

## **“GET LOST,” an exhibit featuring the works of Mark Bettis**

Friday, May 1, 2015

Get lost in color, texture, and patterns in the upcoming exhibit at Ella Walton Richardson Fine Art, featuring abstract mixed-media artist Mark Bettis. For his debut solo show in Charleston, Bettis explores the possibilities of manipulating cold wax and oil paint by peeling away layers to form abstract geometric forms in radiant hues. The Opening Artist Reception will coincide with the First Friday Art Walk on June 5 from 5-8 p.m. and the exhibition runs until June 30.

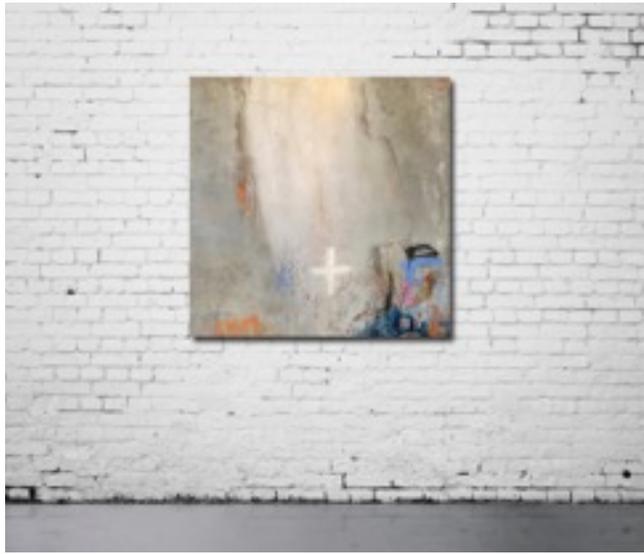
Born into an artistic family, Bettis received encouragement to begin drawing at an early age. A native of Chicago, Illinois, he attended the Ringling School of Art and Design in Sarasota, Florida where he honed his skills as a creative professional. He has since juggled a career as an Art Director and a burgeoning painting career, which began as a more commercial endeavor and has evolved into a fine art profession. In 2007, Bettis moved to Asheville, NC where he currently resides. He has won numerous awards and his works are in public and private collections worldwide.

Of his works, Bettis says, “My paintings are a synthesis of color, line, texture and form. I’m intrigued and influenced by the elements of my surroundings. I apply multiple layers of oil paint, cold wax medium, marble dust and other elements and then cut, scratch and smooth with great energy to let the painting evolve into an abstract interpretation of these elements.” Bettis’ process inhabits a state of flux, which results in works that are surprising to viewers. “One decision leads to ten others and ideas die and are reborn again and again. This provides for work that is original... I don’t like to repeat myself; I want every painting to be individual and stand on its own merit,” Bettis explains.

Despite the irony in the title, Bettis is thoughtful and compassionate with his work. Each element he constructs is designed to contribute to a wholesome composition; no stroke is superfluous. The painstaking care he takes allows his art to transcend the eye; seeping gently into the viewers’ subconscious like the cool wax he utilizes. Please join us in getting lost at this exciting new exhibit.

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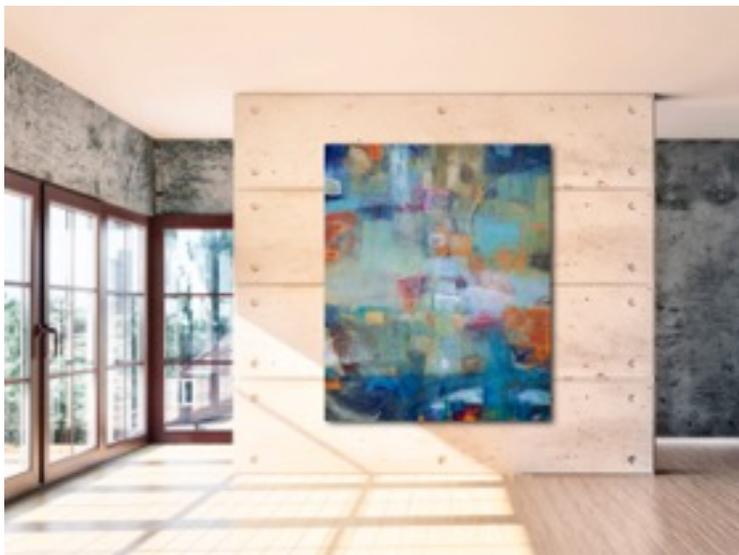
For further information or inquires regarding the artwork of Mark Bettis, or about the gallery in general, please contact Ella Richardson at (843) 722.3660, mobile (843) 819.6111 or via email at [ella@ellarichardson.com](mailto:ella@ellarichardson.com).



Gravity Attracts, 40" x 40"  
Mixed Media



Homestead, 48" x 36"  
Mixed Media



Crazy Love, 60" x 48" Mixed Media