

# ALABAMA ARTISTS GALLERY

The Alabama State Council on the Arts is proud to showcase the work of Alabama artists in its Montgomery gallery in the RSA Tower. Hours are Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

## CELEBRATING CONTEMPORARY ART IN ALABAMA: The Biennial

**November 8 - January 6, 2012**

The exhibition *Celebrating Contemporary Art in Alabama: The Biennial* was initially held at the Johnson Center for the Arts in Troy from August 14 through November 3, 2011 and was the result of a collaborative effort between the Alabama State Council on the Arts and the Troy-Pike Cultural Art Center, Inc. The presentation established a survey of works by a uniquely identified group of Alabama artists. These artists have received Individual Artist Fellowships from the Alabama State Council on the Arts.

Selection for these fellowships, currently given in the amount of \$5000, requires an application, followed by a panel review by experts in the field, and finally approval by the full Council. Guidelines for the program state that the awards are made "based on merit of work, career achievement, career potential, and service to the state." Specifically, considerations focus on the excellence of the work and the professional commitment of the artist.

The staff at the Johnson Center issued invitations to participate in the exhibition, resulting in positive responses from 52 artists who had been honored by the Council from 1987-2011. Works include the full range of visual art: sculpture, drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, craft and experimental approaches. Because of space limitations, The Alabama Artists Gallery selected works by 24 of the initial artists to continue the exhibit in Montgomery.

This is a celebration of excellence like no other. This is an opportunity to view the best of creativity—art made with passion, purpose, knowledge, and understanding of process and materials. This is a chance to look at recent art developments, to view contemporary expression, to study growth and change in an artist's work, to enter the dialogue. This is an opportunity to understand the best of Alabama.

Georgine Clarke,  
Visual Arts Program Manager  
& Alabama Artists Gallery Manager  
334-242-4076, ext. 250



