

**PRESS RELEASE:**

November 4, 2009

**For immediate release:**

Through November 27, 2009

**For more information:**

Laura C. Lieberman, 770-949-2787

**23<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL NATIONAL JURIED ARTS EXHIBITION IN DOUGLASVILLE**

*Douglasville, Georgia* – The Cultural Arts Council of Douglasville/Douglas County presents the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Juried Arts Exhibition, selected by Annette Cone-Skelton, an artist and the founding director of the Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia (MOCA-GA). The exhibition opens on Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> and will be on view through November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Hosted by the Douglas County Arts Guild, the opening reception will be held on Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, from 3 until 5 p.m. Juror Cone-Skelton will present a special exhibition tour and gallery talk during the opening from 3:30 until 4:30 p.m. Both events are free and open to the general public.

“In the last few years, the National Juried Exhibition at the Cultural Arts Center here has evolved into an important exhibition opportunity of Georgia artists and for those from throughout the U.S.,” commented Laura C. Lieberman, Executive Director of the Cultural Arts Council. “This year we were very pleased to see so many excellent contemporary and experimental artworks submitted, particularly the wide variety of sculptural explorations using amazingly varied materials (bronze, pine needles, nylon, wool, wood and found objects) -- and represented in our distinguished juror’s selections as well as the paintings, photography and prints that have long been the exhibit’s mainstay.”

Of the more than 239 artworks submitted by 84 artists living and working in 15 states, the 2009 juror selected pieces by 32 artists for the current exhibition. Those selected included many artists who have participated in the exhibition during the past 20 years and newcomers to the Douglasville venue as well. West Georgia-based photographers are especially well-represented with a trio of outstanding manipulated images by Ken Callaway, two of Nicolette Dunn’s mesmerizing visions, another charming duo by Frank Karycinski, and an elegant Weston tribute by Linda Britt. Atlanta artists Paul Benjamin and Kevin Cole present especially engaging work – Benjamin displays three assemblages, and Cole includes an embossed print and a painting on paper as well as one of his better known colorful wall sculptures. Also based in Atlanta, Jena Sebille shows two strong modular encaustic paintings. A newcomer to the competition, West Georgia painter Elizabeth Chapman offers three accomplished works – an energetic triptych and an exquisite diptych as well as a large and highly successful abstract painting, all of her works incorporating collaged elements. Another noteworthy local artist Barry Benner includes two landscapes – one a dark scene of night riders, the other a snow-covered pastoral expanse. From farther afield, Arizona-based Posey Parker’s three playful bronze animals are sure to prove real show-stoppers; Missouri artist Peggy Wyman continues to reinterpret Native American basketry traditions into her fine contemporary fiber sculptures; and New Yorker Eun Yeong Jeong presents the most intriguing experimental jewelry ever to be displayed in this exhibition.

“We were delighted to work with Annette this year. She is not only a dedicated and important Georgia artist but she has also made a significant commitment toward advancing the visual arts throughout the state as the founding director of MOCA GA,” stated CAC director Laura Lieberman. “Her fascinating selection of pieces by a wide variety of artists living in 15 states and working in many different mediums and with very distinctive styles demonstrates that the National Juried Show in Douglasville has evolved an exciting and incredibly interesting show of contemporary art.”

President and CEO of The Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia (MOCA GA), Annette Cone-Skelton has over thirty years of experience as an exhibiting artist, fine arts instructor, curator, editor, and owner of a fine arts advisory firm. She holds a B.F.A. from the Atlanta College of Art, and was recently added to LaGrange College’s “2006-2007 Wall of Outstanding Alumni.” Cone-Skelton was recently the focus of a solo exhibition at the Kiang Gallery in Atlanta and has participated in numerous group shows including *Contemporary Southern Drawings*, High Museum of Art, Atlanta; *Fine Lines*, Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum; *AOP 2002: The 37<sup>th</sup> Art on Paper Exhibition*, Weatherspoon Art Museum (Greensboro, NC); *9 Women in Georgia* at the National Women’s Museum (Washington, D.C.); and in the *New Orleans Museum of Art Triennial*. She was a finalist for the Whitney Biennial 2000, and her work was featured in the 2003 edition of *New American Painting*. Cone-Skelton’s work is held in several museum collections including the High Museum of Art and Michael C. Carlos Museum in Atlanta; the J.B. Speed Museum in Louisville; Houston’s Museum of Fine Arts; the Baltimore Museum of Art; Birmingham Museum of Art; and Herbert F. Johnson Museum at Cornell University as well as in numerous corporate collections. Currently on the Board of the Metropolitan Atlanta Arts and Culture Coalition (MAACC) and the Leadership Cabinet of Arts Leadership League of Georgia (ALL-GA), she has served on the boards of Atlanta College of Art, Art Papers, The Contemporary, the Contemporary Art Society of the High Museum of Art, and the Hambidge Center.

The mission of the Cultural Arts Council of Douglasville/Douglas County is to nurture, guide and stimulate the enjoyment of and participation in the arts among residents of and visitors to Douglas County. The Cultural Arts Council and its exhibitions at the Cultural Arts Center are supported by its members, sponsors, the City of Douglasville, the Douglas County Board of Commissioners, and the Georgia Council for the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. The Cultural Arts Center is located at 8652 Campbellton Street in historic downtown Douglasville, Georgia. Hours of operation are Mondays through Fridays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sundays, 1 until 5 p.m. For more information, please contact the Cultural Arts Council at 770/949-2787.

**THE CULTURAL ARTS COUNCIL OF DOUGLASVILLE/DOUGLAS COUNTY**

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**CALENDAR LISTINGS: EXHIBITS**

**TITLE:** THE 23<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL NATIONAL JURIED EXHIBITION

**PLACE:** The Cultural Arts Center of Douglasville / Douglas County  
8652 Campbellton Street  
Douglasville, Georgia 30134

**DATES:** November 8 – 27, 2009

**RECEPTION:** Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>  
3 until 5 p.m.

**HOST:** Douglas County Arts Guild

**GALLERY TOUR:** November 8<sup>th</sup>  
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

**GALLERY HOURS:** Mondays – Fridays, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sundays, 1 – 5 p.m.

**COST:** Free and open to the public

**CONTACT:** Laura C. Lieberman, 770-949-2787