



Kentuck Art Center proudly presents the 2023 exhibition season:

The Ties That Bind

Kentuck's 2023 exhibition season will focus on connections—how artists honor their past, how art can build a common experience, how our environment links its inhabitants together, how ideas and stories permeate our individual experiences to create a shared culture, and how these “ties” work together to bind individuals together.

Opening Receptions for Museum Gallery shows are held on Art Nights, the first Thursday of each month from 5-8pm at Kentuck Art Center. Opening Receptions for exhibitions at Kentuck's Gallery at Hotel Indigo are on select First Fridays throughout the year. This stellar lineup of artists includes a variety of artistic disciplines, including ceramics, paper mache sculpture, metal, fiber, painting, mixed media, and printmaking.

Museum Gallery



Larry Allen

Sgraffito Design Vessels

February 2-26, 2023

OPENING RECEPTION: February Art Night; Feb 2, 2023; 5-8pm

Larry Allen is an artist born and raised in Birmingham, Alabama. He has been working with clay for more than 35 years. His vessels are inspired by Native American and African Art and can be seen in Marvel's *Black Panther: Wakanda Forever*. He was named a Berea College Distinguished Alumnus in 2019, and has won multiple awards at the Kentuck Festival of the Arts.

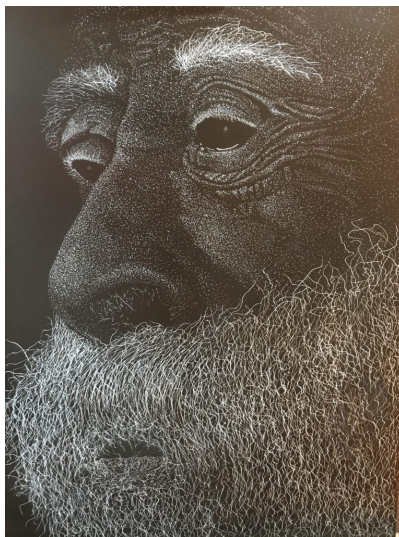


An Exploration of Tuscaloosa's Waterways

Museum, Teer, and SoNo Galleries

March 2-April 30, 2023

In partnership with the Alabama Water Institute, Kentuck Art Center will be bringing awareness to the local waterways through this two-month exhibition. An Exploration of Tuscaloosa's Waterways will combine work of artists alongside educational components, such as an augmented reality sandbox, that will explore how our communities are connected and impacted by local waterways. Exhibiting artists will include Hayes Dobbins, Maurice Clabaugh, Kelly Shannon, Cathy Fussell, Jasmine Hocutt, and more.



Cym Doggett

May 4-29, 2023

Cym Doggett is a self taught artist who lives in Huntsville, Alabama. Her creative energies are stoked by the fauna and flora of her southern home. She thrives on the beauty of the natural world and actively seeks out the inspiration it generously offers up. The complexity of what initially seems simple is the basis of her work and can be seen in her hand etched pieces. She strives to create imagery which represents the exquisite strength and gracefulness of small, fragile pieces woven together into one cohesive body.



Aaron Sanders Head

June 1-July 2, 2023

Aaron Sanders Head is a Southern, Alabama-based textile artist. Aaron was raised in rural Grady, AL and Hope Hull, AL, as the youngest of three children from an artist mother and an agricultural worker father. Aaron creates quilts and hand-stitched, naturally dyed textiles that explore the lived experiences of rural Alabamians. Aaron's exhibition will extend to Kentuck's Gallery at Hotel Indigo.



E L Chisolm

July 6-31, 2023

E L Chisolm is a portrait artist informed by a background in Sociology and Cosmetology. Their works are birthed from the ailments of their Black American experience with the intention to enhance the way other Black Americans experience life. E L combines acrylic paint, tissue paper, decorative paper and twine on wood to show the beauty that comes from adversity and growing into your truest self.



Chris Armstrong

August 3-September 3, 2023

Chris Armstrong is from Centerville, Tennessee and has been creating wonderfully whimsical fiber sculpture since 2003. While he was on sabbatical from his job as an investigator working on Death Row cases for the Federal Public Defender, his child's school hosted a fundraising event called Elves Faire, and it was in preparation for that event where he learned the basics of needle felting. His first creations were a wizard with a long beard, a quail, and an owl.



Amita Bhakta

September 7-October 1, 2023

Amita Bhakta moved from India as a teenager and is now settled in North Alabama. Her work is filled with stories from the land of her ancestors and ties to her present and future. This mix of cultures is displayed in all her paintings and clay artwork.



Tiffany Ownbey

October 5-November 27, 2023

Tiffany Ownbey lives in the woods of North Carolina and enjoys the company of dogs, cats, wild animals, and her garden. She is interested in connections and the way humans and creatures interact with each other, objects, and nature. She works primarily in paper mache sculpture and collage.



Kentuck's Studio Artists

December 5, 2023-January 28, 2024

Kentuck Art Center rents studio space to local, full-time artists for below market value to help them make a living doing what they love. This exhibition is the culmination of Kentuck's Studio Artists' creative efforts of 2023.

Kentuck's Gallery at Hotel Indigo



Scott Stephens

Cahaba Beach Road

January 26, 2023-April 30, 2023

OPENING RECEPTION: Friday, Feb 3, 2023; 6-7:30pm at Hotel Indigo Tuscaloosa

Scott Stephens is a printmaker and emeritus professor of art at the University of Montevallo, where he taught from 1983 to 2020. He earned his BFA degree at Washington University in St. Louis and his MFA at the University of Alabama. His studio practice is in large-format printmaking and historic photographic processes.



Aaron Sanders Head

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and hand-stitched, naturally dyed textiles that explore the lived experiences of rural Alabamians. Aaron's exhibition will extend to Kentuck's Museum Gallery.



Kelly Hatfield

August 2, 2023-October 30, 2023

Kelly Hatfield is a mixed media artist living in Alabama. Her work features original mixed media paintings that take on a fine-folk art style and fun illustrations. Most of her paintings are made from recycled materials. She is constantly inspired by her southern surroundings and loves things that make her contemplate the world around her.



Scott McQueen

November 2, 2023-January 28, 2024

Scott is an accomplished folk artist who was raised in Fayette, Alabama. He fondly recollects times during his childhood when he observed folk artist Jimmy Lee Sudduth create his now-famous mud paintings. Scott is a graduate of Samford University (B.A.), New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary (M.Div) and Luther Rice Seminary (D.Min). Scott is an ordained minister who lives in Nothport, Alabama. He has exhibited in Kentuck's Hotel Indigo Gallery and the Teer Gallery and has been a Kentuck Artist in the Schools for three years. He attends over 20 festivals every calendar year. He is a minister, and author of *Reasonable Doubt — A Case for LGBTQ Inclusion in the Institutions of Marriage and Church*.



Kentuck's mission is to perpetuate the arts, engage the community, and empower the artist. The Kentuck Festival of the Arts is nationally recognized for its quality, diversity, and celebration of artistic style ranging from folk to contemporary arts and traditional crafts. The 52nd Kentuck Festival of the Arts is October 14-15, 2023 at Kentuck Park in Northport, Alabama.

[Click here to visit the press room.](#)

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