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December 2, 2017 – January 4, 2018

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# **The Cup, The Mug 2017**

A national juried exhibition of drinking vessels

# About the Exhibition

Our second annual The Cup, The Mug exhibition, juried by ceramic artist and instructor Peter Pincus, is a national juried exhibition of drinking vessels. The exhibition features the work of 46 artists from 24 states.

Juror Peter Pincus received his BFA and MFA in ceramics from Alfred University, and in between was a resident artist at the Mendocino Art Center in Mendocino, California. His work can be found in numerous private and public collections. Peter joined the School for American Crafts at Rochester Institute of Technology as visiting assistant professor in ceramics in Fall 2014.

Peter has also invited four artists to show their work alongside the juried work. Invited artists in the exhibition include: Sam Chung, Meredith Host, Lindsay Oesterritter, and Matthew Schiemann.

*“National juried exhibitions are wonderful opportunities to survey the field for defining themes and interests. It is surprising that in this moment of great technological advancement, the work in this particular exhibition actually appears to tip toward the deep traditions of our field. More wood fired pots appeared in this submission cycle than I’ve seen in some time. As for 3D prints or digitally fabricated forms, well, they just weren’t there.”*

*When I juried this collection of work, I noticed a certain subtlety in form and surface that was invitingly warm and effectively historic. I’m compelled by the work presented to believe that there is a prevailing interest in honoring the past through an increasingly focused lens, while finding invention and personality in moderate tweaks rather than huge, abrupt changes to studio practice.”*

—Peter Pincus, juror

## Featuring the work of:

Rachel Allstadt (Alfred, NY)  
Tyler-James Anderson (Asheville, NC)  
Michael Ashley (Tupelo, MS)  
Juan DeJesus Barroso (Oklahoma City, OK)  
Eric Beavers (Nesbit, MS)  
Casey Beck (River Falls, WI)  
Anne K. Beyer (Bloomington, IN)  
John Brooks (Tenino, WA)  
Asta Bublioni (Kew Gardens, NY)  
Erin Carpenter (Ames, IA)  
Sam Chumley (Corydon, IN)  
Andrew Clark (Jackson, TN)  
Justin Donofrio (Fort Collins, CO)  
Christopher Fanjul (Mattituck, NY)  
Paul Frazer (Naples, NY)  
Jim Gottuso (Floyds Knobs, IN)  
Valerie Banes Hancock (Corinth, TX)  
Laurie Caffery Harris (Asheville, NC)  
Alina Hayes (West Hills, CA)  
Jacob Dante Hostetler (Goshen, IN)  
Michael Hughes (Syracuse, NY)  
Ben Jordan (Belgrade, MT)  
James Kelly (Denver, CO)

Sam Lopez (San Diego, CA)  
Ken Lu (Morgantown, WV)  
Hannah May (Hensley, AR)  
Ryan McDonnell (Washington DC)  
Jacob Meer (St. Petersburg, FL)  
Brooke Millecchia (Fairport, NY)  
Matt Mitros (Tuscaloosa, AL)  
Melody Monroe (Maryville, MO)  
Ray Morales (Miami, FL)  
Shawna Pincus (Baltimore, MD)  
Gretchen Quinn (Raleigh, NC)  
Mandy Leigh Ranck (Geneva, NY)  
Ryan Reich (Yorba Linda, CA)  
Masa Sasaki (Atlanta, GA)  
Alec W. Smith (Grosse Pointe Woods, MI)  
Adam Spector (Canandaigua, NY)  
Jonathan Steele (Pleasant Hill, OR)  
Sara Beth Truman (Gainesville, FL)  
Jeff Walker (Reeds Spring, MO)  
Shannon Webb (Aiea, HI)  
Julia Claire Weber (Asheville, NC)  
Hedy Yang (Novi, MI)  
Lisa York (Gaithersburg, MD)

## **Sam Chung (Tempe, AZ)**

"A consistent point of departure for my work has been the ceramic vessel and playing with the balance between form, function and design. I am interested in the way that pots have the unique ability to serve a multitude of roles and functions. They can exhibit decorative beauty, bring attention to more functional/tactile concerns, and also create historical, cultural and experiential associations. I work within the context of pottery to exploit its universal familiarity and impose my own vision for merging historically and culturally disparate influences. I am curious about the relationships I see among various forms of creative expression from both past and present, and try to bring forth a new language of pottery for the future."

Sam Chung is an Arizona-based ceramic artist. He received his MFA from Arizona State University and his BA degree from St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. Between his undergraduate and graduate programs, he worked as a special post-bac student at the University of Minnesota. He taught at Northern Michigan University from 1998-2007 and is now teaching at Arizona State University in Tempe where he is an associate professor of ceramics. Sam has presented numerous lectures and workshops both nationally and internationally.

[www.samchungceramics.com](http://www.samchungceramics.com)

## **Meredith Host (Kansas City, MO)**

"I am a collector of overlooked patterns, patterns you see on a daily basis. Every time I enter a restroom, my eyes immediately look to the toilet paper roll. If I have not seen this subtle embossed design before, I will take a few squares and place them in my pocket. I obsess about these found ubiquitous domestic patterns contained in the paper products we see, use, and throw away every day.

The prevalence of these dimpled decorations in our daily life renders them invisible, their utility questionable. We barely notice them and take them for granted. In this body of work, I am taking these motifs and reintroducing them by transferring them from one material to another. The conversion from something ephemeral into something permanent intrigues me. Ultimately, I am giving these patterns visibility and celebrating their presence in the context of other domestic objects meant for daily use."

Meredith Host was born and raised in Detroit Rock City. She received her BFA in Ceramics from Kansas City Art Institute in 2001 and her MFA in Ceramics from The Ohio State University in 2008. Meredith has spent time at numerous ceramic residencies including The School for American Crafts at RIT in Rochester, NY, Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts in Newcastle, ME, and Dresdner Porzellan Manufaktur in Dresden, Germany. She was named one of the 2011 Emerging Artists for NCECA and Ceramics Monthly. Currently, Meredith lives in Kansas City, MO and is a full time studio potter. She has an extensive collection of patterned knee socks and taxidermy shoulder mounts and is a self-proclaimed horror dork and root beer connoisseur.

[meredithhost.com](http://meredithhost.com)

## **Lindsay Oesterritter (Manassas, VA)**

"I am intrigued by the slow and natural changes that are constantly yet imperceptibly altering our daily environments; how the seemingly permanent is being perpetually altered through weathering. I find inspiration in commonplace items within my surroundings. My current work is punctuated by the concept of the inseparable relationship form and surface develops though subtle and progressive erosion of time. It is my intention to utilize a reduction cooled wood fueled kiln to highlight form and surface variations, and reference slow and continuous change."

Currently, Lindsay Oesterritter is the assistant professor of ceramics at Western Kentucky University. She earned her MFA from Utah State University in Logan Utah, MA from the University of Louisville in Louisville Kentucky, and her BA at Transylvania University in Lexington Kentucky. She has had the fortune to be a resident artist at Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg and in Australia at Strathnairn Arts Association. She has lectured and exhibited nationally and internationally and is continually inspired by the craft community.

[loceramics.com](http://loceramics.com)

## **Matthew Schiemann (St. Petersburg, FL)**

"Being a second-generation potter, my rural home was alive with handmade objects. This influenced both my growth as a person and as an artist. I envision my pottery in people's homes, filling their cabinets, displayed out on dining room tables, and laying used and enjoyed at the bottom of a sink. The home represents a place for family and friends to gather and enjoy each other's company. I want my pots to be a part of the conversations and stories that are shared during times of celebration as well as day to day happenings..."

Matthew Schiemann received his Bachelors of Arts in Sculpture and Ceramics from Ashland University in 2005 and his Masters of Fine Arts in Ceramics at Southern Illinois University Carbondale in 2009. While in graduate school, Matt worked as Harris Deller's personal assistant and as a Teaching Assistant for the wheel throwing and industrial design courses. During this time, he began building his own body of work focused on functional pottery fired in atmospheric kilns. After graduating from Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Matt was accepted as an artist in residence at the St. Petersburg Clay Company. Shortly after being accepted as A.I.R. Matt became an adjunct professor at Eckerd College for PEL program's ceramics department. In October of 2010, Matt became co-owner/director of the St. Petersburg Clay Company. Matthew is now currently the manager for the St. Pete Clay Artist in Residence Program at the Morean Center for Clay and is an adjunct professor at St. Petersburg College.

[www.matthewschiemannpottery.com](http://www.matthewschiemannpottery.com)

## **Rachel Allstadt (Amityville, NY)**

"My investigation is a search for completeness. It is an ongoing exploration deriving from my desire to create utilitarian objects for the home. The purpose of this work is to require the user to be present in its function.

My practice is intended to build self-awareness. I often feel rushed in life and I am not always aware of the value of mindfulness. This work is designed to break one's routine. I expect these pieces to live as a means of consciousness and encourage a presence from the user."

## **Tyler-James Anderson (Asheville, NC)**

"I create functional stoneware and porcelain ceramics that deviate from the standard fare. I am heavily inspired by nature, science, and the art and mythos of other cultures. I implement a wide prismatic color palette as well as slip trailing and heavy alterations to bring my forms to life."

Tyler-James Anderson was born in California where he discovered a love for ceramic arts. Later traveling cross country to apprentice under Susan DeMay in Tennessee and work with the potters of the region. In 2016 Tyler moved onward to Asheville operating out of Odyssey Clay Center and The Bright Angle.

[moonhandpottery.com](http://moonhandpottery.com)

## **Michael Ashley (Tupelo, MS)**

"My work invites touch, like a stone plucked from a riverbed. I begin my day with tea; boil the water, strain, pour and savor. That rhythm carries throughout my day whether chopping onions or wedging clay. Make something, use it, let it inform your life, make more."

Michael Ashley graduated from College of the Ozarks and the University of Mississippi with an MFA in Ceramics. Teaching includes Missouri State University, the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University and Tyler School of Art. He owns Ashley Studio Pottery and currently teaches at Northeast Mississippi Community College.

[www.ashleystudiopottery.com](http://www.ashleystudiopottery.com)

## **Juan DeJesus Barroso (Oklahoma City, OK)**

"My work is about Mexican culture. I am motivated to preserve my Mexican identity in a country where the Latino community faces various degrees of acculturation. I am influenced by the history of Mexico's people, the symbols, traditions, food, animals, music, and the stories of immigrants that come to America."

Juan Barroso was born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and grew up in Mexico. He received his BFA at the University of Oklahoma in 2016. He has exhibited in the U.S. including shows at Companion Gallery in Tennessee, Clay Arts Vegas in Nevada, and the Texarkana Regional Arts Center in Texas.

[JuanBarrosoArt.com](http://JuanBarrosoArt.com)

## **Eric Beavers (Nesbit, MS)**

"I feel pottery should speak to the user about qualities that can only be found in the handmade. My work emphasizes process by revealing the marks of the maker. Exposed coils, tool marks, and pinches reference the techniques used in its creation. These qualities reinforce the concept of handmade."

Eric Beavers was born in Farmington, NM but has made his home in Nesbit, MS. He graduated from the University of Mississippi in 2005 with a BFA in Ceramics. He became a full time Art instructor in 2009 and later received his graduate degree from the Memphis College of Art.

[www.ericbeavers.com](http://www.ericbeavers.com)

## **Casey Beck (River Falls, WI)**

"The work is based around the idea of function and utility and being able to share this with others. Being fired in atmospheric firings, the work holds a sense of spontaneity, that juxtaposes with the tight, structural qualities of the work."

Casey Beck is currently an undergraduate at The University of Wisconsin-River Falls pursuing a BFA in ceramics. He primarily fires wood and soda kilns and is currently conducting research on clays and slips in the soda atmosphere.

[CaseyBeckArt.com](http://CaseyBeckArt.com)

## **Anne K. Beyer (Bloomington, IN)**

"I create works inspired by a combination of my interests, such as geology, psychology, and biology. The unpredictability of wood fire is exciting because it does not allow me to completely control the surface of my pieces."

Anne Beyer is pursuing her MFA degree at Indiana University. Her portfolio includes functional ware, slip castforms and slab and coil sculptures. Although her work is evolving, she is continuing to push her knowledge and understanding of the high fire reductive surface.

[annekbeyer.com](http://annekbeyer.com)

## **John Brooks (Tenino, WA)**

"Thrown and altered pots are embellished with familiar everyday objects. Led by the form/function of the vessel, I animate the static impressions by distorting the patterned textures through the plastic qualities of the clay. This layered history begins to suggest mythologies between our surroundings and ourselves, analyzing the hidden dialogues."

John Brooks began studying clay early on in Douglas, WY. He continued his education studying reduction, soda-firing, and wood-firing before receiving a BFA in Ceramics at USD. He currently resides in the PNW where he is caretaker of Monarch Sculpture Park and operates his ceramic business Floating Feet Studios

[www.instagram.com/floatingfeetstudios](http://www.instagram.com/floatingfeetstudios)

## **Asta Bublik (Kew Gardens, NY)**

"Working with clay I feel my connection to the earth and nature, which allows me to create forms that are both functional and beautiful. I like to combine simplicity and opulence in my designs. I combine organic motifs with geometric designs to reveal juxtaposition of natural beauty to man-made environments."

Asta Bublik was born and raised in Lithuania where she received her MFA in Ceramic Arts from Vilnius Academy of Art. Soon after graduating Asta moved to New York where she studied graphic design at the Fashion Institute of Technology. She is now both, an art director and a potter.

[astajobana.com](http://astajobana.com)

## **Erin Carpenter (Ames, IA)**

"Objects reflect ourselves. My work captures the paradoxical delicacy and strength of porcelain. I draw my inspiration from historical reticulated porcelain, reinterpreted with art nouveau inspired patterns. The conversation between strength and delicacy, tension and depth, imperfection and beauty all resonate with my own humanity."

Erin Carpenter is an emerging ceramic artist. She grew up in the farmlands of Illinois, and began working in clay after graduating from Iowa State University with a degree in landscape architecture. She is currently work out of her home studio in Ames, IA.

[erincarpenterpottery.com](http://erincarpenterpottery.com)

## **Sam Chumley (Corydon, IN)**

"Through touch, vision, and use, handmade pottery allows for an intimate connection between the maker and user. I explore these connections by creating functional vessels that accentuate where interaction occurs between the user and form."

Sam Chumley received his BFA from Indiana University Southeast and he is currently pursuing my MFA at Ball State University.

[www.samchumley.com](http://www.samchumley.com)

## **Andrew Clark (Jackson, TN)**

"I am exploring the layers of machinery and electronics. The surface, color, and texture variety in layered schematic cutaway drawings of cars, computers, and other objects is my current obsession."

Andrew Clark is currently working at Companion Gallery in Humboldt, TN where he assist with the overall gallery and studio.

[andrewclarkpottery.com](http://andrewclarkpottery.com)

## **Justin Donofrio (Fort Collins, CO)**

"Through the lens of functional pottery I focus on questions about our relationship with objects. Each vessel is made using clay that is artificially colored to reference natural tones. The presence of process in the work is essential as my forms are searching for confidence in their construction."

Justin Donofrio grew up in Santa Cruz, CA. He received a B.F.A. from CSU Fort Collins. He's nationally represented in galleries throughout the U.S. and was an exhibiting artist and tour manager with the Artstream Nomadic Gallery in 2017. He currently maintains a full time studio pottery at Art 342.

[justindonofrio.com](http://justindonofrio.com)

## **Christopher Fanjul (Mattituck, NY)**

"Making things to be held in the hands is how I investigate one aspect of living an aware life. It is my goal to provide the opportunity for others to spend time in this open state by using simple forms, subtle surfaces, and engaging textures in my sculptures and pottery."

Christopher Fanjul lives and work in Mattituck, NY, where he fire ceramics in an experimental salt kiln and makes small-scale wooden objects, while exploring other materials such as rope and found metal.

[chrisfanjul.com](http://chrisfanjul.com)

## **Paul Frazer (Naples, NY)**

"My interests in Ceramic Art are diverse. The imagination, rooted in popular science fiction and fantasy media, are my biggest influences. Anthropomorphism of the cup is my latest focus in clay as I continue to explore unique qualities of life and its vitality."

Paul Frazer live in Naples, NY where he has served as High School Art Teacher for 11years. He has a B.S. in Art Education from Buffalo State College and an MFA in Ceramics from Edinboro University of PA. He has participated in many regional and national exhibitions with his ceramic work.

[www.facebook.com/Frazer-Studio-201313069927244/](https://www.facebook.com/Frazer-Studio-201313069927244/)

## **Jim Gottuso (Floyds Knobs, IN)**

"I've come to believe that I've always just been in love with what happens when a brush, pen or pencil makes contact with another surface and using shellac as a resist on dried, unfired clay allows the surface to be etched without losing the immediacy and spontaneity of such brushwork."

Jim Gottuso grew up in central NY state, went to Murray State Univ. for BFA, one year in Missoula in ceramics, then got MFA in sculpture from SIU-C. Moved to Louisville - had two businesses. At 48, found out he was gonna be a Dad and decided to pursue my first love — clay.

## **Valerie Banes Hancock (Corinth, TX)**

"My altered forms displace liquid out of round, which interests me the same way an instillation artist is interested in forcing the viewer to move about space in a particular fashion. To emphasize the alterations, I utilize soda firing to offer a contrast in surfaces making the pieces tactilely enjoyable."

Valerie is an Adjunct Professor and the Ceramics Lab Technician at the University of North Texas, where she teaches undergraduate clay classes and manages the ceramics facility. Her functional ceramic work has been exhibited across the US.

[www.valeriebaneshancock.com](http://www.valeriebaneshancock.com)

## **Laurie Caffery Harris (Asheville, NC)**

"Within my work I explore concepts of home and belonging through narrative and whimsy. I draw storylines on functional work to elicit the feeling of home or place. This imagery manifests the playful, the magical and the whimsical that exists within reality and in our imaginations."

Laurie Caffery Harris grew up in Boone, North Carolina, a small town surrounded by the peaks and valleys of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Laurie Received her BFA from Appalachian State University in May 2014. Laurie is currently an Artist in Residence at Odyssey Clayworks in Asheville, North Carolina.

[www.lauriecaffery.com](http://www.lauriecaffery.com)

## **Alina Hayes (West Hills, CA)**

"I am fascinated by the secret life of things and the connections they have in the lives of people. During the making process, my presence in the work is encapsulated in the form. I aim to merge functional and sculptural elements, pushing boundaries and the norm for a functional object."

Alina is a Los Angeles based artist. She grew up in New York, relocating to Los Angeles in 2005. She continued her education at California State University, Northridge, where she received Bachelor of Arts degree in Art and a Master of Arts degree in Art with an emphasis in Ceramics.

[www.alinahayes.com](http://www.alinahayes.com)

## **Jacob Dante Hostetler (Goshen, IN)**

"My exploration in clay vessel creation attempts to preserve the essence of a material while altering it's essence to take on a new function."

After receiving his Bachelors of Fine Arts from Northern Michigan University, Jacob Hostetler worked for a year as a resident artist at The Ceramic Center of Cedar Rapids, Iowa before moving to Goshen, Indiana. He currently works as a studio assistant at Goertzen Pottery.

## **Michael Hughes (Syracuse, NY)**

"I make simple things in a traditional way and try to give them a modern look."

Michael Hughes received my MFA in 1991 from the School of American Crafts at RIT. After living in many places, heh has returned to upstate NY and I am currently living in Syracuse.

## **Ben Jordan (Belgrade, MT)**

“My work explores the complex social geography of modern society and the intricate relationship between mankind and the environment. Through hand-labor, contemplative making, and a reverence for tradition, I aim to explore both interrelated and divergent human perceptions using clay as my primary medium.”

Ben received his Bachelors degree at Northern Arizona University, afterwards completed a residency at Red Lodge. Ben obtained his Masters degree from Virginia Commonwealth University. After graduate school Ben completed a longterm residency at Pocosin Arts in North Carolina and is Currently a resident at The Clay Studio of Missoula.

[benjordanclay.com](http://benjordanclay.com)

## **James Kelly (Denver, CO)**

“Clay is a medium of endless possibilities. My inspiration draws from many places, but mainly from the clean lines of mid century modern architecture and furniture to the organic randomness of nature. The soda firing process helps me blend that balance of modern forms with organic surfaces.”

James Kelly is a potter living in Denver, CO and he works out of his home studio. He fell in love with clay back in high school in Michigan in 1993. After that, he received a BFA in Ceramics from Northern Michigan University. He is currently a member of the Colorado Potters Guild.

[www.etsy.com/shop/REDBEARDstudio](http://www.etsy.com/shop/REDBEARDstudio)

## **Sam Lopez (San Diego, CA)**

“Color, line, form, and utility are the tenants to my practice. These four elements are difficult enough for me to wrap my head around, so I attempt to utilize them all when working through each series of objects in the hopes of discovering something new in the process.

Sam Lopez lives in San Diego, California and just recently completed his MFA at San Diego State University. He currently teaches part-time at Riverside City College and continues his studio practice in his small apartment garage.

## **Ken Lu (Morgantown, WV)**

“Sodium is an interesting element that is the 6th most common element on the planet. In ceramics, it is commonly used as a flux in clays, glazes, and atmospheric kiln firings. My work captures the various soda effects such as flashing and most importantly, Carbon Trapping effect on surfaces.”

Ken Lu is a Singaporean currently getting his MFA at West Virginia University. He attained his BFA from Jingdezhen Ceramic Institute, Jingdezhen, China. He worked as a volunteer at Pottery Workshop in Jingdezhen and summer staff at Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts.

## **Hannah May (Hensley, AR)**

"Since my childhood, I've had a love for tea rituals and tea growing cultures, though none more than India. Not only are my favorite teas grown there, in Darjeeling and Assam, I also admire colorful textiles, architectural adornments and Mehndi patterns that inspire the surfaces and forms of my pots."

Hannah May is a wood fired potter living in the Little Rock, Arkansas area. She is the director of art and design at a maker space, where she develops programming, manages studios, and teaches ceramics, along with printmaking, screen printing, and more for the central Arkansas community.

[Huntermaypottery.com/hannahmay](http://Huntermaypottery.com/hannahmay)

## **Ryan McDonnell (Washington DC)**

"I make many works in a lot of different mediums, but my first love is functional ceramics. I like to throw a traditional form, then decorate it with fine brush strokes created by rotating the form and my brush hand."

Ryan McDonnell is a working artist and teacher in the DC area. He currently holds the position of Ceramics and Sculpture Studio Coordinator at The George Washington University. He has shown works at many different venues in the DC area ranging from community days to the Smithsonian Craft Show.

## **Jacob Meer (St. Petersburg, FL)**

"I create utilitarian pottery that plays with clay as a material. I love the plasticity of clay and it's ability to capture the mark left by the hand or tool. I choose to wood fire because it best highlights the marks left on each pot."

Jacob Meer is an utilitarian wood fire potter that is currently an artist in residence at the Morean Center for Clay in St. Petersburg, FL. Jacob received his BFA at the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee before apprenticing with Simon Levin in 2016.

[jacobmeer.com](http://jacobmeer.com)

## **Brooke Millecchia (Fairport, NY)**

"In ceramics, the radial symmetry of most functional forms has proven to be an ideal canvas for my colorfully textured surfaces. As a maker, I am grateful to identify as both a craftsman, when I create the form, and an artist, when I embellish the surface."

In 1995, Brooke received her B.F.A in ceramics from West Virginia University and began her career as a studio potter, instructor, and mentor. Today, she finds balance as a studio potter and sharing her passion with her students. Her work has been displayed nationally, in exhibitions, invitationals, and notable galleries.

[www.brookemillecchia.com](http://www.brookemillecchia.com)

## **Matt Mitros (Tuscaloosa, AL)**

"At the intersection of sentimentalism and kitsch, my small scale assemblages pay homage to the aesthetics of pop-culture, architecture, and nature. My arranged abstractions and collaged objects are informed by a desire to illustrate the sublime relationship between the natural and mechanized."

Work has been featured in Art in America, Art LTD, Clay Times, Ceramics Monthly, & City Arts Magazine. Mitros has exhibited work throughout North America and Europe. Permanent public collections include National Museum of Slovenia, Bemidji State University, Spartanburg Art Museum, de Young Museum, The Hudgens Center for the Arts.

[www.mattmitros.com](http://www.mattmitros.com)

## **Melody Monroe (Maryville, MO)**

"My work is an exploration of the relationship between form and pattern. I draw inspiration from topographical maps and biological structures."

Melody Monroe is from Kansas City, MO and she loves clay! Currently she is going to school at Northwest Missouri State University, pursuing her Bachelor of Fine Art degree.

## **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. I hope that this promotes a greater appreciation and understanding of handmade objects and how they help us celebrate our daily lives."

Ray Morales is a Miami based potter and professor of Ceramics. He exhibits his pottery through the US and works with companies and designers to produce unique pieces. He earned an MFA from the University of Miami. His pottery is wheel thrown and fired to cone 10 reduction.

[rmpottery.com](http://rmpottery.com)

## **Shawna Pincus (Baltimore, MD)**

"Imagination is something often ignored in our busy modern lives, however, if creativity is fostered, stories and narratives can be found all around us. My work is about creating everyday ceramic objects rich with pattern, images and text, which spark the imagination of their user."

Shawna Pincus is a ceramic artist living in Baltimore Maryland. She grew up right outside of Philadelphia and graduated from the Maryland Institute College of Art. Shawna exhibits her pottery in various galleries and craft fairs and shops across the country.

[www.pinkkisspottery.com](http://www.pinkkisspottery.com)

## **Gretchen Quinn (Raleigh, NC)**

"I make functional ceramics that are a reflection of my love for simple luxuries. By combining hand carved patterns to clean, modern shapes I craft wares that are a pleasure to both use and admire."

Gretchen Quinn is a maker of modern functional ceramics living and working in Raleigh, NC. She has a BA in Sculpture, with a concentration in ceramics from Providence College, Providence RI. She is instructor of ceramics at the North Carolina State University Craft Center and instructor of ceramics for the City of Raleigh, Pullen Art Center.

[www.gretchenquinn.com](http://www.gretchenquinn.com)

## **Mandy Leigh Ranck (Geneva, NY)**

"I make functional ceramic pieces that portray stylized versions of animal and plant life. My main objective when I create a piece is to encourage the viewer to feel engaged and add excitement to their everyday routine."

Mandy Ranck received my BFA in ceramics from West Virginia University in 2013. Since then, she has taught ceramic classes, private lessons and worked as a potter. I am currently a studio ceramic artist living, creating and learning in Western New York.

[www.mandyranck.com](http://www.mandyranck.com)

## **Ryan Reich (Yorba Linda, CA)**

"My process of throwing and altering has led me to discover that the tools I use have a huge influence on the work itself. Right now I'm really into combs..."

High school ceramics teacher and aspiring ceramic artist.

[ryanreichceramics.com](http://ryanreichceramics.com)

## **Masa Sasaki (Atlanta, GA)**

"From the clay form to the finished piece, the artist, with tremendous care, throws, trims, carves, paints, glazes and fires each piece. When this highly traditional craft method meets the artist's love of contemporary art the work acquires a unique prospective, appealing to modern living."

Masa Sasaki Ceramics is a small home based studio in Atlanta making one of a kind handcrafted functional ceramic ware.

[www.masasakiceramics.com](http://www.masasakiceramics.com)

## **Alec W. Smith (Grosse Pointe Woods, MI)**

"Crafting objects, I seek the balance between one-of-a-kind and the mass produced. Mold systems and complex geometries help to achieve this; bringing to life an exquisite functional ware. Though often overlooked amidst our daily routine, I aspire to nurture a connection between user and object, to elevate the moment."

Alec Smith received his BFA from Alfred University in 2013, and his Professional Automotive Clay Modeling certification from the College for Creative Studies in 2015. He interned for Paul Eshelman, and now works at Ford Motor Company as a clay modeler, while maintaining a studio practice at the Glastonbury Collective.

[www.alecsmith.com](http://www.alecsmith.com)

## **Adam Spector (Canandaigua, NY)**

"I am currently exploring the combination of archetypal pottery form, pattern, and geometry in my work."

Adam Spector is a full time ceramic artist who lives and works in the Fingerlakes Region of New York State. He received his BFA from Alfred University NYSCC in 2002.

[spectorstudios.com](http://spectorstudios.com)

## **Jonathan Steele (Pleasant Hill, OR)**

"My ceramic works are my engagement with material as I find beauty in observing and placing my hands into the phenomena of the earth. It is about curiosity and the joy of wonderment in discovery. I provoke sensitivity to a material dynamic that is ever present in the world."

Jonathan Steele is currently resident artist at Pleasant Hill Pottery in Pleasant Hill, OR. He earned his MFA from Oregon College of Art and Craft in 2016 and has been making pots since 2008. He will be adjunct professor of ceramics at University of Puget Sound next spring.

[www.jonathansteeleceramics.com](http://www.jonathansteeleceramics.com)

## **Sara Beth Truman (Gainesville, FL)**

"My current investigations in clay are a direct relation to my own daily rituals. As vessel maker these utilitarian objects keep me excitedly making to find my next favorite in a series. These blank canvases lined up on my table are inspired by abstract expressionist paintings of the 1950's."

Sara Truman is an artist and educator living in Gainesville, FL. She graduated in 2007 from Western Kentucky University with a BFA in Ceramics and Painting. She attended the University of Florida as a post-baccalaureate student in 2009, and received her MFA from the University of Mississippi in 2012.

[www.studiotmceramics.com](http://www.studiotmceramics.com)

## **Jeff Walker (Reeds Spring, MO)**

"Functional potter of 30 plus years now working in a new direction of Crystalline glazed work. Using porcelain at cone 10. Working at putting a little art in every ones every day life."

40 year clay career making a living playing in the mud.

## **Shannon Webb (Aiea, HI)**

"I like to create things that evoke a sense of presence. They often carry stories of their own, but sometimes they are a medium to tell the tales of others. I want my creations to become acquainted with this world; I want them to form friendships as well as memories."

Shannon Webb is an artist focusing primarily in ceramics. She graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Hawaii at M noa. Her work has been exhibited locally and nationally including at the Waikiki Parc Gallery where she had her first solo exhibition in 2015.

## **Julia Claire Weber (Asheville, NC)**

"I am inspired by the world around me. Currently topographical location, line, color and composition rock my world!"

Julia Claire Weber is a currently a resident artist at Odyssey Clayworks in Asheville, North Carolina. She is currently in her second year being self-employed as a studio potter!

[juliaclairesclay.com](http://juliaclairesclay.com)

## **Hedy Yang (Novi, MI)**

"My love for nature is the primary inspiration for my work. My goal is to mimic the qualities of marble and wood. All my pieces are thrown and textured with precision, while the glazing part of my process brings a lot of uncertainty in the color and shapes."

Hedy Yang is a 21 year old artist with a passion for ceramics. She started taking ceramics in high school to fulfill a class requirement, and ended up falling in love with it. She is currently studying ceramics at Michigan State University, and will graduate in May of 2018.

[hedyyangceramics.com](http://hedyyangceramics.com)

## **Lisa York (Gaithersburg, MD)**

"As a maker, I observe how ceramic vessels bring us together—how the mere sight of them informs us that a celebration, or specific event, is forthcoming. I design utilitarian pieces that not only promote social gathering, but are also meant to become cherished objects."

Currently, York is an instructor, and ceramic technician at Hood College. She was an artist-in-residence at the Sanbao Ceramic Art Institute in Jingdezhen, China, the International Ceramics Studio in Kecskemet, Hungary, and the Residency for Ceramics, Berlin, Germany.

[lisayorkarts.com](http://lisayorkarts.com)