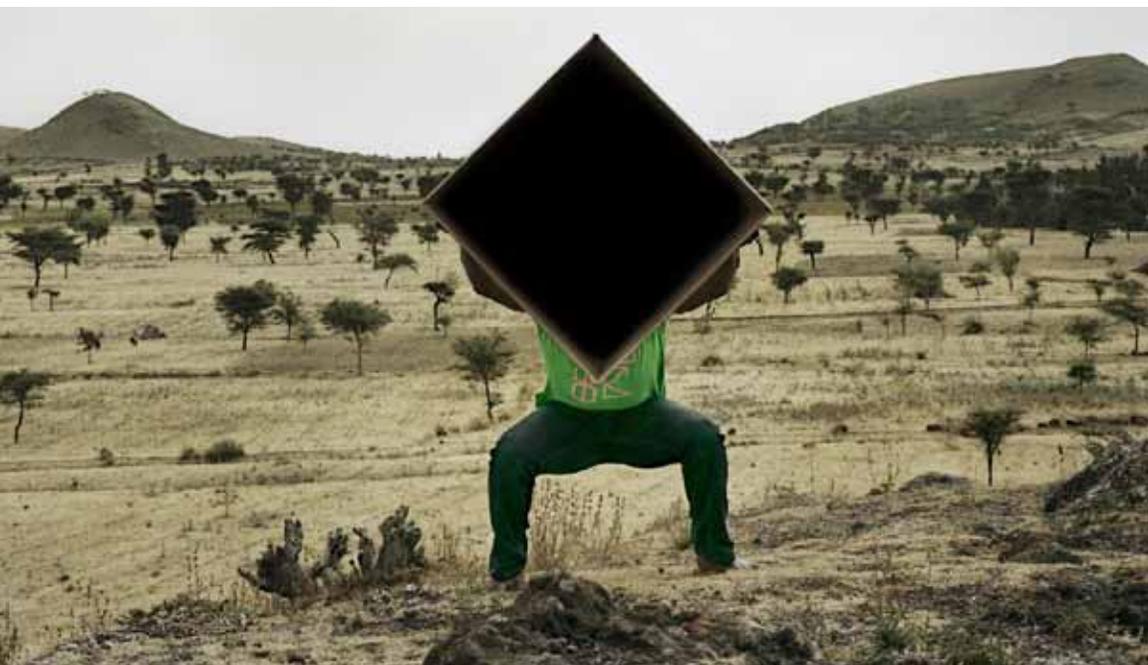




RASHAAD NEWSOME

Gantt Center Artist-in-Residence, New York, NY
Mixed Media/Performance/Video, Studio 215
January 9 to March 27, 2012

Rashaad Newsome uses performance, video, and collage to investigate power and status associated with people of color and the gay community. Newsome borrows intensively from hip-hop music and popular culture to create work that challenges current ideas regarding social protocol and hierarchy as they relate to human behavior. What is considered “high class” or “low class”? How do these perceptions shape our views of others? Newsome reconfigures images, gestures, and sounds that are associated with groups of individuals who have been marginalized to question not only their meaning, but the legitimacy of cultural ownership. Newsome has exhibited his work extensively including 2010 Whitney Biennial, PS1MoMA, and profiled in *Art in America*.





PATRICIA LEIGHTON + DEL GEIST

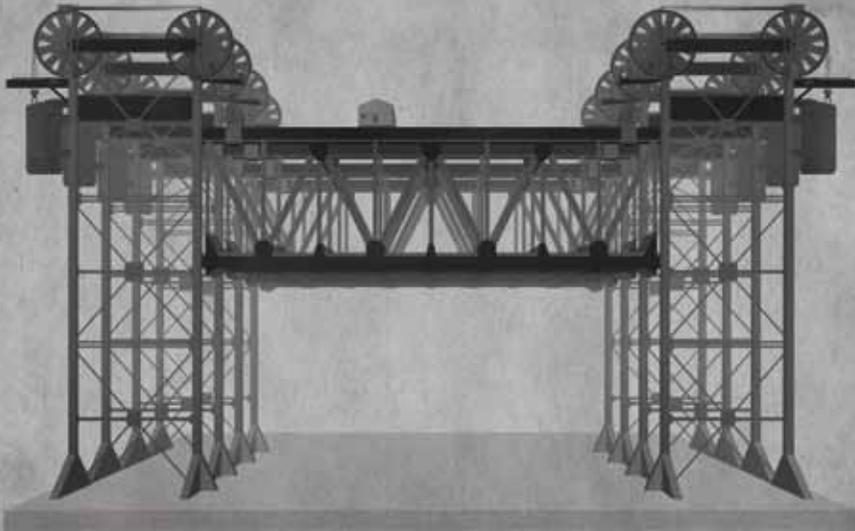
UNCC Artists-in-Residence, New York, NY
Sculpture, Studio 216
January 9 to March 27, 2012

Patricia Leighton's earthworks reflect the history of place and the changes frequently caused by industrialization as well as naturally occurring interventions. Seeking to balance the equilibrium within what is often a fragile system, Leighton creates extensions to what already exists. Del Geist's massive freestanding sculptures are fused with geology exposing the pure beauty of slate, sandstone, and brick by juxtaposing those materials with steel constructions. As a team, both Leighton and Geist develop projects associated with transportation in its multiple forms, which allow them to integrate their own art practice into site-specific works tailored to the landscape and environment. Leighton and Geist are each recipients of a Pollack Krasner Grant.

MARY GIEHL

Carolinas HealthCare Artist-in-Residence, Syracuse, NY
Mixed Media, Studio 313 (Lower)
January 9 to March 27, 2012

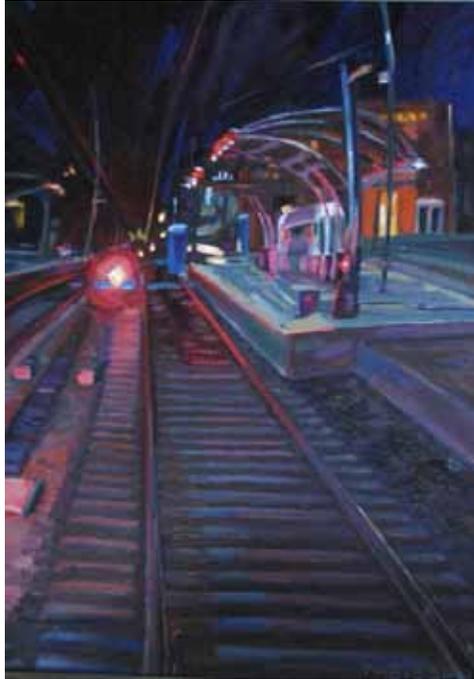
As a former registered nurse in a Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, Mary Giehl, Carolinas HealthCare Artist-in-Residence, often tended to children following incidents of abuse. Those experiences spurred the creation of work that is simultaneously playful yet disturbing in its subject matter. Rather than present work as entertainment or an escape into fantasy, Giehl wants to produce work that agitates and troubles, but ultimately educates the viewer and prompts conversations about the current culture of child-adult relationships.



MATTHEW STEELE

Artist-in-Residence, Indianapolis, IN
Sculpture, Studio 221
January 9 to March 27, 2012

Matthew Steele is fascinated by the various popular methods of establishing and maintaining human connection through manufactured barriers, passages, and public roads such as dams, bridges, and highways. While some may think of these as purely functional, Steele believes that there are deeper meanings that can be associated with these utilitarian structures. Finding reliance, triumph, and even poetry in things that appear devoid of human emotion, Steele uses these large and familiar forms to make sculptures that are elegant and simple.



DAVID THEISSEN

Gail Peacock Art Teacher-in-Residence, Charlotte, NC
Painting, Studio 313 (Upper)
January 9 to March 27, 2012

David Theissen, Gail Peacock Art Teacher-in-Residence,* finds beauty in structured yet simple compositions - many of which are frequently unobserved. While admittedly influenced by Edward Hopper's realist paintings, and the Abstract Expressionist work of Richard Diebenkorn, he is most inspired by Post-Impressionism. In that regard, Theissen is interested in conveying emotions through bold brushstrokes and surfaces saturated with both complementary and analogous colors. Theissen uses ordinary and familiar painted cityscapes as backdrops for still, deserted streets to kindle feelings of alienation, solitude, and despair.

** McColl Center for Visual Art is grateful to former art teacher, Gail Peacock, for her interest in and enthusiasm for the Center's Art Teacher-in-Residence (ATIR) Program. For the last decade, ATIRs have helped transform and enliven arts education in the Charlotte region. The Gail Peacock Art Teacher-In-Residence Program sets a new standard for enriching artists and inspiring wonder among the thousands of students who will learn to love art because of Gail's support.*



FELICIA VAN BORK

11-Month Affiliate Artist, Davidson, NC
Printmaking, Studio 219
April 11, 2011 to March 26, 2012

The influences of both surrealism and abstract expressionism playfully share the stage in Felicia van Bork's monotype prints and collages. Using a range of strong color, texture, shape, and gradients, believable interior spaces and natural vistas co-exist with symbolic protagonists, often appearing as floating objects. Always open to imaginative interpretation, Felicia's works nonetheless direct viewers to specific conundrums like what is real, and what has real value.

ISAAC PAYNE

11-Month Affiliate Artist, Charlotte, NC
Drawing/Mixed Media, Studio 315
April 11, 2011 to March 26, 2012

Beginning as abstract fields of ink stained paper, Isaac Payne explores our relationship to architecture and estrangement from nature in the modern landscape. Using a range of drawing and painting media, the anonymity of figures and places represented are intended to encourage viewers to relate their own experiences to these pictorial environments, while also contemplating the layers of shared history that buildings represent.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT MCCOLLCENTER.ORG OR CALL 704.332.5535

FEATURED PICKS

CONVERGE: OPENING RECEPTION *presented by* **WELLS FARGO FOUNDATION**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 6 to 9 PM

Celebrate the work of Sonya Clark, Quisqueya Henríquez, and the arrival of the Center's Winter 2012 Artists-in-Residence during this special opening reception. Cash bar. Free admission. All ages.

WINTER BLUES: HEYWIRE ACOUSTIC

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 7 to 10 PM

Beat the winter blues and warm-up to Southern Funk and Americana performed live in the main gallery by Heywire Acoustic. With songs inspired by their love for rock, funk, blues, soul, jazz, country, and bluegrass, *Winter Blues* will get the good times rollin! Cash bar. Free for Members, \$10 Non-Members. Tickets available online and at the door.

STUDIO PARTY 12 *presented by* **BANK OF AMERICA**

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 7 to 10 PM

Activate your senses at Studio Party 12! Featuring eight individually designed studios by Center artists, each space will welcome guests to a whimsical wonderland. Guests will enjoy a whirlwind of contemporary art in a three-floor exhibition and art sale showcasing over twenty Center artists. Gourmet food and libations will be served all evening. Ticket and sponsorship information available online.

OPEN STUDIO SATURDAY

Visitors are encouraged to meet our resident artists in their 2nd and 3rd floor studios when they see an open door. Inside each studio, guests can learn about the creative process and the artist's work-in-progress directly from the source. During Open Studio Saturdays, each resident is guaranteed to be working in their studio with an open door. All ages. Free admission.

JANUARY 14, 11 AM to 6 PM

FEBRUARY 11, 11 AM to 6 PM

FEBRUARY 25, 11 AM to 6 PM

MARCH 10, 11 AM to 6 PM

ACTIVATE YOUR CREATIVITY

INNOVATION INSTITUTE: OPEN ENROLLMENT AND CUSTOM

Enrolling for their Spring 2012 session, the Innovation Institute at McColl Center for Visual Art is a professional and personal development endeavor that taps into the innate creative being that's inside every one of us. Spring classes will be held January 25 & 26, February 9, 22 & 23, and March 8. Also, the Institute offers custom programs that lead teams through processes that drive real innovation. For more information, visit innovationatmccoll.org or call 704.332.5535.

SUMMER ARTS INSTITUTE

Offering week-long classes in the visual arts, the Summer Arts Institute features a variety of classes designed for rising 1st through 8th grades and led by a professional teaching artist. For class descriptions, schedules, or for registration information, visit: mccollcenter.org February 1.

ART DAYS ON TEACHER WORK DAYS

MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 9 AM to 4 PM

Students will design and create their own ceramic mosaic inspired by Niki de Saint Phalle's iconic *Firebird*. Open to 4th, 5th, and 6th Grades. Register online. \$112 Member, \$140 Non-Members.

FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 9 AM to 4 PM

Students will use simple machine concepts and found objects to create art in motion inspired by kinetic sculpture. Open to 4th, 5th, and 6th Grades. Register online. \$112 Member, \$140 Non-Members.

Art Days on Teacher Workdays is presented in partnership with the Bechtler Museum of Modern Art

THE CONTEMPORARIES

The following events are presented by the Contemporaries of McColl Center for Visual Art who offer creative opportunities for individuals to deepen, expand, and cultivate their interest in the visual arts. Membership is \$75 and includes a \$50 donation to the Center.

Q&A & FILM SCREENING: THE LIGHT FACTORY

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 6 PM

Free for Members, \$8 Non-Members

WORKSHOP & TOUR: CLAYWORKS

MONDAY, MARCH 19, 6 to 8 PM

\$10 for Members, \$20 Non-Members

GALLERY VISIT:

NEW GALLERY OF MODERN ART

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 6 PM

Free for Members, \$8 Non-Members



FREE TO THE PUBLIC

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, 2 TO 7 PM

SATURDAY, 11 AM TO 6 PM

OR BY APPOINTMENT

721 NORTH TRYON ST.

CHARLOTTE, NC 28202

704.332.5535

MCCOLLCENTER.ORG



McColl Center for Visual Arts is supported, in part, by a Basic Operating Grant from the Arts & Science Council, as well as the North Carolina Arts Council with funding from the State of North Carolina and the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art; and the generosity of corporate and individual donors.