

# *Fine Arts* **EXPOSURE**

Volume 3 Winter 2007

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Greetings!

Welcome to our third annual issue of *Exposure*. Chowan University is home to a variety of ongoing events in the areas of music, theater and visual arts. Each semester we hope to bring together schedules of exciting performances, plays, cultural trips and art openings. Many thanks to Bryant Smith, a senior in the Graphic Design program and intern for the Department of Visual Arts, for organizing and designing this issue. While pursuing this newsletter please consider the possibility of getting involved with the visual arts. Would you like to try out for a play, help hang an art show, take a trip to New York or perhaps somewhere in Europe, assist with a reception at a musical performance? There are endless ways in which to get involved! Join the cultural arts at Chowan University and see for yourself.

Chris Rupsch.  
Chair, Department of Visual Arts

## Strut Your Stuff

Fall 2007

The Chowan University Department of Visual Arts held its second annual Strut Your Stuff student show during the Fall of 2007. The show was presented and displayed in Green Hall's art galleries from September 13th through to October 18th. This show was an invitation for students of the art department to submit their work to be shown and judged in the department's gallery. Students from each class participated, even freshmen who entered previous works from high school.

The gallery consisted of a showcase of a variety of medias. Paintings, digital works, and sculpted pieces



Bryant Smith with his digital work Ringmaster

were all present. The students display their vast diversity in the content and execution of their works. Landscapes, self-portraits, and

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### Articles in Preview

#### Cameron Johnson

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Artist Cameron Johnson presents a show in Green Hall's art gallery.



#### Sylvia

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The Chowan Players perform the hit Broadway comedy.



# Gallery Openings

## Spring 2008

February 1 - 15 *13th Annual Art Auction and Sale; Rule Britannia*

Opening reception: Friday, February 1st, from 5 - 7pm.

March 4 - April 5 *Invitational; It's Later Than You Think*

Opening reception: Tuesday, March 4th, from 5 - 7pm.

April 18 - May 10 *Senior Exhibition 2008*

This exhibition will feature this years graduating seniors. The opening reception will be on Friday, April 18th from 5 - 7pm.

("Strut Your Stuff" cont. from page 1)

objects pulled from the depths of the students' imaginations could all be seen. The heart and care put into each piece was extremely noticeable.

Works were judged by Linda Bunch, who is the Director of the Suffolk Art League. The pieces were judged not only for their execution but also having the artist's personality evident. She was pleased with the entire exhibition and had to make a tough decision of which pieces



Emily Kincer and her painting *Jungle*

were the prizewinners. First, second, and third place winners were chosen to receive cash prizes. There were also quality portfolios awarded for three Honorable Mentions and two Merit ribbons were given out.

First place was awarded to Bryant Smith for his digital piece entitled *Ringmaster* which featured a man in a top hat welcoming the viewer with an arm made of wire with sharp fingers. Second place went to Morgan Mills for her solar plate piece entitled *Solitude* which features a silhouette of an old tree sitting alone in a small landscape. The third place winner was Megan Bass for a screen print silk screen blanket which featured a polygonal pattern. Honorable mentions were given to Alana Goodridge for her pencil drawing of



Casey Whelan and her oil glaze *Modern Man*

a building called *Windows*, Meagan Whelan for her charcoal self-portrait *Expression of C*, and Casey Whelan for her oil glaze painting of a clown in suit titled *Modern Man*. The Merit ribbons were awarded to Kris Whelan for her acrylic landscaped *Today the Saws are Silent* and Emily Kincer for her acrylic painting *Jungle*. Overall the show was considered a great success.

# Concert Performances

## Spring 2008

January 27	3:30 pm	Jeremy McEntire, flute and Charles Hulin, piano	Daniel Recital Hall
February 16	7:00 pm	Church Choir Festival Concert	Turner Auditorium
February 29	7:30 pm	Richard Becker, piano (Chowan Pianofest)	Turner Auditorium
March 1	7:30 pm	Charles Hulin, piano (Chowan Pianofest)	Turner Auditorium
March 2	3:30 pm	Paula Pressnell, piano (Chowan Pianofest)	Turner Auditorium
March 6	7:30 pm	Chowan Singers, Cantare, Chowan Winds, Jazz Band	Turner Auditorium
March 30	3:30 pm	Gregory Parker, baritone, Paula Pressnell, piano	Daniel Recital Hall
April 1	7:30 pm	Meherrin Chamber Orchestra	Daniel Recital Hall
April 24	8:00 pm	Chowan Winds and Jazz Band	Turner Auditorium
April 28	8:00 pm	Masterworks Concert (Haydn, Creation)	Turner Auditorium

## Exposure News 2007: Department of Music

The Department of Music welcomed two new faculty members this year. Michael Butrico joined us as Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Bands. Mike holds degrees from the University of Central Florida and the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. He is a talented trombonist, conductor, and teacher. He spent the last nine years at Seminole Community College in Orlando, Florida, where he built an outstanding band program.

Dr. Charles Hulin comes to Chowan as an Assistant Professor of Music after spending the last four years as a Visiting Professor at the University of Richmond. Charles holds bachelor's and doctor's degrees from the Peabody Conservatory of Music of the Johns Hopkins University, and a master's degree from the Juilliard School of Music. He is a fabulous pianist who is well-known to many area residents as the founder and director of the Lasker Summer Music Festival.



October marked the homecoming of the Department's 1910 Steinway Model "O" piano. Thanks to the donations of supporters, this instrument, which has spent its entire life at Chowan, was meticulously restored by Case Brothers of Spartanburg, SC, an authorized Steinway rebuilder. The piano now resides in

("Dept. of Music" cont. from page 3)

the Choral Room, where it supports rehearsals and classes on a daily basis.

Other facility improvements include the installation of a seven-station Yamaha Clavinova Digital Piano Laboratory and the subsequent implementation of a four-semester Class Piano course sequence. Also, Daniel Hall 203 was renovated as a "Smart" Classroom, featuring computer and projection equipment, seminar tables, and a Bose Acoustimass 5, Series III sound system.

Ten members of Chowan Singers will travel to Israel

and Egypt as part of the annual Chowan Study Abroad Program. The ensemble, under the direction of Dr. Gregory Parker, will perform at the sites visited on the tour. This marks the first time ever that a music ensemble from Chowan has travelled overseas.

The Department of Music invites everyone to attend its upcoming concerts and recitals. More information about these programs is available by calling (252) 398-6201. Admission to all events is free, and the doors open thirty minutes prior to the beginning of each.



2007 Chowan University Church Choir Festival

## Theater Performances

### Spring 2008

April 18 - 19

8:00 PM

TBA

April 20

2:30 PM

Theatre @  
Chowan

### *Theatre@Chowan stages Broadway hit comedy, Sylvia*

Theatre@Chowan presented A.R. Gurney's Broadway hit, *Sylvia*, on November 2-4 at Chowan University. This romantic comedy depicts the fetching story of a husband, his wife, and an adorable pooch named Sylvia.

After twenty-two years of child rearing in the suburbs, Greg and Kate decide to pack up their belongings and move to Manhattan. Once there, Greg finds an adorable stray dog in the park named "Sylvia." When he brings Sylvia home, the canine becomes a major bone of contention between the couple. Man's best friend turns into a woman's worst nightmare as Kate and Sylvia tussle for Greg's attention and affection. A series of hilarious and touching events ensue as Sylvia marks her territory and digs her way into our hearts.

The six member student cast features Vivian Preston (Junior, English major), Joshua Brown (Senior, Religion major), Ashton Strickland



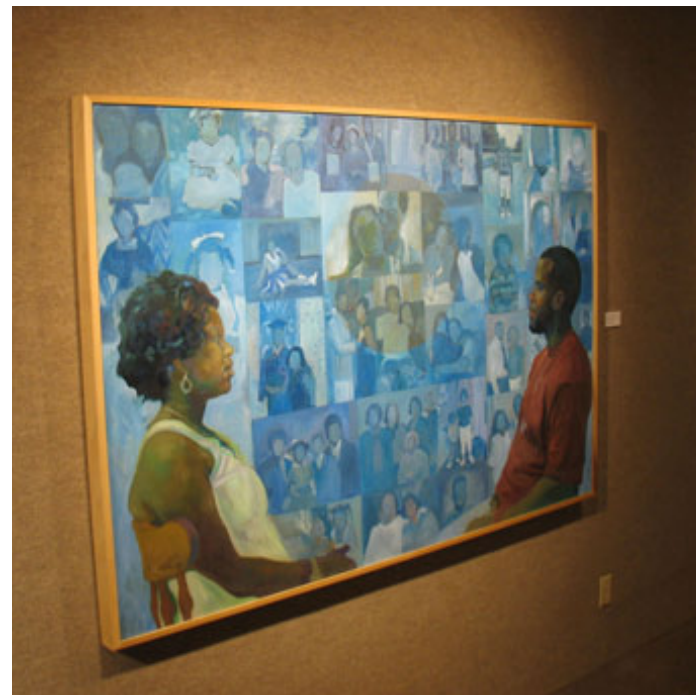
(Freshman, Biology major), Ameer Allen (Freshman, Biology major), Jackie Murray (Senior, Music Industry major), and Shanice Lawton (Freshman, History; Pre-law major). The production is directed by Steven Harders, Assistant Professor of Speech and Drama at Chowan.

Performances were Friday and Saturday, November 2 and 3 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, November 4 at 2:30 p.m. in Turner Auditorium located in the McDowell Columns building on the Chowan University campus. Tickets were free. This production was intended for mature audiences because it contains language and situations that some patrons may find offensive.

### *Cameron Johnson's Deconstructing Pedestals*

Throughout the month of November Green Hall held an art show in its gallery featuring works from an artist named Cameron Johnson. This showing of paintings was entitled *Deconstructing Pedestals*. It is considered one of Green Hall's best gallery showings. Cameron Johnson holds an MFA in painting and drawing from East Carolina University and currently teaches at Meredith College in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Johnson's family values and pride in his African America roots are strongly evident in his paintings. Paintings appear to combine photo book memories with colors and shapes relating to the emotions they evoke. In his artist's statement, Johnson states that his work "reflects my interest in how values are developed and understanding how they affect society." He also states that he like to construct his painting as such that they reflect how his values affect his life.



Johnson's use of geometric shapes is strongly evident in this painting as well his emphasis on objects by bringing them out with detail and color and pushing other elements back with blending and blurring. The subject matter used also reflects his emphasis on values.

## Visual Arts Department Takes Trip to D.C.

On November 14 the Department of Visual Arts hosted a trip to the Smithsonian Museum and National Gallery of Art in Washington D.C. Visual Arts professor Jeff Whelan lead the group which consisted of two bus loads filled with interested students, faculty, and staff. The major attractions were the exhibitions of Edward Hopper and J.M.W. Turner at the National Gallery of Art.

The following is taken from a press release for each of these two exhibitions:

"This is the first comprehensive survey of Edward Hopper's career to be seen in American museums outside New York in more than 25 years. Edward Hopper's classic works captured the realities of urban and rural American life with a poignancy and beauty that have placed them among the most enduring and popular images of the 20th century."

"Rising from a modest background, Joseph Mallord William Turner (1775–1851) became the leading British artist of his era. Over the course of six decades, he transformed the genre of landscape through works that proclaimed him heir to the old masters even while they heralded a new and visionary direction in 19th-century painting."

## CU Drama Students Take a Bite Out of the Big Apple

At 5 a.m. on October 12, an American Buslines bus carrying a full load of Chowan faculty, staff, students and family members departed from campus and headed toward New York City. The trip was sponsored by Student Affairs and organized by Frances Cole, Director of Special Programs at Chowan. "I wanted to revive our regular trips to New York that retired faculty member, Doug Eubank, used to organize through the art department," said Frances. "For many students it's their first opportunity to visit popular sites like the Statue of Liberty, the Empire State building, and Broadway. It's also an opportunity for students to experience the culture that New York has to offer."

Among the passengers were several students that have been active in the drama program at Chowan. Vivian Preston, a junior English major with a minor in Drama, had the opportunity to see a large scale musical, *Wicked*, and a small two character, off-Broadway play called "None of the Above." "It was so exciting to sit in the audience at a Broadway play. The performances were breathtaking. I wanted to be up there with them."

Sophomore, Stephen Shields, a Psychology major, is also active in the drama program at Chowan. Last semester he played the loveable hound dog in Theatre@Chowan's production of *Wiley and the Hairy Man*. Stephen caught a matinee showing of Monty Python's *Spamalot*. "The show was hilarious. It was everything a Broadway play should not be. It made fun of the fact that it was on Broadway. I can't wait to go back next year," he said.

Three days later, the bus returned to Chowan with a load of weary passengers. Despite their fatigue and sore feet, many eagerly vowed to return again next year.



## Anne Beekman Joins Visual Arts Faculty

Anne Beekman is the new Assistant Professor of Visual Arts. She comes to Chowan University from Ohio and brings with her twenty years of working experience in the design industry. She is also an award winning graphic designer, holding eight national awards. Also she holds multiple degrees; a BFA from the Cleveland Institute of Art with an illustration major and photography minor,

and a MFA from Marywood University in graphic design and illustration.

She has worked in advertising with companies in the New York and New Jersey area. Jobs have been performed for well known national entities such as Johnson & Johnson and Calvin Klein. She currently runs her own design firm which can be found at [www.BeekmanStudios.com](http://www.BeekmanStudios.com). Here she specializes in performing freelance promotional jobs for small businesses including web design and printing.

## 13th Annual Art Auction and Sale

### Rule Britannia

Reception: Friday, February 1st, 5-7 pm

February 1st - February 15th, 2008

Come and buy works or art by staff and students to help raise money for the Department of Visual Arts.

