

SUU COLLEGE of PERFORMING
and VISUAL ARTS

BRAITHWAITE

FINE ARTS GALLERY

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Michael French
Marketing & Public Relations Coordinator
College of Performing & Visual Arts
Southern Utah University
435-865-8667
michaelfrench@suu.edu

SUU's Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery Offers *ABC: Assemblage, Book Art, Collage* September 10 to November 7, 2015

Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah: The first thing we learned as youngsters was our "ABCs." In September SUU's **Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery** is going to teach art enthusiasts, youngsters, students, adults, and educators a vibrant variation on the alphabet with ***ABC: Assemblage, Book Art, Collage***. Opening on September 10 at 7pm, this exhibition showcases three unique art forms within one show. Though many people are familiar with assemblage and collage, book art will also be spotlighted. Sponsored by the **Friends of the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery**, ***ABC*** runs through November 7. Fall gallery hours are **Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 7pm**. In addition, seven artworks from the collection of Book Art at the University of Utah will be displayed in SUU's **Gerald R. Sherratt Library** in conjunction with ***ABC***. Library exhibition hours are **Monday to-Thursday, 7am-12am, Friday, 7am-7pm, Saturday, 11am-7pm and Sunday, 2-10pm. Admission is free** to both shows and open to the public who are encouraged to attend.

ABC: Assemblage, Book Art, Collage is co-curated by the distinguished book artist **Sue Cotter**, **Deborah K. Snider**, SUU Associate Professor of Art Education, and the New York based internationally acclaimed collagist **Jonathan Talbot**, who invited artists from across the United States to share their intriguing, inspiring and creatively provocative work with our audiences. Collage work features combinations of media on a flat surface, while assemblage is three-dimensional mixed-media. Book art may include repurposed and sculpted books, or books created through numerous processes entirely by the artist. There will be cutting-edge artwork that will appeal to every taste. Coordinated by Master of Fine Arts in Arts Administration students, **Chelsea Kauffman** and **Delaney Patterson**, collaborations include working with faculty and staff in the **College of Performing and Visual Arts, the Garth & Jerri Frehner Museum of Natural History, the Gerald R. Sherratt Library, the College of Science & Engineering**

and the College of Humanities & Social Sciences. This exhibition continues the tradition of original SUU-curated shows that commenced in fall 2012 with *Everything In Between: Art Quilts, Fabric Collage, & Embroidery*, the fall 2013 exhibition of drawings and paintings by beloved local artist, Jim Jones, and the fall 2014 *50 from 6* invitational ceramic show.

With ABC, there will be a number of affiliated seminars, workshops and presentations including Dr. Matt Weeg's "Assemblage in Nature," SUU Library's "What's Happening to Books?," Jonathan Talbot's Art Insights appearance "Collage: Medium & Metaphor" in conversation with Dr. Andrew Marvick, Jessica Gerlach offering two hands-on letter press workshops, and Sue Cotter's Art Insights' presentation "From Book Arts to Book Art." These are all open to the public and are free. In addition, school tours for the ABC exhibition lead by education docents will include hands-on activities for K-12 students beginning in September and continuing through November. To register, please contact the Gallery at **435-586-5432**.

Accessing her inspiration to co-curating ABC, Deborah Snider remarked, "As an artist who is passionate about meticulous detail, I gravitate toward the work of kindred spirits. I appreciate artists' skill in cutting, layering, adhering, constructing, unusual use of media, and creative juxtaposition."

Sue Cotter is a letterpress printer, artist bookmaker, assemblage artist who began her career as a painter, but she also loves to write. In 1988 she discovered the perfect marriage of both passions in the Book Art genre. After earning a BFA in painting she went on to study the historic techniques of letterpress printing and bookmaking at the University of Nevada, Reno where she began making limited edition and one-of-a-kind book art. In recent years extensive travels have led Cotter to create works that do not require printing presses and other cumbersome equipment – altered books, story-box assemblage, books created from unusual found objects.

Deborah K. Snider holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Art Education, Drawing, and Design and a Master of Fine Arts in Interdisciplinary Arts. She has directed three community art centers; taught art at all age levels; and administered diverse programs in higher education. Deb is an award-winning visual artist in drawing, mixed-media, and art quilt/fabric collage whose work has been published, exhibited, and collected world-wide. In 2016, *The Clearing House Journal of Educational Research*, will publish a special edition titled "Drawing from Within: The Arts and Animated Learning," which was guest-edited by Deb. She is frequently invited to teach, speak, judge, and perform at local, regional, state-wide, and national events. Deb is the recipient of the 2009 Higher Education Art Educator of the Year Award from the Colorado Art Education Association, the 2015 Higher Education Art Educator of the Year Award from the Utah Art Education Association, and the 2015 Pacific Region Higher Education Art Educator of the Year Award from the National Art Education Association.

The artworks of **Jonathan Talbot** have been exhibited at The National Academy and the Museum of Modern Art in New York, have represented the United States overseas in exhibitions sponsored by the State Department and the Smithsonian Institution, and are included in museum collections in the United States and Europe. Talbot's works include oils, watercolors, etchings, collages and multi-dimensional collage-constructions. Among the public collections holding Talbot works are The Newark Museum, The Smith College Museum, The Everhart Museum, The Byer Museum, The Free Library of Philadelphia, The San Francisco Academy of Art, Fairleigh Dickinson University, The Provincetown Historical Society and the Toronto Central Library. Talbot maintains his studio in Warwick, New York where he lives with his wife Marsha. They are the parents of two children: a daughter, Loren, and a son, Garret. Talbot and his art are the subject of the recently published book, *The Collages of Jonathan Talbot*, by Deborah K. Snider.

ABC: Assemblage, Book Art, Collage is made possible by major funding from **The Friends of the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery**, additional sponsors include the **Utah Division of Arts & Museums, Rainbow Sign & Banner** and the **Cedar City RAP Tax (Recreation, Arts, Parks)**.

The Friends of the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery is a non-profit group established in 1977, one year after the Gallery was opened on the Southern Utah University campus. For over 35 years the Friends have enriched lives through their sponsorship of world-class exhibitions and outstanding arts education programs. Friends'-supported exhibitions attract legions of art lovers from throughout the intermountain west. *In Focus: National Geographic Greatest Portraits* exhibition saw a record number of attendees from throughout the region. Other Friends' supported exhibitions include *Francisco Goya: Los Caprichos, Chihuly Baskets, Soviet Era Art: 1917-1991, Everything in Between: Art Quilts, Fabric Collage and Embroidery, Jim Jones: The San Blas Years* and *50 from 6: Contemporary Ceramics from the Six Rocky Mountain States*. All of these exhibitions were free to the general public.

Information about **ABC** can be obtained by calling the Gallery at **435-586-5432** (Tue-Sat, noon-7pm) or visiting www.suu.edu/pva/artgallery.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS: ABC: Assemblage, Book Art, Collage

WHAT: This exhibition showcases three unique art forms, assemblage, book art and collage. The art has been created through cutting, layering, adhering, constructing, unusual use of media, and creative juxtaposition.

WHO: Southern Utah University, Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery and the Gerald R. Sherratt Library

WHEN: September 10 – November 7, 2015

TIME: Gallery: Tue-Sat, noon-7pm
Library: Mon-Thu, 7am-12am, Sat, 11am-7pm, Sun, 2-10pm

WHERE: Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery and the Gerald R. Sherratt Library

PRICES: Free admission

INFO: 435-586-5432 (Tue-Sat, noon-7pm) or www.suu.edu/pva/artgallery