

# FROELICK GALLERY

Willie Little

---

## Born

1961

## Education

1984 Bachelor of Arts from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

## Solo Exhibitions

- 2017 Froelick Gallery, Portland, OR  
Rice Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2016 *10th Annual Black History Exhibition*, Arts Center of Greenwood, Greenwood, SC
- 2015 Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2014 *In the Hood*, The New Gallery of Modern Art, Charlotte, NC
- 2011 Rice/ Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2011 *Totems to a Past*: Pounder Kone' Artspace, Los Angeles, CA
- 2010 *Juke Joint* Installation, Diggs Gallery, Winston Salem State University
- 2009 *Juke Joint* Installation, YMI Cultural Center, Asheville, NC
- 2009 *In Mixed Company*, California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA
- 2009 Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2008 *In Mixed Company*, Levine Museum of the New South, Charlotte, NC
- 2008 Joie Lassiter Gallery, Charlotte, North Carolina
- 2007 Rice/ Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2005 Rice/Polack Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2003-4 *Juke Joint*, Traveling Installation:  
Smithsonian Institution, Arts & Industries Gallery, Washington DC  
American Jazz Museum, Kansas City, Missouri  
Rice Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2002 *Juke Joint*, Traveling Installation:  
African- American Museum in Philadelphia  
Center for Documentary Studies, Duke University, Durham, NC  
Black As... looking beyond the stereotype, Noel Gallery Charlotte, NC
- 2000 *A Door to American Culture*, Installation (Chivas Regal Residency Commission) Afro American Cultural Center, Charlotte, NC  
*Through the Window Into My Grandmother's Garden*, Noel Gallery, Charlotte, NC  
*Kinfolks*, Installation: Tobacco Farm Life Museum, Kenly, NC  
*Juke Joint*, Traveling Installation:  
Dallas African- American Museum Dallas, Texas  
Kansas African- American Museum Wichita, Kansas
- 1999 *Juke Joint*, Traveling Installation:  
Afro-American Cultural Center, Charlotte, NC  
Charles H Wright Museum of African- American History, Detroit, MI
- 1998 *Kinfolks*, Noel Gallery, Charlotte, NC
- 1997 *Juke Joint*, Traveling Installation:  
Harriet Tubman African -American Museum, Macon, GA  
Greenhill Center for the Arts, Greensboro, NC  
McKissick Museum, Columbia, SC  
Penn Center for the Arts. St Helena Island, SC

### **Solo Exhibitions continued**

- 1997 *Amazing Grace: The Black Church Installation*, Museum of the New South Charlotte, NC
- 1996 *Juke Joint*, Traveling Installation:  
Afro- American Cultural Center, Charlotte, NC  
The College of Charleston, Charleston, SC
- 1995 *One Hundred Percent Natural*, Heritage House, Charlotte, NC
- 1994 *Slaves To Fashion*, Supra Natural Style 1994, Atlanta GA
- 1993 *Slaves to Fashion*, Pfeiffer College, Charlotte, NC  
Newberry College, Newberry SC
- 1992 *Slaves to Fashion*, Spirit Square Center for the Arts, Charlotte NC
- 1990 *Girls In Basic Black*, YMI Cultural Center Asheville, NC
- 1998 *Girls In Basic Black*, The Gallery Charlotte NC 1988

### **Featured Artist**

- 2004 Andrea Schwartz Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
Modernbook Gallery, Palo Alto, CA  
Julie Baker Fine Art, Grass Valley, CA
- 2003 Lew Allen Contemporary Gallery, Santa Fe NM  
Noel Gallery, Charlotte, NC  
Julie Baker Fine Art, Grass Valley, CA
- 1999 Noel Gallery, Charlotte, NC
- 1993 Cleveland Community College, Shelby NC

### **Group Exhibitions**

- 2016 NX/2 Quadratfuss Exhibition, Berlin Germany
- 2016 Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2015 Art + Dialogue, Greensboro College, Greensboro, NC
- 2014 Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2014 Evolve, the Gallery, Sacramento, CA
- 2013 New Gallery of Modern Art, Charlotte, NC
- 2012 Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2011 Temporay Contemporary Gallery, Sacramento, CA  
Sculpture Today: New Forces, New Forms, Frederick Meijer Gardens, Grand Rapids, Michigan
- 2010 Some Assembly Required, Craft and Folk Art Museum, Los Angeles, CA
- 2010 Rice Polak Gallery, Provincetown, Ma
- 2010 Past Forward, African American Culture Complex, San Francisco, CA
- 2010 Infix: The Grammar of Insertion, SFMoma Artist's Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2009 Here & Now, New South, A Joie Lassiter Gallery, Charlotte, NC
- 2009 Decade...10 Artists for the Center's First 10 Years, McColl Center for Visual Art, Charlotte, NC
- 2009 Some Assembly Required, Sesnon Art Gallery, UC Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA
- 2008 Scene in America: A Contemporary Look at the Black Male Image, Mint Museum of Art,  
Charlotte, NC
- 2007 Julie Baker Gallery, Nevada City, CA
- 2006 Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, Ma  
Julie Baker Gallery, Nevada City, CA
- 2005 International Assemblage Exhibition, Gallery 24, Berlin, Germany  
Abstraction: The Poetic Visual Image, Bolinas Museum, Bolinas, CA  
Julie Baker Gallery, Grass Valley, CA
- 2004 International Assemblage Exhibition, Gallery 24, Berlin, Germany  
Common Ground: Discovering Community in 150 Years of Art, Corcoran Museum, Washington, DC  
Ascension: A Legacy of African American Artists in North Carolina,  
Diggs Gallery, Winston Salem State University

## Group Exhibitions continued

- 2004 Rice Polk Gallery, Provincetown, Ma  
War, Peace and Civil Liberties, Berkeley Art Center  
Julie Baker, Fine Art, Grass Valley, CA
- 2003 Old South/New South, Levine Museum of the New South, Charlotte, NC  
Gender, Tools and Technology, University of the Pacific, Stockton, CA  
Abstracts 2003, Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2002 *The Hourglass Project: Baggage*, Caversham Press Prints, South Africa, Alliance Francaise/French Cultural Centre, Gabarone, Botswana  
Frans Masereel Centre, Kasteriee, Belgium  
Alliance Francaise/French Cultural Centre:  
Pretoria, South Africa  
Maputo, Mozambique  
Capetown, South Africa  
Durban, South Africa  
Port Elizabeth, South Africa  
Johannesburg, South Africa  
Roswell Arts Center, Roswell, GA
- 2001 *Black Face/White Face*, Lew Allen Contemporary Gallery, Santa Fe New Mexico  
*Myth, Memory and Imagination*:  
Hampton University, Hampton, VA  
McKissick Museum, Columbia, SC  
North Dakota Museum of Art  
Arkansas Art Center, Arkansas  
Memphis Brooks Museum, Memphis Tennessee  
Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus GA  
*Baggage*, Prints from Caversham Press, South Africa,  
Tryon Center for Visual Arts, Charlotte NC  
*The Hourglass Project: Baggage*, City Gallery Chastain. Atlanta, GA Home Grown, Celebrating Arts in North Carolina, Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, Winston Salem, NC  
*Like A Prayer: A Jewish and Christian Presence in Contemporary Art*, Tryon Center for Visual Art
- 2000 Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA  
*People, Places, Things*, Lew Allen Contemporary Gallery, Santa Fe, NM  
*Common Threads*, Lew Allen Contemporary Gallery, Santa Fe NM  
*The Artists of Charlotte*, Fayetteville Museum of Art, Fayetteville, NC
- 1999 *Myth, Memory and Imagination*, Mckissick Museum. Columbia, SC  
Residents 1999/2000 Artists @Tryon Center for Visual Art, Spirit Square Charlotte, NC  
Annual Photography Show, Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, Ma  
*Crossing Cultures*, Lew Allen Contemporary Gallery, Santa Fe, NM
- 1994 Recent African- American Art In North Carolina, Recent African- American Art In Traveling Juried Exhibit, Afro-American Cultural Center,  
Hayti Cultural Center Durham, NC
- 1990 Freedom of Expression, Spirit Square Center for the Arts, Charlotte, NC
- 1989 N. C. Printmakers Show, Art & Antiques Amusements Gallery, Charlotte, NC

## Public Collections

The New Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, Washington, DC  
Mint Museum of Art, Charlotte, NC  
Ambassador of Madagascar  
Jeff Warner Designs, San Francisco, CA, Hawaii  
Traveling Collection of Judy Norell, *Myth, Memory and Imagination* (Washington, DC)  
Bank of America Corporate Offices, Charlotte, NC

Patty and Jeff Baird- Cedar House Sport Hotel, Truckee, CA  
First Charter Bank Headquarters, Charlotte, NC  
Tobacco Farm Life Museum, Kenly NC  
Afro- American Cultural Center, Charlotte, NC  
Davis Steel, Matthews, NC  
Museum of the New South, Charlotte, NC  
McColl Center for Visual Art  
Headlands Center for the Arts

### Awards

Pop-up Residency, McColl Center for Art & Innovation, 2016  
Haven Foundation Grant, 2012  
Gottlieb Foundation Emergency Grant, 2012  
Pollock Krasner Foundation Grant 2010, 2006  
Special Grant, Arts & Science Council, 2003  
Headlands Center for the Arts Residency, Sausalito, California 2002  
Creative Fellowship, NC Arts & Science Council 2000  
Caversham Press Printmaking Residency, Kwa Zulu Natal, South Africa 2000  
Chivas Regal Artist-In- Residence and Commission 2000  
Cultural Heritage Artist of the Year, 1999  
Artist Residency at Tryon Center for Visual Art, 1999  
Artist Project Grant from the NC Arts Council, 1996  
Emerging Artists Grant from the NC Arts & Science Council, 1994

### Lectures/Workshops

Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, CA  
Craft and Folk Art Museum forum with Betye Saar, Los Angeles, CA  
Sesnon Gallery, Porter College, UC Santa Cruz, CA  
Levine Museum of the New South, Charlotte, NC  
CCAC , Oakland California  
Headlands Center for the Arts, Sausalito, CA  
University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa  
University of Capetown, Capetown, South Africa  
Bittney Springs High School, Nevada City, CA  
University of the Pacific, Stockton, CA  
Center for Documentary Studies, Duke University  
Mint Museum of Art, Charlotte, NC  
Piedmont Middle School, Charlotte, NC  
Northwest School of the Arts, Charlotte, NC  
Afro American Cultural Center, Charlotte, NC  
Tryon Center for Visual Art, Charlotte, NC  
Cabarras Art Guild, Concord, NC

### Bibliography

2016 Larimore, Phillip "On Willie Little: Proof of Promises Kept", [Charlotte Viewpoint Metropolitan Ideas & Art](#), Jul 2  
2014 Schreiber, Barbara, "Willie Little Takes on Tea Party, Klan in Exhibition", [Charlotte News and Observer](#),  
September  
2010 Titcombe, Tara, Best of Winston Salem, [US Airways Magazine](#), September  
Kopp, Bill, "Willie Little's Juke Joint: A Slice of the 50s", Laurel of Asheville, February  
2009 Kopp, Bill, "Juke Joint: Hookers, Batwings, Pigs' Feet and Hair Tonic", [Mountain Express](#), Asheville, 12/16/2009  
Motsinger, Carol, "Juke Joint Revisted: Interactive YMI Exhibit re-creates lost culture", [Citizen Times](#),  
Asheville, 12/13/2009

## Bibliography continued

- 2008 Barden, Louise, "The Darker Side of 'Mixed Company'", South Park Magazine, May  
Vance, Donna, "Exhibit adds to our grasp of divisions", Charlotte Observer, 1/18/2008  
Singleton, Erica, "Breaking Mythic Assumptions", The Charlotte Post, 1/24/2008  
Richard, Paul, "Smithsonian's 'Juke Joint' Last Call for a Vanished South", Washington Post, 9/29/2003
- 2003 'Juke Joint' Exhibit Opens In American Jazz Museum, Kansas City Call  
Lewis, Samella, PhD, African American Artists, 4th Edition, 2003  
Dickson, Laurie, "Ode To Southern Roots, Artists' Interiors..." Creative Spaces, Inspired Living  
Lewis, Scott, 'Out of the Box' Artist Willie Little Gets Playful with Race, Creative Loafing, Charlotte, NC, 6/5/02
- 2002 Maschal, Richard, Dolls Foster Study of Racial Stereotypes, Charlotte Observer, 6/3/02  
Greenburg, Blue, Down Memory Lane in the South, The Herald Sun, Durham, NC, September  
Raleigh News & Observer, October  
Arts & Science Council Newsletter
- 2001 Home Grown...Celebrating Arts of North Carolina, SECCA Catalogue  
Lee, Heath-Hartage, Treasure Hunt, Charlotte Place, November  
Parker, Alan-Michael, "South African Artists Depict 'Truths'", Charlotte Observer, August  
Paterson, Tom, "A Little Homework", Winston-Salem Journal, 06/03/01  
"Getting A Handle on 'Baggage'", Atlanta Journal-Constitution, 8/17/01  
Maschal, Richard, 'Prayer': Focus on Faith Through the Artist's Lens, Charlotte Observer, 05/11/01
- 2000 Like A Prayer: A Jewish and Christian Presence in Contemporary Art, Catalogue, 2000  
"The Hourglass Project: Baggage", Catalogue, 2000  
Muller-Price, Debra, A Sanctuary for the Arts, Southern Accents, March-April  
Swisher, Amy, "Little's Big Gift", Creative Loafing, 09/02/00  
Brown, Derrick, 'Door' Opens for Charlotte Artist in Residence, Charlotte Post, Summer  
Willie Little's tell-a-tale art, Independent Tribune, 03/31/00  
Downtown Magazine, Summer 2000, Winter 2001  
Grant, Kandice, "Willie Little, A Revivalist of the Rural South Uses Art to Spin Living Tales of Times Past",  
Cultural Calendar, 04/05/00  
Higgins, Katherine, "Little Draws from his Experiences as a Country Boy", The Smithfield Herald, 04/13/00  
Simpson, Thea, "Little's Art Tells Family Story, Life on Eastern NC Tobacco Farm", The Wilson Daily News,  
04/18/00  
Fox, Catherine, Where Creativity Can Flourish, Atlanta Journal-Constitution, 01/09/00  
Fox, Catherine, Charlotte's New Devotion to the Arts, Atlanta Journal-Constitution, 01/09/00  
Dunn, Debra, Artist Fellowship Awarded, Charlotte Observer, 06/23/00  
Norman, Bud, "Art Display Celebrates Good Friends in Low Places", Wichita Eagle, 08/00  
Kansas African American Museum Inc., and Kansas Art Commission & K.T Weidemann Foundation Present J  
uke Joint, Catalogue  
Create Something, Charlotte Magazine, January
- 1999 Brown, Linda-Louise, Americans, Creative Loafing, 02/27/99  
Myth, Memory and Imagination: Universal Themes in the Life and Culture of the South, Catalogue, The  
collection of Judy Norell, 1999  
Miller, Hanna, Jukin' Charlotte Magazine, May 1999  
Lewis, Scott, Southern Exposure, Northern Light, Creative Loafing, 10/9/99  
Residents: 1999/2000, Catalogue, Tryon Center for Visual Art, 1999  
Juke Joint: A Community Story, Cover Story, North Carolina Arts Council Newsletter, Spring/Summer 1999  
Arts & Science Council Newsletter, Autumn 1999  
Haight, Kathy, Artsy Inaugural, Charlotte Observer, 07/11/99  
Meadows, Bob, Exhibit Portrays Life on a Tobacco Farm, Charlotte Observer, 08/30/98  
Brown, Linda-Louise, Praise Singer, Creative Loafing, 08/98  
Juke Joints Jive at Museum, Michigan Press, 07/23/98
- 1998 Colby, Joy-Hakanson, Multimedia 'Juke Joint' Pulls Visitors into the Southern Memories, The Detroit News,  
07/3/98

## Bibliography continued

- 1998 Cohen, Keri- Guten, "Sculptures Bring Juke Joint to Life", Detroit News & Free Press, 08/16/98  
Pearson, Craig, Cultural Celebration, The Windsor Star, 08/14/98  
Museum Seeks 'Paradise' Memories, The Monitor, 07/16/98 (Michigan)  
'This Joint is Jumpin' (all Detroit, Michigan area, 07/26/98)  
    Framingham Observer  
    Garden City Observer  
    Westland Observer  
    Rochester Eccentric  
    Troy Eccentric  
    Southfield Eccentric  
    West Bloomfield Eccentric  
    Plymouth Observer  
    Birmingham Eccentric  
    Canton Observer  
    Livonia Observer  
Colby, Joy- Hakanson, Artist Crafts a Slice of African American Life, Detroit Press, 1998  
Moran, K- Michelle, Rural Aesthetic, Troy Times (Detroit) 08/5/98
- 1997 Harley, Cathy, At Penn Center...The 'Joint Jumping', The Packet, Beaufort, SC, 1997  
Topman, Lawrence, Installation Evokes Civil Rights -Era Church, Charlotte Observer, 1997  
Day, Jeffery, Gallery Exhibit Reserves Viewers' Place at Juke Joint, The State Newspaper, SC, 03/09/97  
Joy, Pain Meet in 'Juke Joint', Greensboro News & Record, 05/08/97  
Marley, Dan, Hometown Hangout, The Macon Telegraph, 06/20/97  
MacNeil, William, "Crossing Cultures Provide Impetus for Art Show", *Pasatiempo*, Santa Fe, NM, April  
Santa Fe Magazine, 1997  
Seawright, Sandy, Two Way Street, Creative Loafing, 08/15/97
- 1996 Young, Jeri, 'Amazing Grace' Exhibit at New South, Charlotte Post, 10/31/96  
Drake, Nicholas, "Little Creates a 'Juke Joint' From his Memory", The Post & Courier, Charleston, SC,  
06/20/96  
Walker, Sherry, "Pride Goes to 'Juke Joint'", Pride Magazine, August  
Walker, Sherry, "Willie Little's Juke Joint", C Magazine, Volume 2, Number 3, Cover Story, Spring  
Meadows, Bob, "Artist Brings his Childhood to Life", Charlotte Observer, 04/07/96
- 1995 Mint Museum of Art, Catalogue, 1994-95

## Other Experience

National Advisory Board, McColl Center for Visual Art, Charlotte, NC, Emeritis  
National Advisory Board, McColl Center for Visual Art, Charlotte, NC, 2011-2015  
Board of Directors, Tryon Center for Visual Art. Charlotte NC 2001-2002, Advocate for fellow artists, Strategic and  
Diversity committees