

ARTBRAKE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

well as a photo of a Flower Hat Jelly fish, which is colorful and quirky. "It was irresistible to use as inspiration," Minchew said. "There is never a problem for me finding inspiration. The problem is narrowing down which inspiration to follow!"

"I have been called a primitive artist by some friends," said Dick Seed, who uses a variety of materials including wood to metal and also things that have been discarded by others. "My inspiration usually comes from nature, a beautiful sunset, an interesting grain in a piece of wood, the reflection on the water of a lake." Seed has made several new pieces



for ArtBrake that have a musical theme, one entitled "Original Electric Guitar," composed of computer pieces. Another is a sculpture of hands holding a watermelon slice with an abstract face in the background. He has also made several boxes of abstract flowers.

Grains of wood also inspire Chuck Minchew, who makes furniture and decorative pieces from locally harvested wood. He uses his finely honed skills to feature the beautiful colors and grains of the natural wood. "I recently started making end-grant cutting boards when I discovered that end grains can be mixed and matched with multiple species of



TOP LEFT: "All is Said and Done" by Linda Anderson
ABOVE: Chuck Minchew at ArtBrake

woods to form eye-catching designs," Minchew said. "Some are even suitable for hanging on walls."

Pettus loves a 2D surface. "My drawings are generally quick sketches that I fill in with watercolor and other media," said Pettus, who also paints with acrylics on canvas, usually creating scenes from nature. "I am inspired by almost anything but I like to work in a series so that I can see what I am actually doing. Currently, I am working on myths-the fire within becoming an orator's power."

Kroll's most recent piece, "Neptune," grew out of her deep appreciation of the natural world. "This piece portrays harmony and order in nature, my expression of opening the heart to hold dear what we are given," Kroll said.

A long-time gardener, Kroll grew many things including hard-shell gourds. "Intrigued

including China, Afghanistan, Bali, Turkey, Tibet, Nepal, and India. "The natural beauty of the stones combined with man-made beads makes for beautiful jewelry. A necklace could be all sterling silver Bali beads or a combination of metal, stone, bone, and shell," Hobbs said. "I aim for the look of ancient ethnic necklaces."

Tamera Cooke, who has long been a sculptor in Chatham County, has been trying her hand at jewelry. "I am still creating metal that flows with feminine curves and fluidity," Cooke said. "I'd say that my faith inspires me, as work is worship and Creator is one of the Names of God, and we all have a Creator inside of us."

Deborah R. Meyer is a Chatham writer. She can be reached at writetoeloise@gmail.com.

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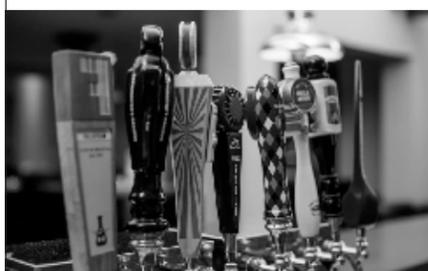
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