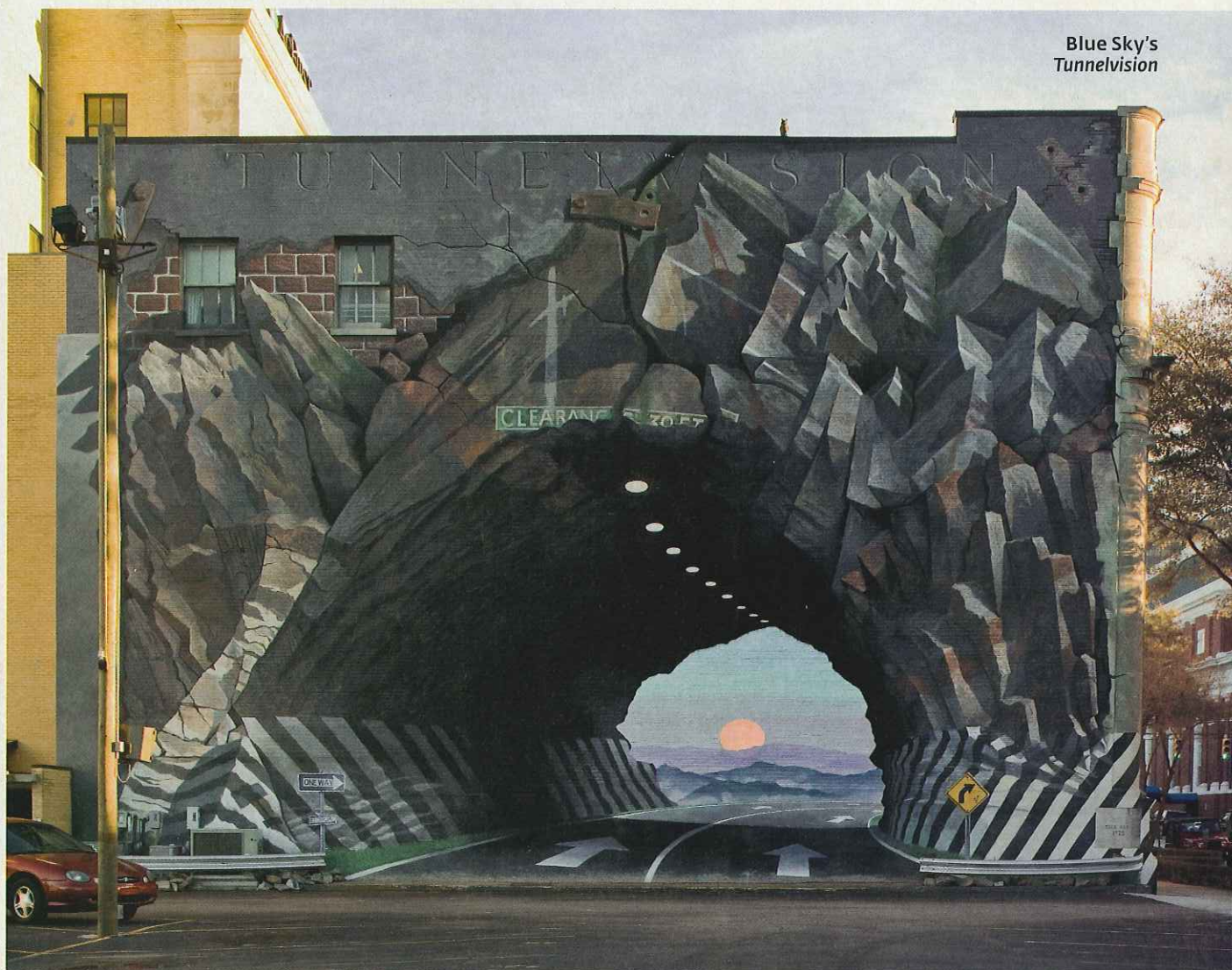


Blue Sky's
Tunnelvision



Best Art Around Columbia

A variety of impressive works enhances South Carolina's capital city.

BY KATIE MCELVEEN

Let's thank the mosquitoes. With a 19th-century notion that the insects can travel only 60 feet before tiring and crashing to the ground, Columbia city planners decided the best way to hinder the spread of malaria was to construct streets more than three times that wide.

Bad news for mosquitoes, good news for art lovers: Today, those boulevards are lined with dozens of sculptures, murals, mosaics, and fountains.

We've narrowed the 100 or so works down to a few favorites; a full map is available at smartarts.info.

Tunnelvision Taylor Street, between Marion and Bull Streets

Save artist Blue Sky's brawny depiction of a highway cutting through rock for late in the day, when the mural's subdued sun catches the rays of the sunset and takes on a remarkably fiery glow. It took four tries for Blue Sky to convince management at the Federal Land Bank to allow him to transform the building's west-facing wall into a massive mural, but in 1975 he finally did, with the stipulation that he would remove it in a year if they didn't like it. Thirty-five years later, it's been repainted five times. (TURN THE PAGE)

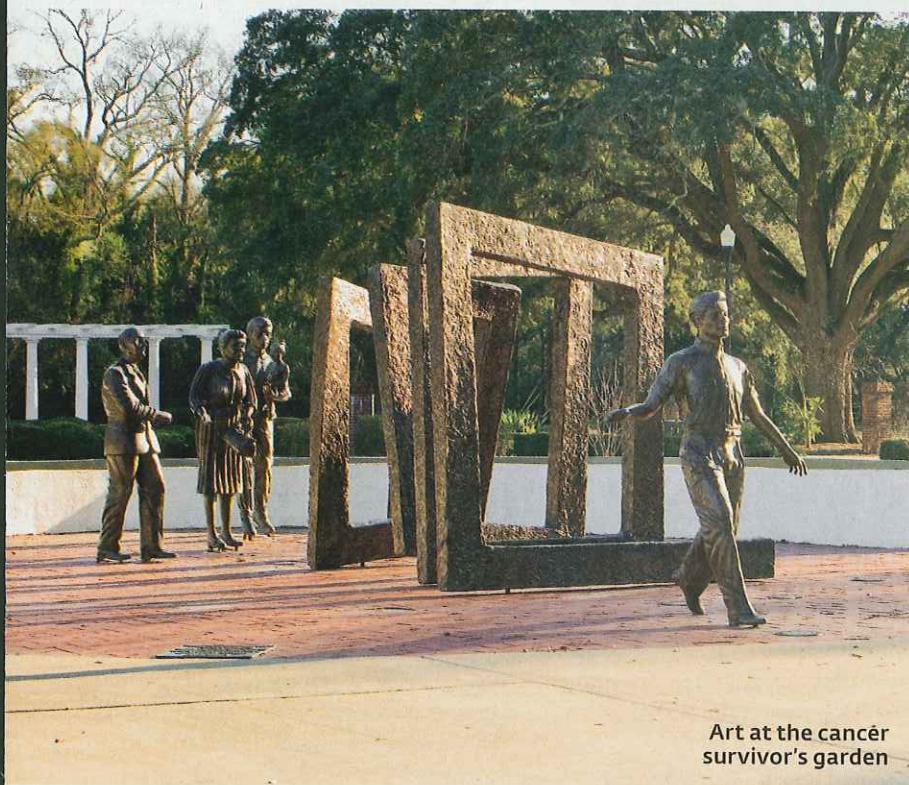
Upright Motive #8

Boyd Plaza, Columbia Museum of Art, Main Street at Hampton

Fronting the Columbia Museum of Art, the plaza is especially popular on sunny afternoons, when its benches fill with office workers enjoying lunch among artwork such as the shimmering Keenan Fountain. They also see, across the street, *NEVERBUST*, Blue Sky's oversize length of chain connecting two buildings. Because it's tucked into a protected recess, Henry Moore's primitive *Upright Motive #8*—the plaza's most important work—doesn't always draw the biggest crowds. The sculptor once said the totemic bronze piece was inspired by a Jamaican wood carving of a bird man.



Upright Motive #8
by Henry Moore



Art at the cancer survivor's garden

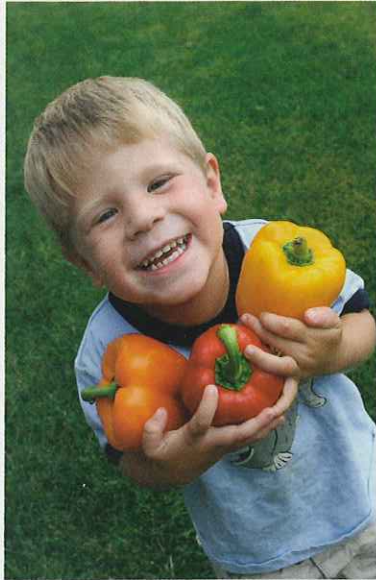
Richard and Annette Bloch Cancer Survivor's Garden

Blossom Street

Positioned along a busy stretch between the University of South Carolina and the Five Points neighborhood, Maxcy Gregg Park's cancer survivor's garden offers hope and inspiration to anyone looking for a place of reflection and beauty. Hemmed by live oak trees and set with arbors, a labyrinth, and benches, the focal point of the park is a group of eight life-size bronze figures passing through a maze of doorways that compose *Cancer... there's hope* by sculptor Victor Salmones. The five figures heading toward the maze, which symbolizes cancer treatment, wear fearful yet optimistic expressions. The three who have passed through laugh with the joy of new life. (TURN THE PAGE)

MOUNT PLEASANT

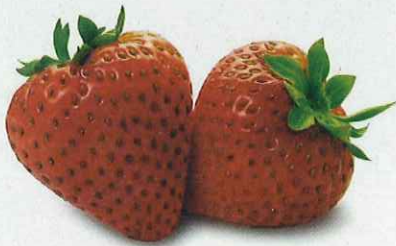
Farmers Market



Every Tuesday at 3pm

Opens April 13th!

Located on Coleman Boulevard



Minutes from Charleston

Exceptional dining, shopping, lodging and attractions. Experience hometown charm with a cosmopolitan flair. From outdoor recreation to family-friendly events that last all year long, Mount Pleasant has everything you'll need! Stop by our Visitor Center just over the Ravenel Bridge from historic Charleston, open daily from 9:00-5:00.

www.townofmountpleasant.com

SC SOUTH CAROLINA
PEOPLE & PLACES



A gift to USC:
The Torchbearer



ABOVE: Thanks, Kelly, on view at the Convention Center

The Torchbearer
University of South Carolina,
Wardlaw College,
Sumter Street

Renowned sculptor Anna Hyatt Huntington and her husband, industrialist Archer Huntington, opened their 9,000-acre winter estate near Myrtle Beach to the public as Brookgreen Garden in 1931, establishing the country's first outdoor sculpture garden. Three decades later, she donated *The Torchbearer*, an 18-foot-tall casting of a young rider atop a majestic horse, to the University of South Carolina. Though imposing, the work is accessible: Mrs. Huntington requested that the university mount it on a low base so that children could climb up and touch it—and they do.

**Columbia
Metropolitan
Convention Center**

1101 Lincoln Street

Not all of Columbia's public art sits outdoors. The sprawling, gallery-like space just inside the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, open at no charge, is filled with abstract landscapes, montages, glass sculptures, and paintings of local landmarks. The works represent the region's history, architecture, and natural resources. Each of the more than 40 pieces was created by local artists (like nationally prominent painter Jonathan Greene). Don't miss *Thanks, Kelly*, which pays homage to a traditional barber shop; the spot-on paintings of exotic animals from Riverbanks Zoo; and the lovely depictions of the city's three rivers. Open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily. *

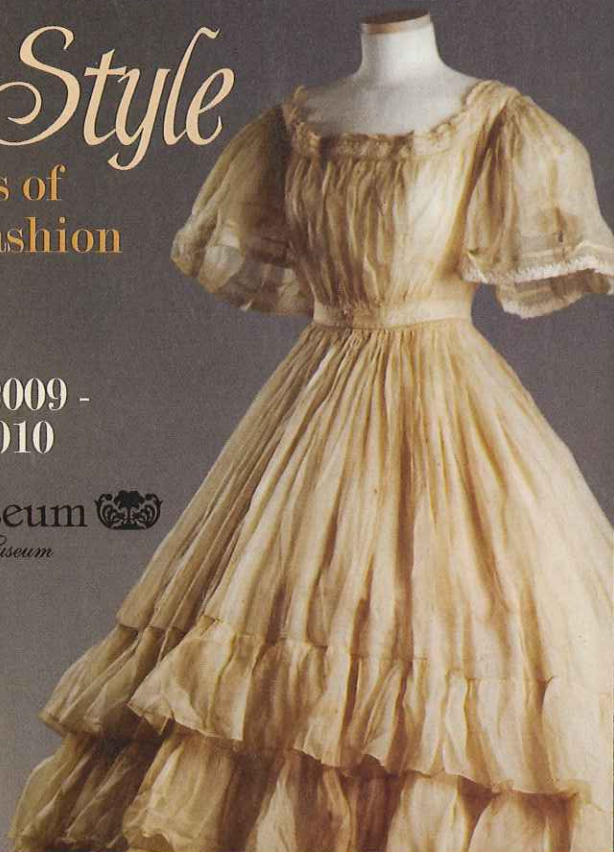
America's first museum presents an original exhibition


Aisle Style

150 Years of Wedding Fashion

October 16, 2009 -
June 30, 2010

The
Charleston Museum 
America's First Museum



360 Meeting Street, Charleston, SC  charlestonmuseum.org



Modern
Masters
from the Ferguson Collection

April 30 – August 22, 2010

Selected from the private collection of Esther and James Ferguson, this exhibition includes paintings, sculpture, and works on paper by significant 20th century artists such as Willem de Kooning, Robert Rauschenberg, Pablo Picasso, and Christo.

 South Carolina

 WILLIAM MEANS
CIVILITY'S GREAT EVENTS

 U.S. TRUST

 charleston
magazine

Gibbes

GIBBES MUSEUM OF ART
135 Meeting Street • Charleston, SC 29401

Image: *Femme dans un fauteuil*, 1956 by Pablo Picasso (Spanish, 1881 – 1973). Oil on canvas. 39 1/2 x 31 1/4 inches. Courtesy Esther and James Ferguson.