

Press Release

Hawthorne Gallery
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE New Exhibit at Hawthorne Gallery will open Thursday, April 16 with a reception from 5 – 7:30 PM. The exhibit will feature two local artists: Scott Betz, "*New Print-Based Illustrations*" and Trena McNabb, "*Abundance in Nature*". Each exhibit, presented in two galleries of the 7,000 sq foot space, is on view through Saturday, June 13, 2009.

A postcard invitation is attached as a separate document. Also, please see the website, hawthorneart.com for more images.

MORE INFO ON THE BETZ EXHIBIT:

In this latest evolution of his prints, Betz has taken an 8-year project towards its next phase. Since June 2001, Betz has been working on a series of woodblock prints based on a family trip he took with his wife and then 11-month-old son to Italy. Many of the blocks have found their final evolution as black and white prints, color monoprints with hand painting and even as sculptural, inflatable forms. In this latest group, he imagines Venice as a backdrop to a theatrical children's story. Betz attempts to merge sculpture, printmaking, digital rendering, photography and drawing into the story's structure.

Scott Betz came to the arts through a BFA from the University of Evansville, and MS from Indiana State and a MFA from UT Knoxville. His first professional exhibition was held at the Fondation Universitaire in Paris, France in conjunction with a performance by the avante garde pianist Guy Livingston. This was one of many collaborations Betz valued and developed as he worked towards teaching positions at Mississippi State University, Weber State University and currently Winston-Salem State University. Other collaborations include exhibitions entitled "After a Decade" curated by Betz of BFA's 10 years out, "Foundations Today: A Student/Mentor Exhibition" and most currently "Printmaking at the Edge" with 35 artists from 12 countries through exhibitions in Sweden, Austria, Finland, Lithuania, Korea, Belgium and Argentina as well as more across the US and the "Beyond the Edge" exhibition he co-curated in 2008 of 12 artists from 10 countries.

Beyond the studio, Betz has been at WSSU as the Foundation and Studio Art Coordinator 2005-2007 and then Art Program Coordinator for the next two years.

MORE INFO ON THE MCNABB EXHIBIT:

McNabb creates harmonious compositions in a distinctive style of multi-layered montages that are realistically rendered, and thematically related. Story telling is a significant aspect of McNabb's work. "Each painting is actually a connected series of smaller paintings telling a story that deepens the longer one studies the piece." Areas of the work have been described as a transparent, painted collage. The overlays form a kaleidoscope of colors of allegorical thought. The meaning and depth deepens the longer one studies each piece. The medium is basic water-proof, color-fast durable acrylic paint on canvas.

Many know Trena McNabb from various activities in the arts community. She was involved with Crossing 52, a program that she expanded to create exhibits in several locations around the city in celebration and promotion of racial diversity. She has served on the board of the Sawtooth School, coordinated artists for various fundraising events, and curated exhibits at the Wake Forest University Worrell Center.

McNabb's prior work includes the recently installed 32-foot long multi-canvas at the Carolinas Healthcare System, an Olympic runner at UNC – Chapel Hill, and a commemorative piece at Arbor Acres Methodist Retirement Home. McNabb is experienced with site-specific corporate installations as well as public art commissions, and smaller pieces for private residences. She is especially skilled at tailoring size and price to fit the scope of a specific project without ever sacrificing artistic content or integrity. For example, she created the art flags on the parking deck beside the Wingate Hotel.

INFO ON HAWTHORNE GALLERY

Hawthorne Gallery is located in the West End at 1281 W Fourth Street, Winston-Salem, NC where 4th Street crosses over Business 40 in the south east section of the district. The distinctive historic house features a highly visible green tile roof characteristic of the architect's signature design. Charles Barton Keen is most famous for working as the architect of Reynolda House Museum of American Art.

Open from Tues – sat 10 AM – 5 PM, Hawthorne Gallery shares 7000 square feet of space with the interior design firm, **Idlewild House** at the historic property, formerly the Dorminy Dance Studio. A destination for art, gifts, cards and jewelry; five distinct gallery spaces feature original artwork at affordable prices by regional artists. Enjoy hawthorneart.com ####

