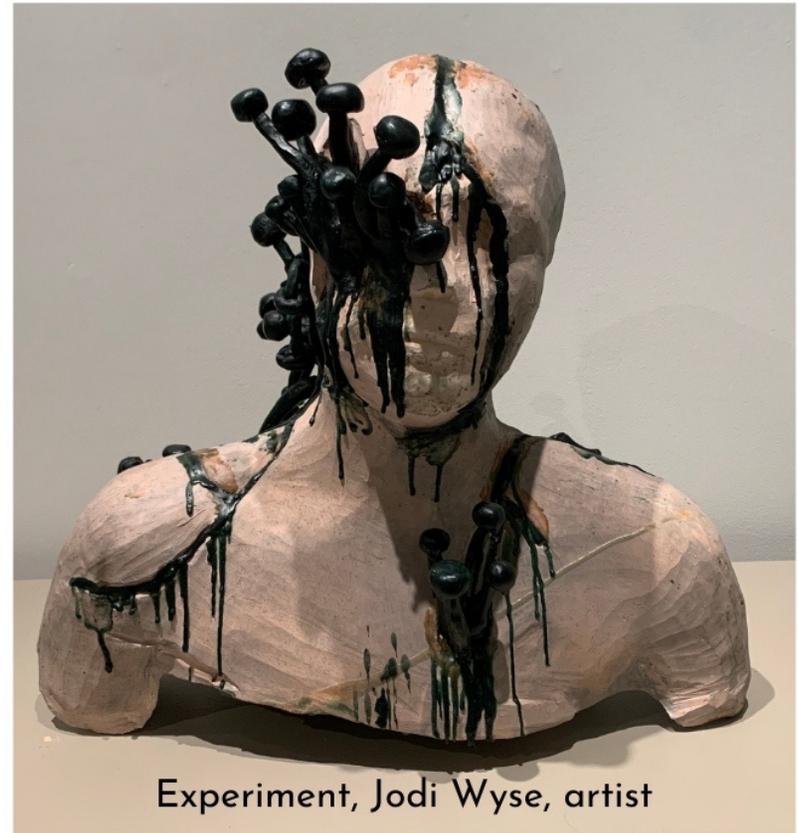




Borromini's Orchid
David Sheldon, artist
(courtesy of Mark Bettis Gallery)



Experiment, Jodi Wyse, artist

Transylvania Community Arts Council presents

Off the Wall

An Invitational Exhibit of
Sculpture and Other Three-
Dimensional Artwork

September 21 - October 29





Adam Adcock

Adam Adcock received his BFA in Studio Art from Appalachian State University in 2002, and received an MFA in sculpture from East Carolina University in 2007. He is a “maker” at heart, and thoroughly enjoys the process of bringing materials together to create meaningful and exciting relationships.

His works range in scale from hand-held to large outdoor public works, although most are somewhere in-between (indoor pedestal size). While working as an intern for sculptors Shannon Owen and Lyle London in Phoenix, Arizona, Adam gained a lot of experience working on public and private commissions. His works have been chosen for public art commissions in Asheville, Durham, and Charlotte, North Carolina. He has also won several awards in national and regional juried exhibitions.

Adam currently lives in Banner Elk, North Carolina, with his wife and 3 children. He considers the mountains of North Carolina to be the most beautiful and inspiring landscape, and feels very fortunate to be able to call it home. He is employed at Appalachian State University as the Laboratory Operations Manager for the Art Dept. He enjoys being around an environment of creative energy, and loves to share his passion for art and design with colleagues and students.



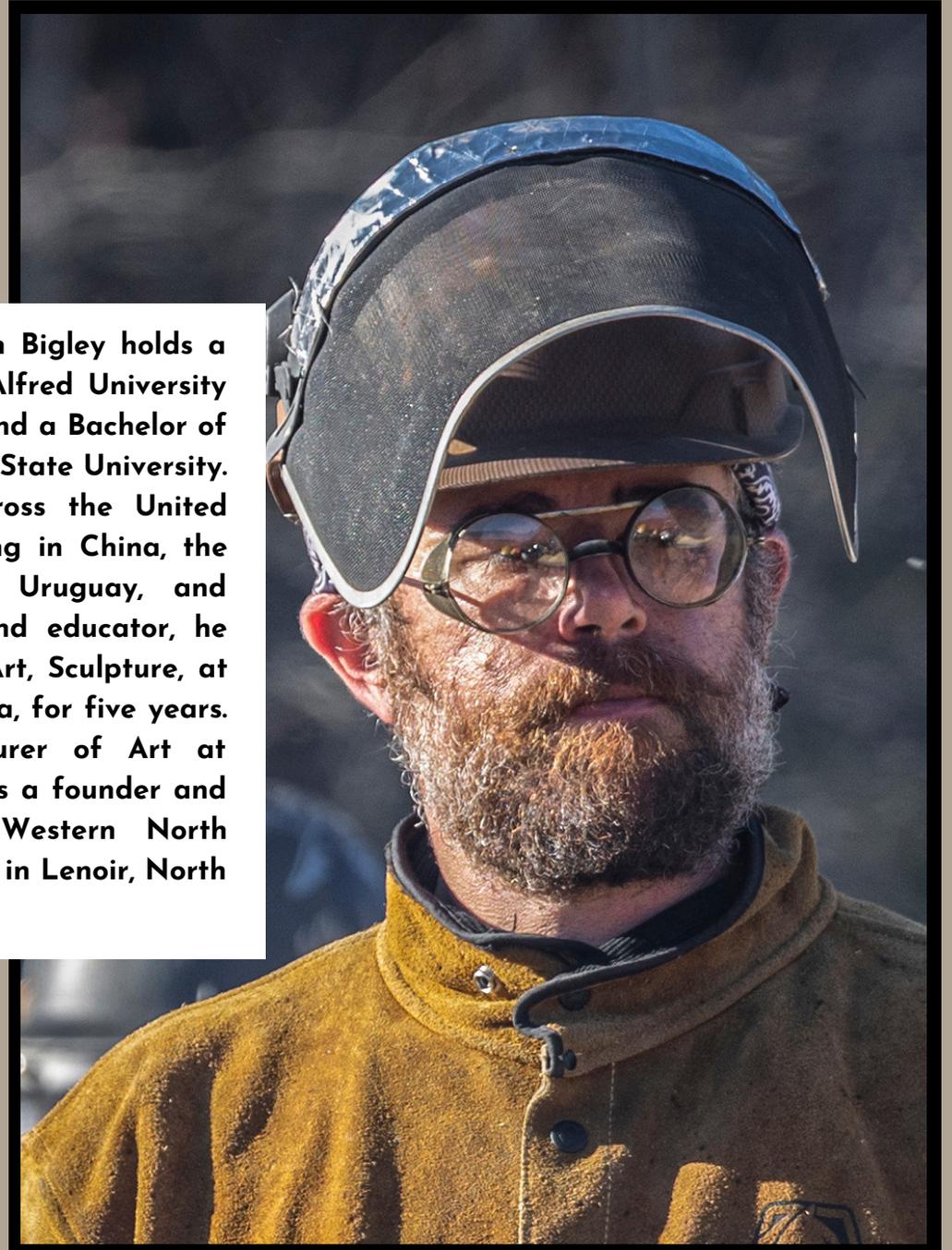
J. Aaron Alderman

As a native of Brevard, J. Aaron Alderman studied at Brevard College. Upon graduation he continued his studies by working with local sculptor Tim Murray and coppersmith J.T. Copper. Alderman has been awarded multiple public and private art commissions and has displayed work across the United States and internationally in select galleries and in juried public sculpture exhibitions. Through a highly physical process Alderman creates sculptures through the use of pure line to capture a tender, emotional expression of the human form. He creates art that is ego-less, idea driven, form driven, emotive and connective. He is currently represented by The Haen Gallery in both Asheville and Brevard, North Carolina.



Joseph Bigley

A native of North Carolina, Joseph Bigley holds a Master of Fine Arts degree from Alfred University in Sculptural Dimensional Studies and a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Appalachian State University. His work has been exhibited across the United States and internationally, including in China, the Netherlands, Spain, Montevideo, Uruguay, and Berlin. A mixed media sculptor and educator, he worked as Assistant Professor of Art, Sculpture, at Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia, for five years. He is currently a full-time lecturer of Art at Appalachian State University and is a founder and the executive director of the Western North Carolina Sculpture Center and Park in Lenoir, North Carolina.





"My work should call out to you from across the room, then charm you when you come over."

Jim Brandon is a dynamic wood artist and woodturner, living in Pisgah Forest, North Carolina, an area well known for its wide variety of hardwood trees - maple, walnut, oaks, cherry, and many more. Nearly all Jim's raw material is wood sourced from local trees, either on his property, or within a short drive/hike from his home. "There's not a burl, log, or root-ball that isn't being eyed as potential raw material for a project," he says, "which makes every new piece of art very, very personal."

Jim is a skilled lathe wood turner and tends to incorporate unexpected media into his turned projects, including barbed wire, metal, milled wood, concrete, and colored dyes. Balance is often intentionally skewed to counter the symmetry of a lathe-turned piece. Soft, smooth, sharp, and harsh textures are strategically combined for dramatic effect. "I try to upset the expected lines of a lathe-turned piece," he explains. Every piece Jim creates is intended to be a unique and stand-alone piece of fine art.

Jim's been doing this a long time. He grew up in Southern California, first learned to turn wood as a teenager in middle-school, and has had his hands in woodworking and furniture making his whole adult life. But only in the past five years has he picked up the skill-set and honed it into a medium for creating original art. He is a member of the Carolina Mountain Wood Turners Association and has a Bachelor of Arts degree in creative writing. Jim lives in Transylvania County with his wife, Jeni.



Jim Brandon

Marcia Brennan

Marcia Brennan grew up in Savannah, Georgia, and lived in the South Carolina low country before moving to the mountains in 1990. As a life-long self-taught artist and great lover of landscape and nature, she concentrated on watercolor painting.

"I had a desire to create something in 3D and that led me to the childhood medium of papier-mâché. I loved using the simple materials and the challenges of composition, proportion and balance. With papier-mâché I found freedom to experiment, innovate and imagine, bringing almost any idea into being.

"My papier-mâché sculptures lean toward humor, whimsy and sometimes social commentary."



Lucy Clark

Lucy touched clay for the first time in 2009, beginning a wonder-filled journey into the creative process that she had been dabbling in all of her life.

In 2014, she, along with her husband and their three dogs, permanently relocated back to the mountain range which she was raised in as a child and teenager. Since living in Brevard, North Carolina, she has allowed her artistic voice to lead her into many different and yet collaborative mediums. She will tell you that each medium, every trip down the preverbal "rabbit hole" brings a new dimension and depth to her work as an artist and creative individual.

In 2016, with the help of a grant from the Regional Art Grant Program and an award given by the Community Foundation of Henderson County, Lucy was able to spend almost a month at Ghost Ranch, located in Abiquiu, New Mexico, learning the hand building process of the San Ildefonso and San Juan Pueblos. This experience would forever exponentially change the trajectory of her life as a person and an artist. She now runs two separate programs for the ranch and returns each year to fill her creative cup as well.

2017 brought her to open a working artist studio and gallery located in Brevard with another artist. At the beginning of 2020, she took sole ownership and has transformed the gallery, The Lucy Clark Gallery and Studio, into a multi-dimensional art gallery, representing over 40 local and regional artists.

"Grow your community by growing and evolving your own authentic voice and anything is possible."



Ricky Crull



Ricky Crull was born and raised in Charlotte, North Carolina and moved to Western North Carolina in 2015 to attend Brevard College where he obtained a degree in Wilderness Leadership and Experiential Education. During his sophomore year, Ricky began to experiment with wrapping wire and stone to make jewelry as a hobby. Two years later, Ricky began his formal art education journey which quickly uncovered a hidden passion for sculpture. He has been steadily progressing ever since, crafting large scale sculptures and fabricating fine jewelry.

Though working with precious gems and fine metals such as high carat gold is his main passion, he also finds solace and inspiration in working with heavy materials such as steel and wood to create large-scale sculptures. Both art forms capture the attention they deserve while working harmoniously with their environment. His art will surely inspire generations to come, through the timelessness and dynamic beauty of metal-work and unique pieces that speak to the soul.



Andrew Davis



Andrew Davis is an interdisciplinary artist whose work combines sculpture, drawing, and digital media to explore materiality, hierarchy, and regional identity. He is an instructor and studio technician at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, South Carolina.

Travis Donovan is a North Carolina interdisciplinary artist and educator. Born in Banner Elk, North Carolina, Donovan received a BFA in Sculpture from Appalachian State University in 2004. Employing a range of techniques from traditional casting and fabrication practices, to studies in kinetics and new media, Donovan explores the relationships between objects, exaggeration, and identity. His current research investigates poetics and utilitarian materials of the South and their links to masculinity and class.

Donovan became a North Carolina Artists Fellow after receiving his MFA from the University of North Carolina in 2011. He has exhibited nationally and internationally including solo shows at The William King Museum of Art and Neil Britton Gallery and has work in the permanent collection at The Yingge Ceramics Museum in New Taipei City, Taiwan. Donovan is Assistant Professor of Sculpture and Area Coordinator at Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina.

Travis Donovan





Emma Finnen is a North Carolina-based artist who recently graduated from Appalachian State University, and is now living in Lenoir, North Carolina. She is currently the Education Coordinator and an In-House Artist at Western North Carolina Sculpture Center as well as the Outreach Coordinator at the Caldwell Arts Council.

Her studio practice examines the connection between soft and hard, utilizing metalwork, mostly focused in the mediums of bronze and iron casting, and crochet. Recently breaking into the world of cast iron, she has started to make large-scale work centering exploration of the medium, as well as space and repetition within these works.



Emma has begun to investigate the connect and disconnect of fibers and metalwork.

Understanding the traditional histories of both of these mediums, she is interested in combining the two to overcome the traditional masculine and feminine roles within each medium. Most of Emma's work has evolved into performance art that focuses on form and inner contemplation.



Emma Finnen



Frankie Flood

Frankie Flood is a Professor and area head of Metalsmithing and Jewelry Design at Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina. Flood previously served as Director of the Digital Craft Research Lab at the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee. Flood is a graduate of the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, where he received his Master of Fine Art degree in Metalsmithing.

The potential that craft has to serve local and global communities through design and fabrication has been the focus of Flood's recent research as he continues to combine traditional craft practice with digital technology. His recent research regarding 3D printed prosthetics and one-of-a-kind adaptive devices has spread worldwide and his creation of the Digital Craft Research Lab has created new areas of study for students interested in digital fabrication.





Emma Rose Hanley

Emma Rose Hanley draws inspiration from her Irish-Celtic heritage, her local environment, conceptualism, and expressionism communicated in design. Hailing from Morrisville, North Carolina, Emma Rose's art grew from sketches into paintings, and eventually three dimensional forms, where she focuses her energy today. With a focus in ceramics, metalwork, and painting, Emma Rose explores the meaning behind abstracted form, and investigates concepts such as human perception of time, the connection of humans across time through art, healing through process, and the energy physical objects have the potential to hold and transfer.





Gwyn Jennings

Gwyn Jennings is a senior BA candidate at Brevard College, graduating this year with a dual concentration in painting and time-based media. Gwyn moved to North Carolina from California in 2014, and has loved creating art from a very young age.

Independently, she works in digital and traditional media to create art in the realm of fantasy and science fiction. At Brevard College, she has pursued oil painting on canvas and producing experimental non-narrative films.

Morgan Kennedy



Morgan Kennedy earned his BA from George Mason University and his MFA in Sculpture from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia.

As a carpenter, he has worked on 1640 Scottish Highland turf thatch houses, restored important historic US houses like the Wingspan house built by Frank Lloyd Wright, and oceans of Victorian family homes throughout the East coast and upper Midwest. He has taught Sculpture for over 20 years in 8 nationally recognized art programs including Maryland Institute College of Art, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, and Virginia Commonwealth University, to name a few.

As a sculptor, Morgan has worked on large scale public sculptures and engaged in community collaborative projects, as well as traditional gallery-based works. His work explores aspects of value or social stratification through form and installation. He lives in Cullowhee, North Carolina where he teaches at Western Carolina University.

Kevin Kirkpatrick

Kevin Kirkpatrick has worked full-time as an instructor and studio technician at Western Carolina University since August of 2005. He was first invited to teach at Western as an adjunct professor in 1998, where he taught classes in painting and drawing. Kevin's teaching interests include training future artists and art teachers in the visual arts as well as maintaining a safe and productive studio environment. He guides and directs students, from first-year to graduate students, in their chosen medium.





Janet Leazenby

Janet Leazenby, a native of South Bend, Indiana, holds a Bachelor's of Art degree from Indiana University. She retired from teaching art in the South Bend Community School Corporation after 29 years, and also as a clay instructor from the South Bend Museum of Art for 35 years. Janet is now living in Hendersonville, North Carolina as a full time artist, since 2013.



Jules Lusk

Jules Lusk is a BA candidate in Art at Brevard College, projected to graduate in 2024 with a concentration in painting and drawing. She primarily paints with oil on canvas, creating figurative work. As a Brevard College student, she has also pursued ceramics in the forms of sculpture and functional pottery. Jules has also taught and assisted with the Student Arts Academy at the Transylvania Community Arts Council.



Kyle Van Lusk

Kyle Van Lusk was born and raised in Brevard, North Carolina, and received his first formal art training as an art student at Brevard College. Lusk later earned his BFA, as well as his MFA, in sculpture from East Carolina University. Since completion of his graduate work in 1998, Lusk has created and exhibited work in galleries and for public display throughout the southeast. He has also served as a member of the Art faculty at Appalachian State University, and is currently Professor of Art and Art Program Coordinator at Brevard College.





Sydney Jane Raber

Sydney Raber is a fine arts major at Brevard College, set to graduate in 2024, concentrating in sculpture with a minor in history. Sydney grew up in Clinton, South Carolina, and has been creating works in her spare time from a young age. Before Brevard, Sydney worked primarily with non-traditional materials and two-dimensional pieces focused on heavy texture and pattern. While at Brevard College, she has experimented with a variety of techniques and mediums to create abstract sculptural and illustrative works that combine an emphasis on extreme detail and aesthetic nostalgia.

Manfred Rehm

Manfred Rehm attended the Massachusetts College of Art, Hartford Art School and Central Connecticut State University graduating with a degree in Art Education. Manfred has been a member of the Connecticut Academy of Fine Arts for over twenty years, winning many awards in juried shows. A man of many talents and interests, he currently works as a sculptor.

He incorporates stone, plastic, computer parts, and metal into found wood and root sculptures. Since moving to North Carolina in 2016, he has been a featured artist in the invitational exhibition, Men of the Mountains, at TC Arts Council; Gallery on 44: Brevard; and on the set of the recently filmed motion picture, *The Good Things Devils Do*. He is currently represented by The Lucy Clark Gallery & Studio.



David Sheldon received a BFA in Painting from the Rhode Island School of Design in 1984, including a formative year in Rome, Italy, as part of RISD's European Honors Program. He earned his MFA in 1990, from the University of Maryland, working with artists such as Anne Truitt, and Sam Gilliam. Growing up just outside of Washington, D.C., Sheldon was greatly influenced by the world class examples of both painting and sculpture on view at the National Gallery of Art, Hirshorn and Sculpture Garden, and National Air and Space Museum. His work has evolved over the years as both a painter and a sculptor.

David Sheldon on his sculpture: "Having lived in the Western North Carolina mountains for many years now, I draw from the power and majesty of the mountains, the star-filled skies at night and a sense that one is connected, in some way, to this vast, mysterious universe we live in. My 'Skyworks' series of sculpture have what I like to call a 'NASA aesthetic', and are inspired in outward form by the immaculate instruments of space exploration. Art-making allows me to explore the mysteries of the Universe with a more metaphysical approach, allowing room for questions, rather than supplying concrete answers."

David is currently represented by the Mark Bettis Gallery.

David Sheldon





Shawnaizja Simmons

Shawnaizja Simmons is currently receiving her first formal art training at the Brevard College Art department. She plans to teach K-12 after graduation in addition to pursuing her studio work.





Shannon Swenton



Shannon Swenton is a film photographer and sculptor. Her photography focuses on the scenes we pass every day and the people who inhabit them. Her abstract sculpture employs fabric, mirrors, metal, and wood to invoke feelings of nostalgia, comfort, and wonder.



Amanda Szot

Amanda Szot lives in Boone, North Carolina, and is the owner of Dancing Raven ArtWorks. She also teaches at the WNC Sculpture Center in Lenoir, North Carolina.

"My artwork uses a visual language to communicate the human impact on our environment, showing how other living things have needed to adapt, as well as how we have sacrificed our health and happiness to acquire resources from nature. Consumption is necessary for everything to live, and hopefully our future use of the earth and its inhabitants will be more responsible than that of the past."



Jodi Wyse

Jodi Wyse moved to North Carolina three years ago to study Art and Theater at Brevard College.

"With my artwork I hope to tell a story, and to inspire viewers with my work. The way I like to use storytelling in my work is not so much in words but with familiar 3-dimensional forms. I seek to engage my audience by having them question what mysterious land the art piece came from. Through sculpture I have found my own unique way of showing others how to interpret the world."



