

The Charleston Museum in Charleston, SC, Offers Look at Museum's Early Days

The Charleston Museum in Charleston, SC, is pleased to announce the opening of a new exhibit of historic photos in its Lowcountry Image Gallery. *The Early Days: A Photographic History of America's First Museum*, on display through May 14, 2018, tells the story of the Museum's transformation over the years.

After The Charleston Museum's founding in 1773 by the Charleston Library Society, it was subsequently overseen by the Library Society, the Literary and Philosophical Society of South Carolina, the Medical College of South Carolina, and the College of Charleston. In 1907, Charleston's city council offered the newly built Thomson Auditorium on Rutledge Avenue to house the Museum and provided funding to support the growing institution. Over the years, Museum directors continued the expansion of exhibits and educational programs and fashioned the Museum into a much loved cultural institution in the Charleston community.



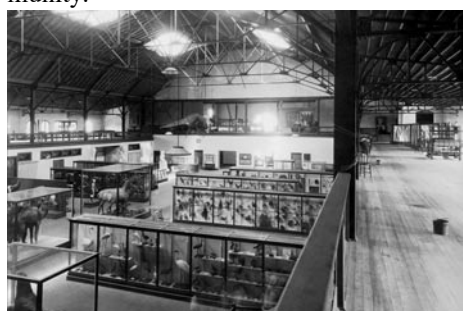
Exterior view of The Charleston Museum when located at 121 Rutledge Avenue. Photo credit: Courtesy of The Charleston Museum, Charleston, SC

opened once again to the community in April 1980. Unfortunately, in October of 1981, a fire destroyed the old building leaving only the portico with four columns as a remembrance. Although the Thomson Auditorium is gone, the Museum, in its modern facility, continues to preserve and exhibit Lowcountry heritage and educate the people of our community and visitors from around the world.

Featuring images of the Museum's time in Randolph Hall at the College of Charleston, the old Museum on Rutledge Avenue, as well as its present location on Meeting Street, *The Early Days* allows visitors to look back on the dedication and devotion given to America's First Museum over the years.

A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, The Charleston Museum, founded in 1773, is America's first museum. Holding the most extensive collection of South Carolina cultural and scientific materials in the nation, it also owns two National Historic Landmark houses, the Heyward-Washington House (1772) and the Joseph Manigault House (1803), as well as the Dill Sanctuary, a 580-acre wildlife preserve.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (www.charlestonmuseum.org).



Interior of the Charleston Museum when located at 121 Rutledge Avenue. Photo credit: Courtesy of The Charleston Museum, Charleston, SC

By the 1970s, the grand building that housed the Museum had fallen into serious disrepair and the welfare of the collections was threatened. Under the directorship of Donald Herold, the collections were moved to the new location at 360 Meeting Street, and the Museum

City of North Charleston, SC, Features Works by Camela Guevara and Patrick Nevins

The City of North Charleston's Cultural Arts Department is pleased to announce that gouache paintings and textile works by the current City of North Charleston Artist-in-Residence, Camela Guevara, as well as oil paintings by local artist Patrick Nevins will be on exhibit at the North Charleston City Gallery, located in the Charleston Area Convention Center, in North Charleston, SC, from Dec. 1, 2017, through January 29, 2018. The artists will host a free public reception at the gallery on Dec. 7, from 5-7pm.

In the exhibit, *PLUME*, featuring gouache paintings and fiber art by Camela Guevara, a contemporary textile artist and painter based in Charleston. Her tactile fiber art pays respect to traditional, time-honored sewing and weaving techniques through the lens of spare, geometric imagery with an emphasis on materials. Figure skating costumes, over-the-top fashion, and utilitarian textiles inform her abstract and non-functional fiber pieces. In addition to working with textiles, she has most recently been creating expressive gouache paintings that visualize her internal stream of consciousness without judgment.

In her exhibition *PLUME*, Guevara presents abstract gouache paintings of "plumes" on paper, along with some pieces composed of handmade cording on wood panel, and some woven pieces using raffia and found objects. Guevara draws inspiration for her plumes from the world around her. "When I think of plumes in nature," she explains, "I think of the man-made complications of pollution, such as the floating island of plastics in the ocean." For Guevara, the process of creating these pieces is a meditative one, "it is a kind of sifting of all the media I experience, similar to the filtration of an oyster.




Work by Camela Guevara

I take in so much culture and interaction on a daily basis, that I'm filtering through it all and cleansing myself from the deluge of advertising and media through painting."

Guevara received a BA in Studio Art with a concentration in sculpture, print-making, and painting from the College of Charleston in 2010 and attended the Penland School of Crafts for weaving in 2016. Her work has been exhibited in a number of solo and group exhibitions locally and beyond. Recent shows include the *South Carolina Palmetto Hands Juried Fine Craft Exhibition* (North Charleston, SC), the *Piccolo Spoleto Juried Art Exhibition* (Charleston, SC), *Nasty Women at Redux Contemporary Art Center* (Charleston, SC), *Feminist Fiber Art* at the Virago Gallery (Seattle, WA), *New Weave* at the Southern Gallery (Charleston, SC), and

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