

ALABAMA ARTISTS GALLERY

The Alabama State Council on the Arts is proud to showcase the work of Alabama artists in its Montgomery gallery in the RSA Tower, in downtown Montgomery. Hours are Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

SIGNATURES: Contemporary Expressions September 11 -October 28, 2011

Andy Behrle, *Birmingham*, creates installations in gallery environments that show how water and nature reclaim that which we build. Slow streams of water run down dirt covered walls to erode paths and deposit muddy water onto metal floor panels, which are on exhibit here. "The process and results give us pause, acting as symbols of Time's passing, Existence's ephemeral essence, and Nature's control over our world."

Barbara Lee Black, *Tuscaloosa/Gordo*, makes still life photographs, in which objects found lifeless in one environment are repositioned to suggest life. Her constructions include assemblage of bird forms and objects found in such places as flea markets and by the side of the road. Captured in the midst of their newly granted lives, these objects transcend their previous fate and are thus immortalized in the photograph.

Tracie Noles-Ross, *Birmingham*, lives on an urban farm with her husband and two children—and bees and their hives, foxes, rabbits, hens, vegetable gardens, and fruit trees. She says she is working to live holistically and creatively and is developing a symbolic system within her paintings that blends a natural history motif with a personal narrative about environmental stewardship.

Duane Paxson, *Troy*, is a sculptor using wood, fiberglass, and metal. Pieces in this exhibition include several themes. One represents the various stages of a person's life cycle, becoming markers to reconstruct memories of the past. The other is the development of a chess set depicting elements of modern life and conflict.

Hugh Williams, *Auburn*, is best known for his drawings and paintings, marked with his observations of nature and his environment. The work in this exhibition shows his understanding of the nature of art, the nature of materials, and nature itself—as shown in abstractions of kudzu vines and pine trees.



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