

Art League of Hilton Head on Hilton Head Island, SC, Offers Annual Gullah Art Show & Sale

The Art League of Hilton Head on Hilton Head Island, SC, will present *Arts Ob We People*, an annual art exhibition and sale featuring the largest juried presentation of Gullah Heritage Art in the World, on view at the Art League Gallery, inside the Arts Center of Coastal Carolina, from Feb. 2 - 25, 2018. A reception will be held on Feb. 2, from 6-8pm.

The annual exhibition and sale is one of the largest a display of original work by emerging and leading artists that represents the life of Gullah people on Hilton Head Island and the surrounding community. Artists will be onsite at various times throughout the exhibit, check for exact schedules at (gullahcelebration.com).

Private and group tours are available by request.

Over 44 years ago, Art League was the vision of the man whose name graces our gallery. Walter Greer thought Hilton Head Island was just the place for an artists' community. Those of us who call this island home are blessed to have not only the well-preserved and natural environment from which to draw inspiration, but also the support of several hundred artists and art lovers who make up Art League of Hilton Head today.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the League at 843/681-5060 or visit (www.artleaguehhi.org).

Lander University in Greenwood, SC, Offers Annual Juried Student Show

Anticipation is already running high among art students and professors to see who walks away with the big prize at Lander University's annual *Juried Student Exhibition*, on view in the Monsanto Art Gallery of the Josephine B. Abney Cultural Center, in Greenwood, SC, from Feb. 1 - 22, 2018. A reception and awards ceremony will be held on Feb. 1, from 5-7pm.

Categories include sculpture, ceramics, computer graphics, drawing, painting and printmaking, and photography.

More than 50 art students were chosen to enter this year's competition, and Jim Slagle, associate professor of art and Chair of Lander's Art Department, said everyone is eager to see the outcome.

"Each student was allowed to submit three works," Slagle said, "and there will be a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prize in each category, plus honorable mentions and a best in show."

The exhibition juror will be Fleming Markel, manager of Greenville Technical College's Riverworks Gallery, who

exhibited her work *Pent Up Pink* at Lander in 2017.

In addition to promoting Upstate art and artists, Markel is the original founder of Ten Thousand Villages in Greenville, S.C. During its 10 years in business, Ten Thousand Villages offered unique gifts, jewelry, home décor, art, sculpture and textiles, all handcrafted by artisans in more than 30 countries worldwide.

"Fleming will pick all the winners in this year's juried exhibit, and she also judged which works made it in," said Jon Holloway, Monsanto Art Gallery director. "This year's show features approximately 70 art pieces out of more than 150 submitted by all arts students - from freshmen to seniors. This will be one of the largest exhibits the gallery has installed and is a testament to the exceptional artwork Lander students are creating."

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or call Jon Holloway at 864/388-8810.

Main & Maxwell in Greenwood, SC, Offers Works by Preston B. Kemp, Jr.

Main & Maxwell in Greenwood, SC, will present works by jeweler Preston Kemp, on view from Feb. 1 - 28, 2018.

Kemp is an active and prolific silversmith. His work has a level of mastery that is not always seen in the work of today's craftsmen. Each piece is hand formed from individually crafted links of sterling silver and hand soldered as it is crafted into a beautiful wearable piece of art.



Work by Preston Kemp

was interested in selling his pieces and he pulled out some silver ones to show her. We definitely were interested."

With detailed twists, crimps, soldering and more, Kemp makes rings and links to combine and form chains. Kemp, a father to two grown children, learned his jewelry craft at the William Holland School of Lapidary Arts in Young Harris, Georgia. This was many years after beginning work in textile mills in 1938, as well as serving in the military during World War II and the Korean War. He served as an instrument flight instructor during World War II and did helicopter training and flights during the Korean War.

"My wife and I have always been interested in rocks and my wife and I signed up for a class at the William Holland school in 1989," Kemp said. "I took several classes and wound up teaching chain-making up there for several years. Instructors don't get paid. It's all voluntary, but you do get room and board." Kemp said he stopped teaching chain-making in 2008. "I live a good life," Kemp said.

In addition to wearable jewelry, Kemp said he is perhaps best known for his polished stone "TV pictures." They are tiny squares of natural jasper and other stones, wrapped in precious metal frames that resemble little televisions.

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 864/223-6229 or visit (www.mainandmaxwell.com).

Kemp has been featured in a number of publications in Greenwood. Recently he was interviewed for the *Index Journal* by St. Claire Donaghy. For metalsmith and jewelry maker Preston B. Kemp Sr., every piece he makes "is the very best" he can do. "If it doesn't look right, I redo it," Kemp, 96, said.

Born in Callison, SC, which, he said, is named after his great-grandfather, this nonagenarian has been making jewelry for nearly 30 years. "I retired from Greenwood Mills in 1986 and started making jewelry in 1989," Kemp said, noting his wife of 71 years, Connie, also designed pieces for a time.

"I got to where I couldn't walk as well as I used to and ramble around in the woods. So, I started chain-making. I did not want to sit and watch television," says Kemp, who goes on the say, "He usually creates at a table in his home, outside of Epworth and Ninety Six, SC."

If he sees a design idea he likes, Kemp said he's not afraid to put his own take on it. "I do come up with original ideas, too," he said. "I'm always trying something."

Working with sterling silver, 14-karat gold, copper, brass, stone and even fruit pits, Kemp creates pieces that are both intricate and delicate. Uptown gallery, retail and studio space, Main and Maxwell, carries Kemp's jewelry. There are earrings, necklaces, bracelets, rings and more.

"He walked into the store one Saturday when Laura Bachinski was working," Debbie Britt Tackett said. "He asked if she



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