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Upcoming exhibition on Statesboro Campus to feature work of artist Ken Wood

November 1, 2018

Using bold, sweeping gestures and working with a limited palette, artist Ken Wood explores the unfolding relationships of space, shape and color through printmaking. His upcoming exhibition “Argonauts,” on view from Nov. 5 through 30 in the Contemporary Gallery at the Center for Art and Theatre on the Georgia Southern University Statesboro Campus, features prints from his Argonauts Quatro series.

Wood will hold an artist talk Tuesday, Nov. 6, at 5 p.m. in Arts Building, room 2071. A reception will follow at the Center for Art and Theatre from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Gallery Director Jason Hoelscher said he’s looking forward to Wood’s talk and exhibition.

“He’s an artist I’ve kept track of for years now,” Hoelscher said. “There’s an interesting tension in his work between the boldness of the shapes and the lively colors on the one hand, versus the sheer repetition of his forms on the other. The result yields a weirdly compelling combination of no-nonsense vivid shapes combined with slight and subtle variations.”

The Argonauts Quatro series integrates Wood’s longstanding interest in iterations of color and shape with various types of temporal and conceptual constraint — a combination that lends the work a powerful urgency. Wood uses DIY tools, a limited number of plates, colors and shapes, and time constraints to create work that is more than the sum of its parts.

Wood’s work has been published in Art in Print, Graphic Impressions and Fresh Paint Magazine, and his paintings and prints have been included in the collections of Twitter, the Cluj-Napoca Museum in Romania, Eastern Standard in Philadelphia, the Guttmacher Institute in Washington, D.C., Rice University, Sun City Tower in Kobe, Japan, and the cruise line The Norwegian. He is also a professor of printmaking at St. Louis Community College. For more information, visit kenwoodstudio.com.

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Posted in Events, Gallery Programming, Noteworthy
Master of Fine Arts candidate has steel sculpture exhibition on Statesboro Campus

November 1, 2018

Kench Lott

Master of Fine Arts candidate Kench Lott challenges depth and understanding with steel sculptures in his upcoming exhibition “Mindful Escapism.” The exhibition will be on view from Nov. 5 through 30 at the Center for Art and Theatre’s University Gallery on the Georgia Southern University Statesboro Campus. A public reception will be Friday, Nov. 30 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the gallery.

Lott creates visual paradoxes to generate a mindful form of escapism by working with basic materials such as hollow steel piping and solid steel rods. Lott’s intent with his works is to divert the viewer’s attention away from the distractions of society by challenging their understanding of space and depth.

“My installations act as a catalyst to focus a viewer’s attention to that which is directly in their field of view,” Lott said. “The structures are visually confusing and sometimes create impossible visual paradoxes that must be studied and contemplated by the viewer.”

Jason Hoelscher, the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art gallery director in Statesboro, said Lott does a great job of commanding a space with a minimalist approach.

“Lott’s work for years now has explored issues of just how much presence can be created with open spaces,” Hoelscher said. “Rather than commanding a gallery space with large forms or heavy mass, Kench has zeroed in on how to command space with little more than slivers of form and the shadows they cast. The work becomes less about itself as an object and more a prompt for paying attention to everything going on around it.”
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