

FROELICK GALLERY

Willie Little

Born

1961

Education

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

Solo Exhibitions

- 2020 *The Shacks My Daddy Built*, Froelick Gallery, Portland, OR
America's Social Dilemma, Emory and Henry College, Portland, OR
- 2019 *And Miles to Go Before We Sleep*, Froelick Gallery, Portland, OR
- 2018 *Kinfolks, Nodder Doll/Living Doll*, Froelick Gallery, Portland, OR
Nodder Doll/Living Doll, SFMOMA Artists Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Welcoming Willie Little, Froelick Gallery, Portland, OR
- 2017 Rice Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2016 *10th Annual Black History Exhibition*, Arts Center of Greenwood, Greenwood, SC
- 2015 *Blood*, Rice Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2014 *In the Hood*, The New Gallery of Modern Art, Charlotte, NC
- 2011 Rice/ Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
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
In Mixed Company, California African American Museum, Los Angeles, CA
Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2008 *In Mixed Company*, Levine Museum of the New South, Charlotte, NC
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

Solo Exhibitions Continued

- 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
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
- 1988 *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

- 2020 *Making Waves: Artists Speak Out*, Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
Ungodly: The Spiritual Medium, Curated by Justin Hoover, Disjecta Contemporary Art Center, Portland, OR
Hamptons Virtual Art Fair, ShowHamptons LLC
- 2019 *America's Whispered Truths*, Clark College, Vancouver, WA
Group Exhibition, SFMOMA Artist Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Winter Group Exhibition, Froelick Gallery, Portland, OR
- 2018 *Summer Group Exhibition*, Froelick Gallery, Portland, OR
Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2016 NX/2 Quadratfuss Exhibition, Berlin Germany
Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
- 2015 Art + Dialogue, Greensboro College, Greensboro, NC
- 2014 Rice/Polak Gallery, Provincetown, MA
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
Rice Polak Gallery, Provincetown, Ma
Past Forward, African American Culture Complex, San Francisco, CA
Infix: The Grammar of Insertion, SFMoma Artist's Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2009 *Here & Now, New South*, A Joie Lassiter Gallery, Charlotte, NC
Decade...10 Artists for the Center's First 10 Years, McColl Center for Visual Art, Charlotte, NC

Group Exhibitions Continued

- 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
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

Group Exhibitions Continued

- 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

Portland Art Museum, Portland, OR
Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, CA
The 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
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

Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art Black Lives Matter Artist Grant, Portland, OR, 2020
Ash Street Project Ceramics Residency, Portland, OR, 2019
Regional Arts & Culture Council Project Grant, 2019
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

Froelick Gallery, Portland, OR, 2019
Froelick Gallery, Portland, OR, 2019
Froelick Gallery, Portland, OR, 2018
SFMOMA Artist Gallery, San Francisco, CA, 2018
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

Lectures/Workshops Continued

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

- 2020 Karren, Howard, "An Exhibit Makes Waves in Provincetown," [The Provincetown Independent](#), October 15, 2020
Driscoll, Kathi Scrizzi, "Provincetown Galleries: Artists Speak Out About Unprecedented Times," [Cape Cod Times](#), October 14, 2020
- 2019 Little, Willie. *In the Sticks*. Published by Curatorlove with support from Charles Froelick and Froelick Gallery.
- 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 Revisited: Interactive YMI Exhibit re-creates lost culture," [Citizen Times](#), Asheville, 12/13/2009
- 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

Bibliography Continued

- 2000 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
Juke Joint, Catalogue
Create Something, Charlotte Magazine, January
- 1999 Brown, Linda-Louise, Americans, Creative Loafing, 02/27/99
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
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
Toppman, 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

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- 1997 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

TV Appearances

WLOS 13, ABC Affiliate Asheville, NC
Out of the Ashes, WTVI Public Television Documentary
North Carolina Now, WUNC Public Television
Assignment Carolinas, WJZY 46
South Carolina Public Television
WBTB 3 News, Featured in story on Hugh McColl
WBTB 3 News, Black History Month Showcase

Radio Appearances

Willie Little & Anya Montiel in Conversation, Froelick Gallery YouTube, 2020
Future Prairie Podcast, Portland, OR 2020
KXL, Speaking Freely, Portland, OR 2019
KBOO, Public Radio, Portland, OR, 2018
KWMR, Public Radio, Point Reyes, CA, 2018
WUNC, NPR 2002
Radio Disney 2002
KERA, NPR Dallas, Texas 2000
Mike Collins, WFAE, NPR 1998, 2000, 2008
WSOC Morning Show, 1999
Todd Munce Show, NPR, Detroit MI. 1998

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