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Alumna Jane Spratt's Artwork Spotlighthed in November Winthrop Exhibition

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Alumna Jane Spratt's Artwork Spotlighted in November Winthrop Exhibition

Quick Facts

- "Homegrown: Life in Filbert, South Carolina" depicts Spratt's life growing up in Filbert, a tiny community in York County.
- Organized by the Department of Fine Arts, the exhibition displays Nov. 15 from 1-4 p.m. and Nov. 18-21 from 3-6 p.m. daily.



Jane Spratt

ROCK HILL, SOUTH CAROLINA – One art history class taken senior year helped **visual artist Jane Spratt '64** recognize her passion for art. This month, **an exhibition of Spratt's artwork** will reunite the artist with her alma mater, the place that changed the course of her life.

Spratt's upcoming show, titled "**Homegrown: Life in Filbert, South Carolina**," depicts life growing up in Filbert, a tiny community located in York County. Organized by the **Department of Fine Arts**, the show will feature collages and oil paintings and opens to the public Nov. 15 from 1-4 p.m. at the **President's House**. Spratt noted that the exhibition illustrates her history with the hometown that shaped her – which she hopes will be a point of connection with people who view her work.



"Canning Peaches," oil on canvas

"I hope that the show will remind people of their pasts because I do think that we all have our past histories, and those histories form us," said Spratt, adding that she is "very honored" to have her work exhibited at the President's House.

Born in Filbert in June 1942 to Louis and Ruby Stacy, **Spratt** discovered her passion for contemporary art during her time at Winthrop, where she took a course senior year with **art history professor Lee Hall**. Hall introduced her students to abstract and modern impressionism, and Spratt recalled how Hall's excitement made the subject matter "come alive."

"She was so interested in her subject matter that it showed, and her enthusiasm made me get excited about art," said Spratt, who now lives in York, South Carolina. She noted that the Winthrop experienced "broadened" her perspectives, as did her time living in Virginia, Washington, D.C., and Massachusetts.

Spratt, who earned her B.A. in history at Winthrop, went on to earn a M.A.T. at **Smith College** in Northampton, Mass. She also studied fine arts at the **Corcoran College of Art and Design** in Washington, D.C. Her artwork has been shown in galleries and museums in D.C.; Philadelphia; Maryland; Virginia; and the Carolinas. Over the years, Spratt and her husband, **former U.S. Rep. John Spratt Jr.**, have remained passionate advocates for the arts. In 2004, their advocacy led the couple to be named recipients of the **Medal of Honor in the Arts** at Winthrop.

Spratt said that she hopes the November exhibition, which opens during 2014 Homecoming & Reunion Weekend, will show people “something of the passion I have for art.”

“I hope that people will take some time to look at the pieces, ask some questions and perhaps get something out of the experience,” said Spratt.

“**Homegrown: Life in Filbert, South Carolina**” will be on display Saturday, Nov. 15, from 1-4 p.m. and Nov. 18-21 from 3-6 p.m. daily at the President’s House. Admission is free, and the exhibition is open to the public.

For more information about the show, contact Tom Stanley, chair of Winthrop’s **Department of Fine Arts**, at 803/323-2653 or stanleyt@winthrop.edu.

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