



BIO-BAUMGARTEN

*“I agree with the idea-
Knowing the future is possible but only by
those who design it.”*

If you Google-Search **Lee Baumgarten- artist** a history line will pop-up with pages of articles, leaving a good trail of evidence that he is always exploring new ways of connecting, supporting & interacting with others through the arts.

Fine Art He was born in Charlotte NC- USA, and by nature he is curious and creatively visual. He has lived and produced in Ohio, New York, West Virginia, Florida, South Carolina and North Carolina. His paintings, drawings and sculptures are included in corporate and private collections nationwide and recently expanding abroad into middle Europe. Lee is presently creating a collaborative traveling art exhibit titled “*We See Heaven Upside Down*” in tandem with (Moving Poets) artist MyLoan Dinh of Berlin, Germany. The work concerns modern day refugees and the journey and experiences of displacement. It is intended to promote dialog on a multi-national level. In coordination to this body of work he is organizing an educational presentation- seminar/workshop to be offered through art & science institutions, colleges and foundations for art professionals and graduate students who intend to promote their work on a global basis. Lee hopes to inspire them to become more aware and sensitive to cultural diversity. The collaborative exhibit and process begins in Schöneeweide, East Berlin, Germany in June, 2016.

Education Lee has been teaching art & design for 35 years, began teaching kids during high school & bachelor studies and in 1982 accepted an Associate Professor position at the Columbus College of Art & Design (CCAD) teaching painting, drawing & 3-D design. He returned to the Carolinas in 1986 to pursue interests in full time art-making. He founded the Civic & Cultural Arts Center (CCAC) a non-profit organization providing public classes, workshops, and professional exhibits that spanned from 2008 to 2014. Lee continues to provide individual and workshop studies through his studio.

In 2013 he was awarded a grant by the National Dunsbaugh-Dalton Foundation to promote creativity & design in public schools, which Charlotte Mecklenburg School System (CMS) adopted in October, 2013. Presently, he is an advisor for academies and magnet schools in CMS, and others interested in the STEAM model of programing. In December, 2015 Congress passed a rewrite of the STEM Education Bill and President Obama signed the Bill into law, a STEAM model for all public education which will effect over 50 million students nationwide, and a greater emphasis on the arts.

Home Life His wife, Denise, is an accomplished artist in Charlotte. They have two sons (both creatives), the eldest, Elijah, studying medicine in North Carolina and the younger, Case, on top scholarship in art by Corcoran School of Arts & Design & George Washington University in Washington, DC.

His Personal message

“My goal is to tell a story of cultural diversity, accenting & highlighting our ‘likenesses’ through communicating that we are all passionate about living a dynamic life full of promise & sharing community visions of purpose, reason & value.”

Lee can be contacted at 704-609-0025 or leebaumgarten@icloud.com and his website www.leebaumgarten.com



Lee Baumgarten



Artist's Personal Statement

Beauty has a way of spilling out onto a table and etching its way into the heart. It is witnessed in a brief moment of harmonious balance in odds. It can be a notion between what is desired and what is curious. It is at the core of all Aesthetics, that which makes us human.

However, I want more; to share with others the very essence of an idea, -that what is considered in relation or in proportion to something else, -that what we see as we size and measure ourselves to the world.

Art is an address to acuity, where creativity can be found in every moment between action and discovery. Art-making translates what we find worthy and inspiring. The challenge is to shape and form the intangible into something real. Something concrete.



Contemporary Art | Lee Baumgarten

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BAUMGARTEN

2015

portfolio & resume

BAUMGARTEN

VITAE

Brief Resumé Sheet / Highlights

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Origin

Lee Baumgarten is a native of Charlotte, North Carolina USA and continues producing studio artwork in central Charlotte.

Personal Mantra

I agree with the idea-

Knowing the future is possible, but only by those who design it.

Proficiencies/Interests

- Painting & Drawing
- Sculpture
- Mosaics & Reliefs
- Design Concepts
- Creative processing/ problem solving
- Arts Educator / Facilitator
- Cultural & Creative Business of Art & Design- profit & nonprofit
- Educational Activist- STEM to STEAM, creativity & design in public education
- Writing & music

Timeline/ Background

- 2014-2015 return to full time studio art
- 2008-2014 he founded and directed the Civic & cultural Arts Center, CCAC, a non-profit arts organization supported by NCAC/ASC Community Grants and many corporate Sponsorships & organizations.
- 1998-2003 created and directed Gallery 237 to support local artists.
- 1988 returned to Charlotte working full-time in painting, sculpture & design.
- 1982 returned to The Columbus College of Art & Design (CCAD) for a full-time teaching position in painting, drawing, Anatomy & Structure, and 3-D design through the mid 1980's.
- 1980-82 awarded a Graduate Teacher Associate (GTA), teaching drawing during MFA studies at WVU, in Morgantown. He accepted a position at CCAD during his 3rd semester.
- 1975-80 student/teacher while earning a BFA, at the Columbus College of Art & Design (CCAD) in Columbus, Ohio.

Arts/ Artist

Lee's art work is represented in private and corporate collections throughout the country and abroad. Some of his corporate works are available to see locally in Charlotte and surrounding areas at

- Presbyterian Hospital Matthews NC
- Wells Fargo Bank Corp Center Charlotte
- Carolina HealthCare Systems, CMC/Main
- CMC/Steele Creek
- CMC/ Pineville
- Spartanburg Regional Hospital SC Doctors Building Atrium

Educator/ Facilitator

In 2013 he received a National Grant from Dunspaugh Dalton Foundation to produce a Conference at UNCC-Center City Building to promote "creativity in the public schools" and support a Youth Education & Empowerment initiative with a focus on integrating STEM to STEAM "Innovations & Creativity" in public education. The paradigm was adopted in 2013 by the Charlotte Mecklenburg School System. CMS is perhaps the first Public School System in the nation to adopt STEAM as a public program model, and finally, in November, 2015 our congressional legislators passed the STEM2STEAM model for all public education which will effect over 50 million students nationwide.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Educational

TEACHING/ Facilitator

- 2008-2014
• Civic & Cultural Arts Center
Painting, Drawing, Design & Portfolio Development
- 1998-2003
• Gallery 237
Painting
- 1982-1985
• Columbus College of Art & Design, Columbus Ohio
• 3 Dimensional Design
• Anatomy & Structure
• Figure Drawing
• Painting & Model
• Painting
• Fundamentals of Drawing
• Evening Program for Adults, Drawing
• Saturday School Program for Kids
- 1982-1987
• **CCAD Duties & Responsibilities**
• Construction Shops Crew Supervisor/ Industrial Design Shops
• College Exhibits & Furniture construction
• Student Advisor
• Senior Exhibits Coordinator
- Other Student-Teaching experience**
- 1980
GTA, Drawing Fundamentals, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV
- 1977-1982
• Saturday Morning School Program, CCAD, Columbus, Oh,
• middle & high school groups, Painting & Drawing, 1976-1980
• Student Supervisor- Wood/Plastic/Metals Construction Shops, 1977-80, Dean's Crew-Fabrication,
- 1975
Char/Meck Park & Recreation, Select-Student Summer Art Teacher, East Meck high School facility for middle school kids

AWARDS/ Educational

- 2013
National Dunspaugh-Dalton Foundation, \$15,000 Grant for STEM to STEAM educational initiative
- 2008-2013
ASC/ NC Arts Council- yearly: Grassroots Community Grants, Summer Kids Workshops at the CCAC
- College level years**
- 1980-1982
Graduate Teacher Associate, Masters degree studies at WVU (Fundamentals of Drawing 101)
- 1980
BFA, Columbus College of Art & Design, Columbus Ohio
- 1980
Select; CCAD- Summer Sculpture Workshop with Italian artist Vaccarino (student of Rodin)
- 1981
Select Artist; Huntington Museum- Robert DeNiro, Sr., Art Workshop & following Exhibit at State Art Museum, Morgantown, WV
- 1977-1979
Ford Foundation Student Awards, CCAD
- South Mecklenburg High School, Charlotte NC**
- 1975
CCAD- College Scholarship
- 1975
Scholastics Arts & Letters, 2 Gold Key Awards & Honorable mention Nationals
- 1975
Char/Meck Park & Recreation, Select-Student Summer Art Teacher, East Meck facility, middle-school age group
- 1975
South Meck High School, Art Honors & Achievement

AWARDS/ Cultural

- 2014
Best Artist, Charlotte BOB Awards- Charlotte Magazine
www.charlottemagazine.com/Charlotte.../Lee-Baumgarten/.../42132/
Lee Baumgarten. MapNC. Categories: Arts ... Award: Best Visual Artist-2012, BestArtist-2014.
- 2012
Best Visual Artist, Charlotte BOB Awards- Charlotte Magazine
<http://www.charlottemagazine.com/Charlotte-Magazine/bob-awards-winners-guide/index.php/name/Lee-Baumgarten/listing/42132/>
- 2012
Artists Recognition, NFOCUS Magazine
nfocuslouisville.com/charlotte-artists-readers-nom/?replytocom=1649
Sep 27, 2012 - Here is a mix of artists whose names came through over and over again.

VITAE, continued

2011-2015 Arts/ Cultural- Educational Highlights

<http://www.edu2u.info/#!/Do-the-Arts-belong-in-STEM/csjq/558cfae70cf2bba69537d54f>

STEAM – ‘A’ stands for art – focuses on the critical need for creativity when solving problems, instead of relying solely on memorization and standard formulas. “A rounded education means you have to have some sense of expression. That’s what the STEAM concept is all about,” **Lee Baumgarten, a former professor turned full-time artist** says. “The arts bring in creativity. You can’t really redefine anything without some kind of creativity.” Baumgarten is passionate about putting the ‘A’ back to where it belongs – in STEM.

Harvard University education professor Howard Gardner feels the same way, “I have no hesitation in saying we need to add the letter A. An education devoid of arts...is an empty, half-brain kind of education.”

[STEAM Education Make Arts essential to STEM education](http://www.stemschool.com/.../steam-education-make-arts-essential-to-stem-ed...)

www.stemschool.com/.../steam-education-make-arts-essential-to-stem-ed...

Jul 17, 2013 - That effort became stronger in North Carolina around July 15-16, 2013, when local **artist** and former professor **Lee Baumgarten** hosted the first ...

[STEM 2 STEAM - UNC Charlotte Center City](http://centercity.uncc.edu/.../STEAM5...)

centercity.uncc.edu/.../STEAM5...

University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Jul 15, 2013 - 10:30 am **Lee Baumgarten, Lead Discussion. 10:45 am ... 1:40 pm** Lee Baumgarten, Artist/ Art Educator, “The Artist's Toolbox”. 2:30 pm

[A creative, and needed, outlet for teachers - Charlotte Weekly](http://thecharlotteweekly.com/.../11/a-creative-and-needed-outlet-for-teachers/)

thecharlotteweekly.com/.../11/a-creative-and-needed-outlet-for-teachers/

Nov 18, 2013 - (an Art Exhibit- “Bite of the Apple”) The brainchild of CCAC executive director **Lee Baumgarten**, ... North and South Carolina teachers and educators, encouraging the artists to produce

2013-2015 Arts/ Cultural- Other Newspaper, Internet Highlights

clclt.com/.../theater-reviews-reloaded-history-isnt-a-drag

Creative Loafing

Nov 8, 2013 - ... spectacle of a live auction of paintings by **Lee Baumgarten** ...and a mix of theater, dance, and visual **artists**

<http://www.kunst-am-spreeknie.de/index.php/programm-a-z.html>

Berlin, Germany. July 4, 2015 - Choreography by Till Schmidt-Rimpler, live painting by NC, USA native visual artist and arts activist **Lee Baumgarten**

**For more articles and website posts Google Search- “Lee Baumgarten- Artist”*

Exhibits, Shows & Art Presentations, projects

Current Projects:

- 2016, “**We See Heaven Upside Down**” is an international-traveling exhibit that opens on June 4th, 2016 in Berlin, Germany and the project will evolve over time as continuing and new collaborations take place. 'We See Heaven Upside Down' is a dialog responding to the contemporary challenges of migration and displacement related to this unique human experience. Based on a concept that began in 2015 in tandem with artist MyLoan Dinh of Berlin, it is developing into an international collaboration between creative minds to stimulate conversation and understanding, with the intent to draw a supportive, connecting line between displacement, individuals and their journey. Essentially, the project strives to spur moments of genuine and raw empathy in our often hectic and confusing times., Since the inception of the project, immense interest and support for international collaboration among artists, educators and creative organizations have developed. Participation of collaborators are site specific as the project migrates to different locations.
- **SHOWDOWN Exhibit**, Hart Witzen Gallery, Charlotte NC
- 2016, **Eco Trash Couture**, Poetry Reading, Mount Holly, NC
- 2016, “**STEM2STEAM**”- Beginning in late 2012, it is a continuation of working with CMS, the Charlotte public school system, K-12, to support and address the problems of transitioning the American educational model for our kids, into a more creative and innovative process. The President signed STEAM into law on December 10, 2015, and this model will become the standard for education in all public schools across the country, effecting 50 million student. For example, I am presently facilitating the production of an all electric ART-CAR at Olympic High School with a team of 8 students.
- 2016, **Art with Heart Benefit, Bank of America**, Founders Hall, February
-
- 2015, November Opening “**30 Year Retrospective**”, **Art + Aperitif**, Le Méridien, Charlotte, NC – Collaborative Exhibition Lee Baumgarten & Denise Torrance

Recent Projects:

- 2015, **Barefoot Studio Crawl (Open Door Studios) – Moving Poets**, Charlotte, NC, USA
- 2015, July- **The Novilla MOBE, East Berlin- Germany**, coinciding with the Kunst Am Sprenkie Celebration,
- 2015, July- Artists Studio visits and project in tandem collaborations, **Zagreb/Pula/ Lijnjan, Croatia**
- 2015, July- **Lijnjan, Croatia, “World In 3 Words”** an international arts collaborative with Spiral Channels/ of Liechtenstein
- 2015, May- **Levine Museum of the New South**, presenting collaborative with assistant-Charlotte artist: Monique Luck “*Taste*” Gala Benefit
- (continued- next page) 3/4
- 2015, April- **Moving Poets** Benefit Gala, “Mit Glascherben- With Broken Glass” Art Installation in multi-media & video
- 2015, February- **The Novilla MOBE, East Berlin, Germany-** collaborative Artists visit & site planning
- 2013, May- **Levine Museum of the New South**, presenting artist during the “*Taste*” Gala Benefit
- 2013 **UNCC-Center City Art & Architecture Building, STEM2STEAM Seminar & Workshops** for public school educators
- 2013 **Blumenthal Performing Arts Center- Booth Playhouse**, “Moving Poets- *Reloaded*” a contemporary combined arts presentation, Oct-Nov
- 2013 **UNCC-Center City Art & Architecture Building**, forum, “*Authors & Artists*” presentation about Voice in collaboration with author/Professor Dr. Suzanne Smith
- 2011-2013 **Carolinas Medical Center** Collection- that includes 100 original artworks by local artists & students for the permanent collection at the new *CMC Pineville Bed Tower*.
- 2010 & 2011, **Lancaster Arts Benefit** Exhibit, Lancaster, SC
- 2009 **CMC- Steele Creek** including 20 works of art for the permanent collection with 17 different local artists
- 2008 & 2009 Judge, Art exhibit for Employees, Compass Group International
- 2011 **ASC/Wells Fargo Community Celebration**, with Charlotte Center City Partners presenting “Chalk it Up” Street/Art Drawing Competition in Uptown Charlotte, where he delivered \$1000 of support funds to each of the art departments at UNCC, Winthrop University, Queens University and South Meck High School. Since, he has devised student teams to produce chalk drawings for CMC- University, Huntersville Spring Art Festival, and Charlotte Center City Partners
- 2015, November, **Art + Aperitif, Le Méridien, Charlotte, NC – Collaborative Exhibition** Lee Baumgarten & Denise Torrance
- 2015 **Barefoot Studio Crawl (Open Door Studios) – Moving Poets**, Charlotte, NC, USA
- 2013 **Bite of the Apple-Art Educator’s Art Exhibit, Civic & Cultural Art Center**, Pineville, NC, USA
- 2013 National Yard Art Day, Pineville, NC, USA
- 2012 **Bite of the Apple-Art Educator’s Art Exhibit, Civic & Cultural Art Center**, Pineville, NC, USA
- 2012 **Night Critters Exhibit-** Civic & Cultural Art Center, Pineville, NC, USA
- 2012 National Yard Art Day, Pineville, NC, USA
- 2011 **Bite of the Apple-Art Educator’s Art Exhibit**, Civic & Cultural Art Center, Pineville, NC, USA
- 2010 **Bite of the Apple-Art Educator’s Art Exhibit**, Civic & Cultural Art Center, Pineville, NC, USA

Special notes:

1992-2006 **Studio Art Production:** After teaching full time in a private art college I engaged in producing artwork through large-scale Corporate commissions, and teaching as a private Tutor. I did not re-enter or re-engage in artist exhibitions until after I founded Gallery 237- an art gallery in South Charlotte in 1998. My goal at the time was to promote local/regional artists and became an advocate to support arts awareness in the South Charlotte community. I did not promote my own work through shows for nearly ten years except for the exhibits, presentations and shows that I personally produced at the gallery.

1998-2003 **Gallery 237**, Pineville NC,

Gallery (self) represented, continuous exhibiting artist. Exhibits rotated monthly for a total of 54 monthly art exhibits. I also represented over 200 other local artists.

Others/ Facilitator:

- 2015
Carolinas Medical Center University, Chalk Drawing Artist
Hello Huntersville Festival, Chalk Drawing Artist
- 2014
Hello Huntersville Festival, Chalk Drawing Artist
YAD, Yard Art Participant
- 2013
Art & Soul Gala and Silent Auction-Lancaster County Arts Council, Artist contributor for silent auction benefit for Arts Council
Hello Huntersville Festival, Chalk Drawing Artist
Taste of the New South -**Levine Museum of the New South**, Artist, community interactive live on-site painting
“Art on a Soccer Ball” **UNCC Center City** silent auction donation to benefit Urban Ministry Works program
- 2012
Carolinas Medical Center-University - Chalk Drawing Event, co-ordinator/facilitator, during administrative/medical celebration
Hello Huntersville Festival, Chalk Drawing Event Coordinator/Facilitator
DNC-CHARLOTTE -Democratic National Convention - Legacy Village, Charlotte, NC, Artist, community interactive live on-site painting
- 2010
Second Anniversary Gala and Silent Auction-(CCAC) **Civic & Cultural Arts Center**, Artist contributor for silent auction benefit
- 2009
CMC- Steele Creek, Permanent art collection, 20 pieces of art, Atrium
- 2008
CCAC, Wamy Arts Festival, Pineville Park, Project Leader and volunteer co-coordinator of festival events and activities
- 2002
Shout Event Headquarters Pop-Up Gallery, Founders Hall-Bank of America, Gallery Founder/Coordinator
- 2001
9/11 Fireman’s Commemorative Painting, 9’X 12’ Oil, by 100 Carolina Artists, currently held by Pineville Volunteer Fire Department, Project Leader Founder/ Coordinator
- 2002 **Mint Museum**, Charlotte - Bearden Honorarium Exhibit