

When Dinosaurs Roamed the Wetumpka Impact Crater

February 20, 2015 – April 18, 2015

KFMG

KELLY FITZPATRICK MEMORIAL GALLERY

Lobby Gallery



Larry Percy

408 SOUTH MAIN STREET | WETUMPKA, ALABAMA 36092 | KFMG-ONLINE.ORG

More than 85 million years ago, during the Cretaceous Period, a large meteor impacted the area now known as Wetumpka, Alabama. The impact resulted in a crater approximately five miles in diameter causing significant changes to both the landscape of the area and the inhabitants of both land and sea. At that time, the Wetumpka area was largely covered by an inland sea with barrier islands, and the climate was very different from today. This impact crater is regarded as one of the best preserved marine impact craters in the world.

The exhibition includes large scale paintings, iron sculptures, exhibition models, fossils, plants and a series of oversized educational storyboards outlining much of the scientific research about the crater area. The exhibition also features the work of Karen Carr, Jerry Armstrong, Rick Spears, Jonathon Hughes, Wayne Atchison, Larry Percy and Asher Elbein. Additionally, the exhibition includes a juried exhibition of 65 kindergarten through grade twelve student work and a juried exhibition of 35 adult artists from throughout Alabama.

Major funding provided through a grant awarded to the KFMG by the Alabama State Council on the Arts, which is made possible through funding from an annual appropriation by the Alabama State Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts. This public support enables the Kelly Fitzpatrick Memorial Gallery to reach new audiences, foster community development, provide high quality programming, and demonstrate the importance of the arts as a component for quality of life in Alabama. Additional support provided by the City of Wetumpka, the Wetumpka Impact Crater Commission, the Kelly Fitzpatrick Memorial Gallery and Wind Creek Casino.



Major Funding Provided by:

Alabama State Council on the Arts and National Endowment for the Arts

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Gallery Hours: Monday through Friday from 9am – 4pm, Saturday 10am - 3pm

Docent Guided Tours: Thursday and Saturday between the Hours of 10 am until 3pm.

Student Reception and Award Ceremony: Thursday, March 5, 2015 from 3:30 – 4:30

Adult Reception and Award Ceremony: 5:00 – 6:30 pm

Annual Crater Lecture: Thursday, March 5, 2015 @ 7pm

(Dr. David King@ the Wetumpka Civic Center)

Annual School Crater Tours: Friday, March 6, 2015

Annual Public Crater Tours: Saturday, March 7, 2015

“Choose to Know” Saturday Lectures that are associated with the exhibition “When Dinosaurs Roamed: The Wetumpka Impact Crater” at the Kelly Fitzpatrick Memorial Gallery. All Saturday lectures are free and open to the public and will be presented in the Kelly Fitzpatrick Memorial Galley. Saturday lectures begin at 11am.

- February 21, 2015 @ 11 am - "Alabama's Remarkable Biodiversity and Paleobiodiversity." June Ebersole of the McWayne Science Center, Birmingham Alabama
- February 28, 2015 @ 11 am - Meteorites and Art, Jerry Armstrong, Cosmic Artist, Atlanta Georgia
- March 5, 2015 @ 7pm – The Science of the Wetumpka Impact Crater, Dr. David King, Auburn University Professor of Geology at the Wetumpka Civic Center
- March 21, 2015 @11am - Artists Talk, Geologically Speaking: The Kerygma Series, Larry Percy, Associate Professor of Art of Troy University, Troy, Alabama
- March 28, 2015 @ 11 am - Dana Ehret of the Alabama Museum of Natural History, the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, “New Fossil Finds for the Alabama Museum of Natural History”
- April 11, 2015 @ 11 am - Art and Science and Making It Up As I Go Along: How to Create Paleo Restoration Models. Rick Spears of the Fernbank Science Center, Atlanta, Georgia
- Friday, May 1, 2015 (Time to be announced) Artists Talk, Paleoart and the Work of Karen Carr, Karen Carr, International Paleoartist of New Mexico



Larry Percy

Larry Percy, artist and educator, was born and raised in Clinton, a small rural town on the western Oklahoma plains. He lived two blocks off of Route 66 and worked at his fathers' ice plant located right on 66. As a young boy, he frequently traveled this route to New Mexico to a family cabin long before it became Interstate 40 and these annual journeys became seminal experiences in his development as a visual artist.

Percy began his relationship with ceramics during his senior year in high school. "I started that year with my left arm in a cast. Being left handed, I didn't think I could paint or draw so my teacher gave me some clay to work with. When the cast came off in October, I threw my first pot on the wheel and I was hooked. I knew then that clay would be very much a part of my life."

Percy studied at Southwestern Oklahoma State University under Montee Hoke, acclaimed as the "Dean of Oklahoma Potters". Larry acquired a B.S. in Art Education (1978) and a M. Ed (1986) at Southwestern. He earned his MFA, with Honors, from the University of Kansas in 1994 where he credits Joe Zeller, David Vertacnik and Jon Swindell as being major influences.

Exhibiting extensively throughout the Midwest, Southwest and Eastern United States, Percy has won numerous regional and national awards and participated in many juried exhibitions. He is the recipient of the AT&T Merit Award at the Staten Island Institute of Arts & Sciences 1995-96 Biennial in New York City and has a piece in the museum's permanent collection. Recently he was featured in a two-person exhibition entitled *Sticks & Stones* at the Mobile Museum of Art in Mobile, AL.

While Percy's roots are in wheel thrown pottery, his current body of work can best be described as 'sculptural vessels' that are inspired by visual stimuli encountered on journeys to the desert/ mesa/ mountain regions of the Southwestern United States. "I guess that idea of journeys westward is just in my blood".

Prior to arriving in Alabama, Larry spent 16 years in public school art education in Oklahoma and Kansas. Larry is married to Annie, his wife of 26 years and is the proud father of two teenage sons, Brice and Tyler. He and his family reside in Troy Alabama, where he teaches as an Assistant Professor of Art & Design at Troy University.

The Kerygma Series

"The Kerygma Series explores the idea of journey and its relationship to an eclectic group of concepts dealing with analogies between the elements of geological formations of earth, clay and stone and conditions of the human spirit."

Larry Percy





Kerygma Series:

Emotional Caldera

1995-2003

Multi-fired Stoneware, Sagger Fired Earthenware

16" x 18" x 17"



Kerygma Series:

Offering Vessel XXV, Shiprock Sailing- Shell Crater

2013

Ceramic, Fired to Cone 6 Oxidation

52" x 24" x 14"



Kerygma Series:

Cosmic Upheaval

2014

Multi-fired Ceramics, Stone, Steel

52" x 26" 16"



Larry Percy discusses his work with Middle School Students from Elmore County.



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