

HOSTLER BURROWS



JOHN SHEA (American, b. 1989)

Fool's Fire, 2018

Ceramic

12" H x 11.5" W x 13" D

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American artist John Shea uses ceramic to explore ideas of the object; he writes, “The work is an examination of what makes up an object. Looking at both an object as composed of individual elements and also as a set of relationships that inform those objects. The forms themselves are a mish-mash of organic and geometric shapes that push and pull against each other, a collection of individual parts pressed together. The overall group of pieces has been made under a set of systems that determine how individual pieces relate to each other in the series of work through form and function.”

Shea creates sculptures by joining small shapes of clay together; the original forms remain visible through the pieces’ lines and contours, the raw surface texture accentuates the artist’s actions. Shea fires the works before spraying them with enamel oil paints, enhancing the luminescent qualities of the colors while heightening his fingermarks and the planes within the clay. Shea colors each work to seem as though it has a colored light shining on it; the radiant aura is intended to push the viewer’s sense of perception of the object and expected experiences.

Shea graduated with a BFA from the School of American Crafts at the Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, NY before attending graduate school at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, where he earned an MA and an MFA. He has been a resident artist at the University of Montevallo in Alabama, and his work has been shown throughout the United States and internationally.

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EDUCATION

2015-2018 MFA, University of Wisconsin Madison, Madison, WI
2015-2017 MA, University of Wisconsin Madison, Madison, WI
2012-2013 Post-Baccalaureate Program, Oregon College of Art and Craft Portland, OR
2007-2011 BA, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2019 Visiting Lecturer, Hamilton College, Clinton, NY
2018-2019 Adjunct Instructor, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY
2016-2018 Instructor of Record, University of Wisconsin - Madison, Madison, WI
2015-2016 Studio Technician, University of Wisconsin - Madison, Madison, WI

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2019 Hostler Burrows, New York, NY (forthcoming)
ReVerb, City Art Space, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY
(forthcoming)
Perfect Darkness, Milan Design Week, Officine Saffi, Milan, Italy
MiArt Milano, Art and Design Fair, Officine Saffi, Milan, Italy
Collect 2019, UK Crafts Council Art and Design Fair, Officine Saffi, Saatchi Gallery,
London, UK
Open to Art, Officine Saffi, Milan, Italy (Award Finalist)
Articulating Craft, Arts Center Gallery, Arts Center, Nazareth College, Rochester, NY
2018 *A Material Thing*, Firehouse Gallery, Flower City Art Center, Rochester, NY (Solo Exhibition)
Visions in Clay, LH Horton Jr Gallery, San Joaquin Delta College, Stockton, CA
Southern Miss Ceramics National, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS
The Clay Studio National, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
Objective, Master of Fine Art Exhibition, Art Lofts Gallery, Madison, WI
2017 *10 Years in the Making*, Concurrent NCECA Exhibition, Portland, OR
Talente 2017, Internationale Handwerkmesse Munich, Munich, Germany
Object Logic, Master of Art Exhibition, Gallery 7, Madison, WI
2016 *Bizarre Stuff*, Commonwealth Gallery, Madison, WI
2015 *Practice and Memory*, Ash Street Project, Portland, OR
2012 *With Fire*, Group of Anagama Fired Sculptures, Carmichael Library, Montevallo, AL
2011 *A Marker's Path*, Bachelor of Fine Art Exhibition, The Lower Mill, Honeoye Falls, NY

SELECTED RESIDENCIES

2018-2019 Studio Resident, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY
2014-2015 Community Artist, Ash Street Project, Portland, OR
2011-2012 Artist In Residence, University of Montevallo, Montevallo, AL