



THE SOUTHERN AGENDA

## The Southern Agenda: February/March 2015

Goings-on in the South and beyond

by **JED PORTMAN**

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## Arkansas

### *The Big Picture*

You could fill a textbook on twentieth-century Southern art with the work on display at Greg Thompson Fine Art's **20th Anniversary Exhibition** (January 16–March 14), in North Little Rock. Every winter for the past six years, Thompson has opened up the considerable archives of his gallery for an anniversary retrospective, and this year, after two decades in business, he is hosting his most impressive show yet. The work of the late, great Theora Hamblett, a Mississippi farmer's daughter who began painting in her late fifties, will be on display. So will that of Carroll Cloar, a folk surrealist from Earle, Arkansas, who rendered dreamlike visions of life in the midcentury rural South. If those names have your attention, add another show to your cultural calendar: the gallery's subsequent Southern Landscape exhibit (March 20–May 9), where the work of another crop of accomplished regional artists—William Eggleston, William Dunlap, and Thomas Hart Benton, to name a few—will hang on the walls, underscoring the Southern connection to place. At the gallery, unlike your local art museum, everything is for sale.—[gregthompsonfineart.com](http://gregthompsonfineart.com)