



“An UnCommon Art Show” Spotlight: Miles Partington

November 8, 2016

by Pat Rogers

“An UnCommon Art Show” opens this weekend at Ashawagh Hall in East Hampton. The group show, sponsored by Hampton Photo Arts, will continue to accept artist submissions at their shop in Bridgehampton through Friday, November 11, 2016 or until all the artist spots have been filled.

The exhibition, created from an Open Call for Artists, is designed to both attract artists from the East End and artists who are working with unusual materials, an unusual process or creating art that may push boundaries. Even before the doors open on Saturday, November 12, 2016, Hampton Photo Arts is peeling back some of the suspense to reveal the work of four artists who will exhibit in the show. First up is Miles Partington.

Miles Partington

[Miles Partington](#) is a Southampton native who has been making art from an early age. He was an assistant to figurative sculptor [William King](#) ((1925-2015) for a time. The sense of humor and whimsy demonstrated in Partington’s sculptures is a clear connection between the emerging artist and the master sculptor. Both artists make figurative work that has a twist of the unusual. Both artists make figurative work that has a twist of the unusual. Partington works in both carved wood and hand molded clay in another connection to the renowned artist.

Partington frequently includes animals in his work that can range from carved tableaux, narrative scenes, self-portraits or figurative sculpture. The time he spent with [William King](#) was instrumental on many levels, said Partington in a phone interview. Being able to relax into infusing his own sense of humor and sense of whimsy into his art without qualm was a benefit of working with King, said Partington. So was solidifying his interest and move from painting, drawing and stencil into sculpture.

Another influence is his step-father, [Dennis Snyder](#). Another artist who embraces humor and a sense of the absurd in his work, Snyder began taking Partington to art exhibition when he was around three years old, said Partington.

Being around art and artists allows a special type of freedom for the self-taught artist to create and follow where process and his imagination takes him. Where it leads is frequently to the animal kingdom where personality-filled creatures take center stage of narrative works or to self-portraits where the figure is often captured in mid-motion. Art of both minds will be exhibited in “An UnCommon Art Show.”

Giraffes and elephants are frequently animals of choice in Miles Partington's art. "I think they're beautiful and they're also playful by nature," he said.



"Full House II" by Miles Partington. Courtesy of the artist.



"Self Portrait Sculpting" by Miles Partington. Courtesy of the artist.



"Self Portrait Sculpting" by Miles Partington. Courtesy of the artist.

Partington works with both wood and clay to create his figurative art. Carving wood is a more exacting process—especially when working with hardwood—that requires patterned motions that can make it easy for the artist to lose himself in the art making process. Clay offers a different type of experience because of its malleable nature. The ability to coax clay into forms allows a freedom to explore as well as new challenges from working with wood, said Partington.

No matter which material Partington chooses, each piece reflects his sense of humor and includes a piece of his personality.



"Neighbors" by Miles Partington. Courtesy of the artist.



"Swimming Pool" by Miles Partington. Courtesy of the artist.

Miles Partington has exhibited his art at Southampton Arts Center ("[East End Collected2](#)"); Tripoli Gallery (Thanksgiving Collective); 4 North Main Gallery in Southampton; the Sag Harbor Whaling Museum (Secret Whale Show); group shows at Ashawagh Hall and galleries in Brooklyn, Seattle, New York State and more.

His work can be viewed on his website www.milespartington.com.



"Diner" by Miles Partington. Courtesy of the artist.



"Watering Hole (detail)" by Miles Partington. Courtesy of the artist.

BASIC FACTS: "An UnCommon Art Show" hosted by [Hampton Photo Arts and Framing](#) takes place on Saturday, November 12, and Sunday, November 13, 2016. An Opening Reception takes place on Saturday from 5:30 to 11 p.m. The show continues on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ashawagh Hall is located at 780 Springs Fireplace Road, East Hampton, NY 11937. www.ashawagh-hall.org.

Artists can continue to apply to exhibit through November 11, 2016 by visiting Hampton Photo Arts and Framing in the Bridgehampton Commons, 2044 Montauk Hwy, Water Mill, NY 11976. www.hamptonphotoarts.com. For information on the exhibition or how to apply, contact Franki at commonartzine@gmail.com.

Even before the doors open on Saturday, November 12, 2016, Hampton Photo Arts decided to ease some of the suspense to reveal the work of four artists who will exhibit in the show: [Franki Mancinelli](#); [Miles Partington](#), [Adam Barnello](#) and [Francisco Aliotta](#). The work of all four artists pull from different traditions and influences, demonstrating some of the diverse works that will be exhibited in the open call art show.

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