

THE CUP, THE MUG 2020



About the Exhibition

The fifth annual The Cup, The Mug exhibition at Main Street Arts features work by 55 artists from 24 states. A national juried exhibition of drinking vessels, this year's The Cup, The Mug exhibition was juried by Christina Erives of Helena, MT and Masa Sasaki of Atlanta, GA.

Exhibition Dates:

November 7–December 4, 2020

Award Announcement (Facebook live):

Saturday, November 7 at 6 p.m.

"What a pleasure to get to examine so many wonderful cups. It was exciting to see such a wonderful range of material, form, and surfaces. I was particularly drawn to the amount of character and playfulness in many of these submissions. Many left such a lingering image in mind after viewing them that proved their quality and skill to be unforgettable. I think the toughest choice in this show will be which cup to take home!"

– Christina Erives

"It was a great pleasure to participate in the jurying process. All of the outstanding artists that submitted cups should be commended. Along with the demonstration of technical skill, I looked for artistic expression that embodies both esthetic quality and originality. Each of the cups we reviewed had exceptional desirable characteristics and choosing a winner was challenging indeed."

– Masa Sasaki

FEATURING THE WORK OF:

Hadi Abbas (Orlando, FL)
Camilla Ascher (Baltimore, MD)
Casey Beck (St. Paul, MN)
Eve Behar (Sag Harbor, NY)
Collin Blackmore (Earlville, NY)
Sandy Blain (Tempe, AZ)
Tracy L. Burton (Chicago, IL)
Brooke Cashion (Alfred, NY)
Joey Chiarello (Honolulu, HI)
Marissa Childers (Norman, OK)
Rachel Consolazio (Apalachin, NY)
Indigo Cristol (Independence, MO)
John Cummings (Biltmore Lake, NC)
Becca Dilldine (Cookeville, TN)
Jaden Estes Carlson (Saegertown, PA)
Allee Etheridge (Carrollton, TX)
Shiloh Gastello (Portland, OR)
Amber Hamblin (El Cajon, CA)
Christine Herron (Wakefield, RI)
Zoey Murphy Houser (Newark, NY)
Carla Hughes (Harlingen, TX)
James Kelly (Denver, CO)
Michael Klaphthor (Decatur, GA)
Ara Koh (Washington, DC)
Laura Konecne and Nate Ditzler (Wichita Falls, TX)
Stephanie Lenertz (Minneapolis, MN)
Jessi Maddocks (Berthoud, CO)
Esther Lee Mech (Watkinsville, GA)
Dominique Mediak-Pirigyi (Buffalo, NY)
Charlotte Middleton (Floyd, VA)
Ray Morales (Miami, FL)
Rick Nickel (Norfolk, VA)
Caitlyn O'Neal (Columbia, MO)
Lorraine Olderman (Carmel, NY)
Heather Ossandon (Philadelphia, PA)
Kym Owens (San Marcos, TX)
Brent Pafford (Eugene, OR)
Ashley Paskov (Edinboro, PA)
Carla Prinster (Tucson, AZ)
Tyler Quintin (St. Petersburg, FL)
Don Reynolds (Bridgeport, CT)
Aaron Rotchadl (Moab, UT)
Baiba Rozite (Milwaukee, WI)
Merry Skyer (Holley, NY)
Alec Smith (Grosse Pointe, MI)
Michelle Summers (Akron, OH)
Mark Tarabula (Schuylerville, NY)
Marianne E. Tolosa (Arlington, VA)
Maliya Travers-Crumb (Rochester, NY)
Molly Uravitch (Minneapolis, MN)
Mark Vander Heide (Detroit, MI)
Casey Whittier (Kansas City, MO)
Matthew A Yanchuk (Long Island City, NY)
Meghan Yarnell (Perrysburg, OH)
Levi Yastrow (Chicago, IL)



Hadi Abbas (Orlando, FL)

“Using wood as fuel to harden clay is an ancient technology. I am searching for the byproduct that the wood burnings leave behind. The wood burning allows the fire to touch each piece, create an autobiographical mark, and tell the story of its encounter with the fire.”

Hadi Abbas makes strong, utilitarian pottery rooted in the architectural tradition of India and Persian stone carved vessels. His forms are sculptural, complex vessels fired in an anagama wood kiln. Abbas has taught at the University of Central Florida for 30 years, teaching handbuilding, wheel throwing, and raw materials.



Camilla Ascher (Baltimore, MD)

“My work consists of functional pottery, and my intention is to create aesthetically satisfying and well-designed utilitarian wares. The intimacy of functional pottery comes from its interactive nature. I love creating artwork that people can interact with and enjoy.”

Camilla Ascher graduated with a BFA in Art Education from UMass Dartmouth in 2012 and a Certificate in Ceramics in 2013. She attended residencies at Truro Center for the Arts and in Taiwan. She currently resides in Baltimore working as the Resident Ceramics Chair at Chesapeake Art Center.



Casey Beck (St. Paul, MN)

“By utilizing clay compositions that evoke the making and firing process, I can imprint my memories of working with clay into the vessel. The firing process interprets these clay compositions, leaving it's memories on the vessels while the user is left to evolve and evoke these memories with their own.”

Beck received his BFA in ceramics at The University of Wisconsin-River Falls in 2019. He currently lives in St. Paul, MN and works at Northern Clay Center. He is a recipient of the 2020 Jerome Ceramic Artist Project Grant in which he will continue to research down-firing soda kilns.

beckpots.com



Eve Behar (Sag Harbor, NY)

“As one drinks from a handmade vessel, a line is drawn back to the maker that created it for that very function.

I hope to secure that invisible bond by earnestly considering form, function and design to make the experience of using the piece pleasing, comfortable and enlivening.”

Since embarking upon ceramics in 1991, Eve has been in wholesale, retail, and gallery shows. She also is past president of The Clay Art Guild of the Hamptons and former director of Celadon Clay Art Gallery and Shop. She maintains her practice in Sag Harbor, New York.

www.evebehar.com



Collin Blackmore (Earlville, NY)

"I take pride in the quality of my craftsmanship. It provides a framework for my creativity and is like my signature.

While my work reflects my training and expertise in industrial techniques, I also draw my inspiration from the shapes, balance, and forces of nature."

Collin is trained as a jeweler, welder, and machinist, and has worked in engineering and custom metal fabrication shops. Several years ago, he returned to making things of my own design. Everything he makes is hand crafted, starting with plain sheet metal, wire, and various steel bar.

www.collinblackmore.com



Sandy Blain (Tempe, AZ)

“Vessels provide volumes for surface manipulation and marking. The medium captures, records, and communicates the spontaneity of a direct handbuilding experience. The slab pieces incorporate carving linoleum for bird and branch images. These abstracted surfaces are further enhanced using slips and glazes - drawn, brushed, and sprayed before firing to c/5-6.”

Sandy Blain is Professor Emerita - Ceramics, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Her background includes an M.F.A. in Ceramics from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Her clay pieces have been shown in juried and invitational exhibitions throughout the country. She is now adjunct faculty at the Mesa Art Center, Mesa, AZ.



Tracy L. Burton (Chicago, IL)

“My work in clay allows me to focus on form, function and the decorative surface. I incorporate bright color and texture to tell a visual story. My subject matter is influenced by experiences as a woman, teacher, daughter, sister, wife, traveler, caregiver and artist.”

Tracy Burton is an artist from Chicago with an education from Illinois State University's School of Art. She holds a Master's degree in art education, taught art for 15 years in public schools and now works full time as a ceramic artist.

www.scratchyeyestudio.com



Brooke Cashion (Alfred, NY)

“My peculiar vessels create space for delight with their deliverance of color and form which evoke natural and structural elements. Ultimately, my forms are a continuation of human’s vital and enduring pursuit with clay for utility and metaphor.”

Brooke Cashion currently resides in Western New York where she adjunct teaches and is a technician’s assistant at Alfred University. She has a BFA from The University of the Pacific, a post-bac from Colorado State University, and an MFA from New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University.

brookecashionstudio.com



Joey Chiarello (Honolulu, HI)

“Inspired by shintoism, I have been able to portray my personal demons. In doing so It has guided me to heal from ingrained childhood issues. Each character I have created, stems from aspects of myself. Serving as a personal therapist, I continue to live and grow in constant introspection.”

Born 1978. Largely self taught, Joey was raised in Glenwood Springs Colorado, USA. His mother’s guidance revealed great compassion within him for all life. At age 20 In 1998 he answered the call of many dreams to move to Oahu Hawai’i, where he calls home today in 2020.

www.etsy.com/shop/Demonsinmytea



Marissa Childers (Norman, OK)

“My work combines with the casual, yet deep connection we have with both fabric and functional vessels. We allow clothing to intimately interact with our lives and my desire is to create pots that invite the same relationship. My work offers visual and tactile interest that encourages further interaction.”

Marissa Childers is a current graduate student at the University of Oklahoma. She received her BFA in ceramics from the University of North Alabama. Her work explores the movement, patterns, and textures of textiles that we come into contact with daily.

marissachilders.com



Rachel Consolazio (Apalachin, NY)

“The creative process brings me much delight, I want that feeling to be shared by the user. Witnessing the joy from my process transform into someone else's joy in the usage of the piece is pure magic.”

Rachel Consolazio lives in the Binghamton NY area. She studied Surface Pattern Design at Syracuse University and is now a freelance illustrator and ceramic artist. Combining her love of pattern and color with her ceramic surfaces gives her a perfect canvas to express her creativity.

www.rachelcpottery.com



Indigo Cristol (Independence, MO)

“I create functional pottery, using intricate textures and vibrant colors. I compose a sense of harmony in my pottery by balancing geometric lines with fluid, organic shapes. Creating a juxtaposition that is simultaneously energetic and calming, and that encourages physical interaction with my work.”

Indigo Cristol is a functional ceramic artist from Virginia, where she received her BA in Studio Art and Economics. She is currently an artist in residence at 323 Clay Independence, Missouri. She is intrigued by the juxtaposition of organic and geometric shapes and forms.

indigocristolceramics.com



John Cummings (Biltmore Lake, NC)

“Inspired by abstract expressionism, I explore surface decoration using color theory and action painting. I apply a combination of bright colors and bold textures through a process of layering colored slips and glazes. Each form is approached as an individual painting or sculpture.”

John received his B.S. from the University of Southern Indiana and his M.F.A from the University of Mississippi. He spent three years as an assistant for Jun Kaneko and now currently teaches at The University of North Carolina Asheville. John enjoys building in various scales, both small and large.

cummingsceramicstudio.com



Becca Dilldine (Cookeville, TN)

“I choose to create utilitarian vessels for everyday use.

My forms are thrown on the potter’s wheel and then altered and pinched to leave my own touch, documenting my relationship to each vessel. I paint quick, expressive imagery, inspired by my perception of environments I’ve encountered in my life.”

Becca graduated from the Appalachian Center for Craft with a BFA in Ceramics and a minor in Social & Behavioral Science. She is currently the Gallery Manager at the Craft Center. She also teaches ceramics to high school students through the Craft Center’s outreach program.

beccadilldineceramics.com



Jaden Estes Carlson (Saegertown, PA)

“My creative practice exposes various thoughts, apologies, and journal entries in a variety of contexts. It is a ritualistic experience of freeing myself from contemplations that cloud my mind, in order to move on from them. I emulate crumpled notebook paper aesthetics to highlight the insignificance of unwanted thoughts.”

Jaden Estes Carlson received her Bachelor of Art Education at the University of Nebraska-Kearney. She then went on to Edinboro University where she is currently working to earn her MFA in ceramics. Her greatest inspirations come from color, pattern, and the human condition.

jadencarlsonstudios.com



Allee Etheridge (Carrollton, TX)

“By drawing sexual scenes on functional vessels, I highlight the sensuality of the dining experience. Furthermore, on the wheel, the clay slips through my fingers and responds to my caress. The sexual imagery, the slippery creation, and the tastes in the mouth meld for a very intimate moment.”

Allee grew up in Minnesota, lived in rural Japan for two years after college, and has lived in Dallas, Texas, for years. She lives with her husband and a menagerie of pets and works out of a home studio. Allee also fosters animals and performs at the local renaissance festival.

www.alleeceramics.com



Shiloh Gastello (Portland, OR)

“My work consists of exploring tea wares and engaging in Chinese Tea Service known as Gongfu Cha (translating to “making tea with skill”). As part of this practice, I teach virtual tea education workshops with various communities all over the world to thoughtfully share connections cross-culturally through tea.”

Shiloh Gastello is a ceramicist from Stockton, CA who currently resides in Portland, OR. Gastello is a Ceramic Art Instructor who teaches classes on glaze calculation, wheel-throwing, hand-building, and loading and firing kilns. He has been published nationally, and has exhibited his ceramic work nationally and internationally.

www.shilohgastello.wix.com/ceramics



Amber Hamblin (El Cajon, CA)

“I enjoy the clashing of patterns that seem to electrify the surface of my pots. My aesthetic choices in color, texture, and pattern are driven by my love for the nostalgic themes from my youth along with the desire to create art that speaks to the modern viewer.”

Amber Hamblin is a born and raised, San Diego based artist. She obtained a BS in Applied Design with an emphasis in ceramics, from San Diego State University. When not working in the studio, she enjoys spending time outdoors with her husband and their furry little children.



Christine Herron (Wakefield, RI)

“My work reflects my long history of working with flora, a true love of textiles, pattern making and color. As a multi-disciplined artist the inspiration I find in these loves is the consistent thread that binds my work.”

Christine is an artist who has many passions, one of which is ceramics. As founding designer for her company Red Chair Studio, she created multiple lines of colorful, hand dyed silk scarves and jewelry. Currently she spends her artistic life divided between ceramic and painting and teaching both mediums.

www.redchairstudioclay.com



Zoey Murphy Houser (Newark, NY)

"My pottery mimics life as it's invariably evolving the old to create the new through experiences that are, more often than not, human experiences – affecting & connecting us all. I translate my feelings & memories conjured by inter/intrapersonal experiences into forms & imageries, from adorable animals to obscure places."

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zoeymurphyhouser.com



Carla Hughes (Harlingen, TX)

“I make pottery to build space. Carefully crafted pieces in our hands and spaces make celebrations live longer and more vividly in our memories, they help us find comfort when times are rough. I hope my work sparks joy and a desire to share food and space.”

Carla Hughes is a potter and sculptor living and working in Harlingen, TX.

carlahughesart.com



James Kelly (Denver, CO)

“My work is a reflection of my surroundings. Living in a mid century modern home has inspired the forms I make. The clean lines of the furniture and architecture from that era have guided my work in this direction. Each piece is a chance for new growth and exploration.”

I'm originally from Michigan where I first fell in love with ceramics. I studied at Northern Michigan University where I earned a BFA in ceramics. Now I live in Colorado where I serve as President of the Colorado Potters Guild and work out of my garage studio.



Michael Klaphor (Decatur, GA)

“This series is based on science fiction of the 1950’s, where the aesthetic gave an optimistic outlook on our technology and space travel. A colorful, rusty finish hints at years of robotic service. Expressions create contrasts between robotic and human. The resulting characters connect a universe of excitement and nostalgia.”

Michael Klaphor has been working throughout the ceramics community in Georgia for over 15 years as an artist and sculpture instructor. Michael’s sculptures focus in figurative work, using comical physicality to convey emotions. He exhibits work with The Signature Shop, The High Museum in Atlanta, regional ceramics and design shows.

mklaphor.com



Ara Koh (Washington, DC)

“My pottery is reflection of my time during the pandemic. Functional ware, especially cups and mugs are physically held in the user’s hand in daily lives. It sheds light on the blessing of small everyday encounters and importance of maintaining wellness in life.”

Ara Koh received her BFA in Ceramics and Glass from Hongik University, Seoul, South Korea in 2018, and was an exchange student at California State University, Long Beach in 2016. Ara graduated with an MFA in Ceramic Art at New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University in 2020.

idkohara.wixsite.com/araangelakoh



Laura Konecne and Nate Ditzler (Wichita Falls, TX)

“Our collaborative utilitarian ceramics combine our sense of design and aesthetics present in each of our individual studio practices. The amorphous blobs found in both the form and surface of the work serve as surrogates for the self, perpetually unresolved and in a fluid state of growth and change.”

Nate Ditzler and Laura Konecne are both from O‘ahu, Hawai‘i. Nate Ditzler holds a BA In Cultural Anthropology, a BFA in Ceramics and an MFA in Ceramics. Laura Konecne holds a BFA in Sculpture. Both have work including past collaborations, in multiple public collections.

nateditzler.com



Stephanie Lenertz (Minneapolis, MN)

“I am fascinated by the ability of the inanimate object to embody the intricacies of humanity. I study the everyday object, learning from its symbolism, context, age, or the way I interact with it. Utilizing many materials, my work provides an opportunity for the object to tell its life story.”

Stephanie Lenertz has a BFA in Ceramics and Glass Blowing from the University of Wisconsin—River Falls. She lives in Minneapolis and works at Northern Clay Center. Stephanie has exhibited her work in various national exhibitions. Fueled by her curiosity, she is always looking for new opportunities to learn and grow.

www.instagram.com/stephlerert



Jessi Maddocks (Berthoud, CO)

“These mugs were designed using Rhino and combine 3D-printing and slipcasting methods. The rounded foot is slightly wobbly, bringing a sense of playfulness. The handle ties it all together: the body is 3D printed, the foot slipcast, and the handle is a slipcast form camouflaged as a 3D printed handle.”

Jessi Maddocks is from Fort Collins, Colorado and received her MFA from Louisiana State University in 2020. Her work is primarily made using molds and slipcasting, working in a range of fabrication methods from plaster prototyping to CNC milling to 3D-printing in clay. She has exhibited work nationally and internationally.

jessimaddocks.com



Esther Lee Mech (Watkinsville, GA)

“Clay is a very intimate medium, inviting touch from hands and lips as it is shaped and used. I aim to make functional pottery that people are compelled to pick up, pots that may sit back quietly and become integrated into someone’s routine. The illustrations reference Korean folk paintings.”

Esther Mech is a utilitarian potter who was born in Seoul, South Korea, and raised on the eastern coast of the United States. She received her BA in Studio Art with an Art History minor from Wesleyan College, and her MFA in Ceramics at the University of Georgia in 2019.

esthermech.com



Dominique Mediak-Pirigyi (Buffalo, NY)

“My collection is one of deconstruction and assembly. I produce and dismantle manufactured forms originating as kitsch ceramic molds that are often discarded. The simpler forms are then brought together to create new, more elaborate functional forms. In some cases the functionality is subverted, thus provoking curiosity and playful interaction.”

Dominique is an experimental ceramic artist working primarily with slipcasting. She received her BFA from SUNY College of Art and Design, and an MSED from Buffalo State College. She currently resides in Buffalo where she teaches a variety of high school art courses including Graphic Design, Sculpture and AP Art.



Charlotte Middleton (Floyd, VA)

“While making I pay homage to the symbols from my experience as a girl becoming a woman. Lotus’s are often a symbol I employ to invite user and viewer to consider resilience and loss. As I grapple with the metamorphosis from girlhood to womanhood forms shift from delicate to buoyant.”

While growing up in an old farmhouse in rural Maine, Charlotte came to believe in the process of creating preciousness from materials surrounding her. She is currently exploring clay as the substance that both contains and reveals our human history.

www.charlottelmiddleton.com



Ray Morales (Miami, FL)

“My intention is to create pottery that’s unique, inviting and elegant. I am interested in familiar forms and the challenge of transforming them into art. Making handmade pottery creates a dialog about my life as an artist, the pottery I make, and the people who use them.”

Ray Morales is a Miami based potter and professor of Ceramics at Miami Dade College. He exhibits his works through the US and actively works to produce unique pieces. Ray earned a BFA from the University of Central Florida and an MFA from the University of Miami.

rmpottery.com



Rick Nickel (Norfolk, VA)

“Often art is seen as an introverted, solitary experience involving serious thought and messages. Frequently overlooked are the examples of the lighter side of human existence – comedy. Art, like life, is a balance between comedy and tragedy.”

Born October 1st, 1969 in Rochester, NY. Richard Nickel received a Bachelor of Science in Art Education from State University College at Buffalo, New York in 1996. The received a Master of Fine Arts in Ceramics 2000 at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania.

www.instagram.com/richardnickel



Caitlyn O'Neal (Columbia, MO)

“My pieces reflect vibrant colors, designs, and patterns that surround us daily in nature. I am a twin and for most of my life, I have been defined as part of a pair. All of my work functions as a pair in hopes to connect two different people together.”

Caitlyn O'Neal graduated from Goshen College (2018).

She has a passion for people and for art. She tries to use her work as a way for different people to connect.

She is currently an artist in resident at Access Arts teaching beginning pottery classes to the community of Columbia, Missouri.

caitlynonealart.com



Lorraine Olderman (Carmel, NY)

“I believe that it is important for people to have beautiful handmade objects in that they use daily. My work is informed by nature, traditional native designs, function, and the idea of beauty. My decorating style is non-regulated patterning. As a maker I feel in dialogue with the user.”

Lorraine Olderman believes that art should initiate discussion. As an artist, she has two primary interests; making clay objects for everyday use, and building creative educational programs. Beauty in the form of ideas or works reconciles people. She wants her work to help people to participate in what inspires them.

oldeclay.com



Heather Ossandon (Philadelphia, PA)

“Experiences help to cultivate insight into process. The object is an intermediary, an integral part of the process.

Utilitarian objects inscribe the ritual of the everyday, both in my life and in others. My work uses functional ceramics as a vehicle in the conversation on art and its social applications.”

Traveling the globe and observing the techniques and traditions of ceramic communities, Heather Ossandon creates ceramics that reflect her distinct background. Focusing on functional pottery, she spotlights traditional practices and creates everyday objects. Heather operates in Philadelphia, PA, and is a Visiting Assistant Professor at Delaware State University.



Kym Owens (San Marcos, TX)

“I am a maker of fancy porcelain pottery. Each piece is carefully and precisely executed with a mindful meditative approach to the overall design and decoration. I would like my customers to have a sense of wonderment and excitement each time they use my pottery. Cheers!”

I worked for over a decade as a production thrower and am now a Studio potter in residence at Eye of the Dog Art Center in San Marcos, TX. I focus on various surface techniques such as slip decoration and Mishima to accentuate my forms making each piece aesthetically unique.

www.kopottery.com



Brent Pafford (Eugene, OR)

“POPJCTs are my most recent body of work and investigate materiality in objects and identity. From disparate materials, contrary textures, and incompatible forms, POPJCTs are intended to manifest harmonious but revealing interactions. These interactions evoke the ephemerality, disposability, function, utility, value, and experiential worth found and lost in individuality.”

Brent Pafford is a ceramic artist currently based in Eugene, Oregon. Pafford has exhibited nationally since completing his MFA in ceramics in 2014, at Clemson University Pafford currently has work showing in Portland, New Orleans, Minneapolis, Washington, DC, and Seattle.

www.brentpafford.com



Ashley Paskov (Edinboro, PA)

“In my work I am interested in organic pattern and nature in functional forms. The subtle beauty of a well made object you use every day brings an intimate joy and connection to your surroundings. I strive in my work to bring this sense of connection through my work.”

Ashley Paskov has been practicing ceramics for 8 years. She received her BA in ceramics from Central Connecticut State University. She ran her own studio in Northampton, Ma. for 4 years and worked as a Studio and University assistant. She is currently studying for her M.F.A. at Edinboro University.

paskovpottery.com



Carla Prinster (Tucson, AZ)

“Building a narrative from within, I reach deep and begin painting the image I am currently feeling. I want to be relatable, and pull from the everyday life we all experience. My goal is to provoke thought.”

Since graduating from college, and her apprenticeship in Japan, Carla has been working as a studio artist, art teacher and mother of three. She has exhibited her work in multiple international and national juried shows, producing work that is wheel thrown or hand built, painted and electric fired.



Tyler Quintin (St. Petersburg, FL)

“My utilitarian work aims to emulate the development of intimate relationships with individuals through the act of use. Seemingly delicate handles inspire hesitation with the user, but through careful exploration, comfort is achieved with the object in question.”

Tyler Quintin earned his BFA from Washburn University and is a current artist in residence at the Morean Center for Clay. Quintin has exhibited in numerous national and internationally juried exhibitions. His work is in the permanent collections of the Mulvane Art Museum and the San Angelo Museum of Art.

Tylerquintin.com



Don Reynolds (Bridgeport, CT)

“I create functional objects. The expectation that they will be as fun to use, as they are exciting to look at, keeps me engaged during the process of creating. I am driven to explore color, pattern, and the textures they can create, aiming to activate the surfaces of my pieces.”

Originally from Farmington Hills, MI, Don Reynolds is a graduate of the University of Michigan – School of Art. Mr. Reynolds currently lives in Bridgeport, CT, and teaches ceramics in Port Chester, NY at the Clay Art Center. His ceramic work has been included in many exhibitions throughout the US.

donreynoldsceramics.com



Aaron Rotchadi (Moab, UT)

“I follow no rules when applying glazes. I use powders, coils, sprays, chips, globs, or chip covered globs and more. I fire many pieces upside down, sideways, or at some crooked angle to allow gravity to play a lively and mysterious role in melding surface and form.”

Aaron is a part time working artist based in Moab, UT. When he is not in the studio he can usually be found traveling the U.S. repairing wind turbine blades from a rope, floating on a river, or climbing on sandstone walls around the desert southwest.



Baiba Rozite (Milwaukee, WI)

“Creating objects pleasing to the eye and comfortable in the hand brings me both joy and purpose. Exploring crystalline glazes has added a new level of excitement to my work.”

Baiba Rozite, a land surveyor by profession, began working with clay earnestly in 2017. She took wheel, hand-building and glaze classes at the local community pottery studio, and a wood firing class through the university. Exploring clay and glazes has quickly become her life's passion.



Merry Skyer (Holley, NY)

“I like giving human characteristics to the non-human. Whether it's ceramic animals, robots, or monsters, my subjects are full of personality and each have their own story to tell. I aim to anthropomorphize these characters so we can see them in the same light we see ourselves.”

Merry Skyer is a graduate of SUNY Geneseo and Rochester Institute of Technology with degrees in ceramics, english, and art education. She makes pots in her home studio in Rochester, NY and teaches young artists at a local elementary school.

www.merryskyer.com



Alec Smith (Grosse Pointe, MI)

“Crafting objects, I seek the balance between one-of-a-kind and the mass produced. Mold systems and simple, clean shapes help bring to life an exquisite functional ware. Though often overlooked amidst our daily routine, I aspire to nurture a connection between user and object, to be present in the moment.”

Alec's interest in ceramics started in high school and he has been creating with “mud” ever since. He received his Bachelor of Fine Arts from Alfred University. Currently, Alec lives in Detroit working as a clay modeler in the automotive industry and maintains a studio practice at the Glastonbury Collective.



Michelle Summers (Akron, OH)

“Pottery is paper for me to record my journeys, both lived and imagined. Each piece is meant to be held, turned in the hands, allowing the images to reveal a little world of playful wonderousness. Often, there is a subtle, if not subversive message waiting to be discovered.”

Michelle Summers is currently a professor of ceramics at Kent State University. She received her B.F.A. from New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University and M.F.A. from the University of Minnesota.

michellemsummers.com



Mark Tarabula (Schuylerville, NY)

“Conditions of the human body, concepts of sexuality, and the connection between surface and form have guided my work. Each sculpture lures viewers with sensual curves and silhouettes that tease intimate nakedness made of pieces molded from different bodies to make forms that are abstractly ambiguous.”

Mark Tarabula is currently an Artist in Residence at Saratoga Clay Arts Center in New York. He received his MFA at Edinboro University and his BFA from Northern Michigan University. During the years in between degrees, he was a resident artist in several places including The Ceramic Center and Gallery-One.

marktarabula.com



Marianne E. Tolosa (Arlington, VA)

“I desire to create pieces that you’ll find both useful and beautiful, with grace and simplicity. The more places I see, the more my work grows, as I absorb the world around me, turn it over it in my soul, and put it back out as my own creative expression.”

Marianne grew up in Northern Virginia, and received an art degree from the University of Mary Washington. She spent time living in Japan, creating work at the studio of a local ceramicist before moving back to Virginia, where she has been creating floral-inspired ceramics for the past 10 years.

www.whitepeachpottery.com



Maliya Travers-Crumb (Rochester, NY)

“Functional pottery is an opportunity for a piece of fine art to form a personal relationship. It’s something that’s loved and held, that wears with time and becomes part of a person’s daily life. I apply illustration and narrative techniques to my ceramics as a vehicle for forging this relationship.”

I am a ceramic artist from Rochester NY who creates small batch pottery. I have a BA in English and Studio Art from Oberlin College and a BFA in Illustration from the Rochester Institute of Technology. I am a process obsessed surface decorating feminist lady machine.

mtcillustration.com



Molly Uravitch (Minneapolis, MN)

“I find clay to be a seductive material due to its ability to be used to make virtually any form, whether sculptural or functional. I am constantly challenging myself to push this material further, in an ongoing exploration to create more visually stimulating work.”

Molly Uravitch is a ceramic/mix media artist based out of Minneapolis, Minnesota. She is known for her highly decorated ceramic surfaces, which utilize a wide pallet of color. She makes both function and sculptural works. Molly currently teaches at University of Wisconsin Stout, in the School of Art & Design.

www.mollyuravitch.com



Mark Vander Heide (Detroit, MI)

“My work investigates consumption. I explore the concept broadly; not merely in regards to eating but also in making, shopping, buying, and connecting with each other. I seek to explore the relationship consumption highlights between abundance and dearth, excess and empty.”

Mark Vander Heide currently lives in Detroit, MI and attends Cranbrook Academy of Art. In his past, he has lived in Holland, MI, Grand Rapids, MI, and Pittsburgh, PA; he has spent time studying sociology and working as a baker and as an arts and early childhood educator.

markvanderheide.com



Casey Whittier (Kansas City, MO)

“I am drawn to cast-off objects: to the things stuck in the corner, at the bottom of the pile. Objects aid us in our humanity by enhancing our abilities, offering opportunities, communicating values. These inconspicuous objects – perpetrators of the mundane, of wonder, of mystery – are my starting point.”

Casey Whittier received her BFA from the Kansas City Art Institute and MFA from the University of Colorado Boulder.

Whittier teaches ceramics social practice at the Kansas City Art Institute. Whittier works from her home studio and serves as Vice President for Artaxis.org.

www.caseywhittier.com



Matthew A Yanchuk (Long Island City, NY)

“Playing with container as an expression I have created new ways for me of manipulating porcelain. Making work that has a lot of play in them to pieces that strive to be the culmination of that play but with a more refined ending.”

Yanchuk has been living and working in Brooklyn for some 30 years surrounded by a creative environment. Over the years Yanchuk has been making ceramics exploring all kinds of processes and materials. From earthenware to porcelain, functional to decorative and learning much along the way.

www.mayware.com



Meghan Yarnell (Perrysburg, OH)

“In a culture that values quantity over quality and convenience over sustainability, I find myself drawn more and more to the intricacies of the natural world. I like to think that my work is subtly infused with enough meaning to inspire thought while it is being used.”

I graduated from BGSU with a BFA in 3D studies in 2005 and have been teaching junior high art and making pots in my basement ever since. I live in Perrysburg, Ohio with my husband and three children.

www.meghcallie.com



Levi Yastrow (Chicago, IL)

“This work was made during the beginning of the lockdowns in march 2020. It was made as a document of my personal exploration at a time of great shared anxiety. Each pinch mark became a means for the user to feel another persons touch in a time of distance.”

Levi is an artist and educator from Chicago, Illinois. He is an instructor and soda monitor at Lillstreet Art Center and a Lab Assistant at College of DuPage.

[instagram.com/take_it_or_levi](https://www.instagram.com/take_it_or_levi)