Double Spiral, 2009. A site-specific earthwork, this piece is created from hay and references symbols that were utilized by ancient cultures. It is located on Cemetery Hill. Courtesy of the artist.

Interlude, 1985, Bronze, 24 x 13 x 7 inches. This work is a representation of a woman’s neck, shoulder, and arm. It is located near the Visual Arts Center. Courtesy of Walter and Sally Rugaber.

Gaia, 1987, Carrara marble, 38 x 18 x 16 inches. This is a relief carving depicting Mother Earth and located beneath the second floor patio of the Visual Arts Center. Courtesy of the artist.

Gift Bearer, 1988, Hydrocal on steel, 94 x 36 x 32 inches. This piece, an abstract figure, stands on the hill behind the Visual Arts Center. Courtesy of the artist.

Spring, 2006, Found materials (steel), 100 x 16 x 14 inches. This organically curving sculpture is located in Beale Garden. Courtesy of the artist.

Honor Guard, 2004, Bronze and steel, 9 x 4 x 4 feet. Depicting a flock of crows spiraling out of a weeping water basin, this work is located near the Visual Arts Center. Courtesy of American Infrastructure.

Betty Branch
Through the Crow’s Eye: a Retrospective
September 17 - November 21, 2009


Raven’s Gate, 2005, Bronze, granite, steel, 9 feet 4 inches and 7 feet. Collection of the artist.

The museum will be closed August 23 - September 16, 2009 and November 22, 2009 - January 5, 2010.

Funding for this exhibition and its related programs comes from Hollins University’s Celeste Hampton Alumna in Residence Fund and the County of Roanoke.

1. Roanoke Public Library
706 S Jefferson Street
Roanoke, VA 24016
Once Upon a Time, 1988, Bronze. Courtesy of the City of Roanoke Public Arts Commission.

2. Taubman Museum of Art
110 Salem Avenue SE
Roanoke, VA 24011

3. Virginia Museum of Transportation
303 Norfolk Avenue SW
Roanoke, VA 24016

4. North Cross School
4254 Colonial Avenue
Roanoke, VA 24018-4090

5. Radford University Art Museum Corinna de la Burde Sculpture Court
200 Powell Hall
Radford, VA 24141
Fall 09 Art Exhibition and Events

ELEANOR D. WILSON MUSEUM | HOLLINS UNIVERSITY
P.O. BOX 9679
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA 24020-1679

Southwest Virginia’s Premier Arts & Leisure Guide

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On the cover: Raven’s Gate, 2005, Bronze, granite, steel, 9 feet 4 inches and 7 feet. Collection of the artist.

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Betty Branch

The Eleanor D. Wilson Museum is pleased to curate and present the first major retrospective of internationally recognized Roanoke artist Betty Branch. This exhibition honors one of the most respected sculptors in the southeast region. Her work has been exhibited worldwide and is presented in an exhibition showcasing decades of artistic experimentation.

“Branch has culled visual references from ancient maternal sculptures to current cultural events, from Greece to the foothills of the Blue Ridge,” writes Amy G. Moorefield, museum director and exhibition curator. “Her media is diverse, she sculpt[s] with marble, clay, bronze, stone, porcelain, terra cotta, earthware, and straw. Displayed in a non-chronological format, this exhibition calls attention to Branch’s fluidity throughout her artistic career between naturalistic and abstract modes of expression.”

Over a thirty-year period, Branch has produced a number of commissioned works, has had solo and group exhibitions, operates her own studio and gallery, and has been included in many national and international publications, including most recently Sculpture Review and National Sculpture Society. Her art has been included in prestigious exhibitions including New York’s Annual International Art Exposition, and the Brooklyn Garden Invitational, South Carolina. Betty Branch: Through the Crow’s Eye, a Retrospective is accompanied by a full color perfect bound catalogue that contains an essay by museum director and exhibition curator Amy G. Moorefield, Branch’s own poetry, and color plates of the artwork in the exhibition. The catalogue is available for purchase at the museum at a cost of $15.

**Opening Lecture**

**Saturday, September 19, 2009**

Richard Wetherill Visual Arts Center

Reception to immediately follow at the Eleanor D. Wilson Museum

Please join us for the opening of the major retrospective. Along with the opportunity to tour the campus and view the six works located in situ, the three galleries of the Eleanor D. Wilson Museum will be dedicated to showcasing this extraordinary body of work.

Artist Betty Branch will present a lecture discussing her work and processes in the Richard Wetherill Visual Arts Center Auditorium, immediately followed by a reception. These events are free and open to the public.

**Children’s Sculpture Workshop**

**Saturday, October 24, 2009**

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Richard Wetherill Visual Arts Center

Outdoor sculpture studio

Artist Betty Branch will lead a workshop for children ages 9-13 to introduce the basics in reduction (carving) and additive (clay) sculpture processes. The workshop will be held in the outdoor sculpture studio at the Richard Wetherill Visual Arts Center. Reservations are required. To register for this free workshop, please contact Laura Jane Ramsburg at LRamsburg@hollins.edu or 540.362.6081.

**Citywide Tour of Branch’s Public Art**

**Saturday, October 24, 2009**

2:00 - 4:30 p.m.

To view the six works located in downtown Roanoke locations include the Taubman Museum of Art, the Roanoke Public Library, and outside the Museum of Transportation. The artist will discuss the process of public commissioned artworks as well as insights into these specific monumental pieces. The tour will end at Branch’s studio for a reception. These events are free and open to the public. For reservations, please contact Laura Jane Ramsburg at LRamsburg@hollins.edu or 540.362.6081.
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