

Tsehai Johnson

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born: Deder, Ethiopia

Education

- 1999 M.F.A. in Ceramics, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO
1993 B.F.A. in Ceramics, Massachusetts College of Art, Boston, MA
Graduated with Departmental Honors
1989 B.A. in Art History, Reed College, Portland, OR
Thesis: ***The Kariye Camii of Istanbul; Its Architecture and Decoration***

Exhibitions

- 2010 **Table Lessons**, a dining performance, Platteforum, Denver, CO (in conjunction with Biennial of the Americas)-
Sustenance/Sustain, Residency Exhibit, Platteforum, Denver, CO (in conjunction with Biennial of the Americas)
Artist's Footprints, Redline Gallery, Denver, CO (in conjunction with Biennial of the Americas)
The Other F-word, Fine Arts Gallery, Univ. of Minnesota-Morris, Morris, MN
Who is Afraid of Ornament?, Nurture Art Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
Artaxis.org: An Evolving Independent Network of Artists, Cheltenham Art Centerr, Cheltenham, PA (in conjunction with NCECA 2010)
Biennale Internationale de Vallauris, Magnelli Museum, Vallauris, France
Roots and Wings, Baltimore Clayworks Gallery, Baltimore, MD
Speaking of Clay, Arts Students League Gallery, Denver, CO
2009 **Spitting Image: Ten Artists Consider Their Children**, Singer Gallery, Denver, CO
Continental Divide (NCECA exhibit) Arvada Center for the Arts, Arvada, CO
Pure Pleasure, Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art, Boulder, CO
Finding Water, Distill Group, I Gamla Kaupfelagshusinu, Skagastrond, Iceland
2008 **Disorderly**, Solo Exhibit, Plus Gallery, Denver, CO
Splendid, University Galleries, Texas State Univ., San Marcos, TX
Engendered Space, SCA Contemporary Art, Albuquerque, New Mexico
Harmony in Clay, Manhattanville College Art Gallery, Purchase, NY
Seven Deadly Sins, Santa Fe Clay, Santa Fe, NM
Beyond Titillation, Lawton Gallery, Univ. of Wis., Green Bay
The Veil: Visible and Invisible Spaces, (traveling to multiple venues)
-Dairy Center For the Arts, Boulder, CO
-Univ. of Arkansas-Fayetteville, Fine Arts Center Gallery, Fayetteville, AR
-Univ. of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Union Art Gallery, Milwaukee, WI
-Alexey von Schlippe Gallery of Art, University of Conn. at Avery Point
-Indiana Univ. East Art Galleries, Bloomington, IN
2007 **Plus Gallery at Art Wars**, Bop! Art Gallery, Springfield, MO
Pattern Recognition, Foothills Arts Center, Golden, CO
***The Knitting of Time**, Distill Group, Casa de la Cultura B. Carrion, Quito, Ecuador
Luring, Distill Group, Urban Institute of Contemporary Art, Grand Rapids, MI
2006 **Misdemeanor**, Spaces Gallery, Cleveland, OH
Sampling, Solo Exhibit, Plus Gallery, Denver, CO
***The Knitting of Time**, Distill Group, Reyzyjanesbaer Art Museum, Reyzyjanesbaer, Iceland
The Best of Colorado, DIA Concourse Gallery, Denver, CO
Plus Gallery's Unentitleds, Object and Thought Gallery, Denver, CO
Sculpture in Clay, Museum of Outdoor Arts, Englewood, CO
The Pleasure of Dessert, Harvey/Meadows Gallery, Aspen, CO
2005 **Fields**, Solo Exhibit, Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art, Boulder, CO
Trading Voices, Arvada Center for Arts, Arvada, CO
The Slipcast Object, Denver Airport, Denver, CO (juror: Richard Notkin-prize recipient)
***NCECA 2005 Clay National**, Ctr. for Art and Visual Cult., UMBC, Baltimore, MD (at NCECA 2005)
Terra Sutra II, Montage Gallery, Baltimore, MD (at NCECA 2005)

- American Clay Sculpture**, Gallery 405, Baltimore, MD (at NCECA 2005)
Evocative Implements, Baltimore Clayworks Gallery, Baltimore, MD
- 2004 **The Slipcast Object**, Eleanor Bliss Ctr. for the Arts, Steamboat Spgs., CO (juror: Richard Notkin)
Anomaly, Fort Collins Museum of Contemporary Art, Fort Collins, CO
Group Show 2, Studio Aiello, Denver, CO (awarded 3D Prize)
Steamin', Gallery Materia, Scottsdale, AZ
Re:Invented Contemporary American Ceramics, Sangre de Christo Arts Center, Pueblo, CO
15th San Angelo Nat. Ceramic Competition, San Angelo Museum of Fine Art, San Angelo TX
Edify, Emmanuel Gallery, Denver, CO (Metro State Faculty Exhibit)
Clay Mechanics, Midland Art Market, Indianapolis, IN (at NCECA 2004)
All Fired Up: A Contemporary Ceramics Experience, Reed Whipple Cult. Center Gallery, Las Vegas NV
- 2003 **ANTHOLOGY**, Metro Center for the Visual Arts, Denver, CO
***World Ceramic Biennale 2003 Korea**, Icheon, Korea
Models, Carson-Masuoka Gallery, Denver, CO
- 2002 **Metro State Faculty Exhibit**, Emmanuel Gallery, Denver, CO
Restroom: Privacy and Consciousness, Mills Gallery, Boston Center for the Arts, Boston, MA
Regarding Gloria, White Columns, New York City, NY
ANA 31, Holter Museum of Art, Helena, MT
Counting, Distill Group, Hafnarborg Cultural Center, Hafnarfjordur, Iceland
Rocky Mountain Biennial, Fort Collins Museum of Cont. Art, Fort Collins, CO
Colorado Clay 2002, Foothills Art Center, Golden CO (Received Award)
Colorado 2002, Colorado Springs Fine Art Center, Colorado Springs, CO (Received Merit Award)
Terra Sutra, 21st Century Erotic Ceramics, Incubator Gallery, Kansas City, MO, (in conjunction with NCECA 2002)
- 2001 **Eros: The Art of Love**, Core New Art Space, Denver, CO (curator: Robin Rule)
Porcelain Revisited, Vermont Clay Center, Waterbury Center, VT (curator: Julia Galloway)
Colorado Clay 2001, Foothills Art Center, Golden, CO (juror: Wayne Higby)
Distill, ARC Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2000 **Y2Klay**, Buddy Holly Center, Lubbock, Texas, (juror: Jaime Walker) (Awarded Juror's Prize)
***Focus on Function**, Katherine Nash Gallery, Univ. of Minn., Minneapolis, MN (jurors: Linda Sikora and Sandy Simon)
New Mexico Clay 2000, Traveling Exhibit
 -Harwood Art Center, Albuquerque, NM
 -Santa Fe Clay Gallery, Santa Fe, NM
 -House of Taos, Taos, NM
- *Exhibition of the Sixth Taiwan Golden Ceramics Award**, Taipei Ceramics Museum, Taipei, Taiwan
First 20 Years, Baltimore Clayworks Gallery, Baltimore, MD
Emerging Artists of the US, Vermont Clay Center, Waterbury Center, VT
In Particular, Drive Up Gallery, Rocky Mtn. College of Art & Design, Denver, CO
Three Views of Use, UMC Gallery, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO
- 1999 **Artist's Choice**, Richard Levy Gallery, Albuquerque, NM
appetite, University Galleries, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO (MFA exhibit)
Countdown, John Sommers Gallery, Univ. of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
- 1998 **New Generation**, Shaw-Guido Gallery, Pontiac, MI
- 1997 **Sugar**, Silver Square Lofts, Denver, CO
In the Service of Daily Life, Dudley Gallery, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO
- 1996 **Steeped in Tradition- Teapot Invitational**, Ariana Gallery, Royal Oak, MI
***Strictly Functional**, Market House Craft Center, Lancaster, PA
Baltimore Clayworks Now, Sybil Building Gallery, Rochester, NY
- 1995 **Currents "95**, Lill Street Gallery, Chicago, IL (in conjunction with SOFA Chicago)
LOTS A CLAY V, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA

* exhibition catalogue

Teaching Experience

2009-present	Visiting Assistant Professor of Art and Ceramics Area Coordinator Metropolitan State College of Denver, Denver, CO
2009	Lecturer, Ceramics, Dept. of Art and Art History, University of Colo., Boulder, CO
2008	Adjunct Professor, Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design, Lakewood, CO
2008	Adjunct Professor, University of Denver, Denver, CO
2004-07	Lecturer, Ceramics, Dept. of Art and Art History, University of Colo., Boulder, CO
2002-04	Visiting Assistant Professor of Art, (and Ceramics Area Coordinator) Metropolitan State College of Denver, Denver, CO
Sum 2001	Instructor, Ceramics, Dept. of Fine Art, University of Colo., Boulder, CO
1999-2000	Adj. Assistant Professor, Ceramics, Dept. of Art and Art History, Univ. of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM

Professional Experience

2010	Biennial Resident, Platteforum, Denver, CO
2009	Residency, Nes Artist Residency, Skagastrond, Iceland
2008	Visiting Lecturer, Metropolitan State College, Dept. of Art and Art History, Denver, CO
2007	Visiting Lecturer, Addis Ababa University, Dept. of Art, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
2007	Visiting Lecturer, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, Green Bay, WI
2007	Funded Residency, Canserrat Center for the Arts, Canserrat, Spain
2006	Funded Residency, Watershed Center of Ceramic Arts, Maine
2005	<i>Art Boundaries</i> , Lecture/Panel, Boulder Museum of Cont. Art, Boulder, CO
2003	H. Kottler Memorial Funded Residency, Watershed Center of Ceramic Arts, Maine
2002	Presenter, Slide Jam, Museum of Contemporary Art-Denver, Denver, CO
2002	Panelist-Eroticism as Liberation in Ceramics, NCECA Conf., Kansas City, MO
1999	Visiting Lecturer, Univ. of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
1999	Gallery Talk, John Sommers Gallery, Albuquerque, NM
1997-99	Graduate Assistant to the Visiting Artist Program, Univ. of Colorado, Boulder, CO
1999	Visiting Lecturer, Red Rocks Comm. College, Lakeview, CO
1993-96	Resident Artist, Baltimore Clayworks, Baltimore, MD
1994	Visiting Artist, Montessori School of Baltimore, MD
1995	Technical Assistant to Anjelica Pozo

Catalogues, Articles, Reviews

Exhibit Review, "Who's Afraid of Ornament?," Jordan Troeller, <i>Artforum.com</i> , 2010
Exhibit Review, "Plus Summer", Amelia Ishmael, <i>Review: Mid-America's Visual Art Magazine</i> , Oct. 2008
Exhibit Review, "Solo Efforts Pay Off", Kyle MacMillan, <i>The Denver Post</i> , August 15, 2008
Exhibit Review, "Flavoring Order with Chaos", Mary Chandler, <i>Rocky Mountain News</i> , July 31, 2008
Exhibit Review, "Mud Flies", Michael Paglia, <i>Westword</i> , April, 6, 2006
Exhibit Review, "A Fantasy in Porcelain", Mary Chandler, <i>Rocky Mountain News</i> , March 31, 2006
Exhibit Review, "Pattern and Decoration Reshaped at BMOCA", E. Marglin, <i>Boulder Daily Camera</i> , Nov. 14, 2005
Article, "'Smut' Criticism Out of Line", Kyle MacMillan, <i>The Denver Post</i> , July 24, 2005
Article, "A Bracing Show Stirs Art Debate", Mary Chandler, <i>Rocky Mountain News</i> , July 29, 2004
Exhibit Rev., "Don't Overlook the Provocative 'Anomaly' Up North", Kyle MacMillan, <i>The Denver Post</i> , Dec. 10, 2004
Exhibit Review, "Home on the Range", Michael Paglia, <i>Westword</i> , Sept. 23, 2004
Exhibit Review, "A Biennial Exhibit That Works", Mary Chandler, <i>Rocky Mountain News</i> , Sept. 17, 2004
Exhibit Review, "Art: You're Kiln Me", Erica Yowell, <i>Las Vegas Mercury</i> , Feb. 5, 2004
Exhibit Review, "Glazed Over", Ken White, <i>Las Vegas Review</i> , Jan. 23, 2004
Exhibit Review, "Group Dynamics", Michael Paglia, <i>Westword</i> , Aug. 21, 2003
Exhibit Review, "Intimacy Shared with Meal", <i>Rocky Mountain News</i> , May 9, 2003
Exhibit Review, "Art and Politics I: Feminism at 40", Carey Lovelace, <i>Art in America</i> , May 2003
Exhibit Review, "Regarding Gloria", <i>Flash Art</i> , Jan./Feb. 2003 (Page 15)
Exhibit Review, "Gloria and Regarding Gloria", Barbara Pollack, <i>ARTnews</i> , Jan. 2003
Exhibit Review, "Regarding Gloria", <i>The New Yorker</i> , November 25, 2002
Exhibit Review, "Royal Flush: The Bathroom Gets Artistic Treatment", Christine Temin, <i>The Boston Globe</i> , Dec. 4, 2002 (photograph: E5)
Exhibit Review, "Royal Flush: Bathrooms Get a Closer Look", Nina MacLaughlin,

The Boston Pheonix, Nov. 15, 2002
Exhibit Review, Shawn Hill, *ArtsMedia*, Winter 2002 (photograph)
Exhibit Review, "Rest Room Exhibition Flush With Imagery," Mary Sherman, *Boston Herald*, December 8, 2002
Exhibit Review, "Fine art takes a bathroom break", Josh Wardrop, *Parkway and West Roxbury Transcripts*, Oct. 13, 2002
Exhibit Preview, "Power and Glory in Sisterhood", Edward Gomez, *New York Times*, Oct. 13, 2002
Exhibit Review, "Distill, one, two,...", *Morgunbladid*, Iceland, July 18, 2002 (photograph: 27)
Exhibit Review, "Colorado Clay Artists Shine Outside the Lines", *The Denver Post*, June 21, 2002
Exhibit Review, "Colorado 2002", *Colorado Springs Independent*, Jan. 24-30, 2002 (photograph: 18)
Exhibit Review, "Colorado 2002", *The Gazette*, Jan. 24-30, 2002
Exhibit Review, "Colorado 2002: Quantity and Diversity", *The Denver Post*, Jan. 25, 2002
Exhibit Review, "Porcelain Revisited", *The Times Argus*, July 13, 2001
Exhibit Review, "Colorado Clay 2001", *Westword*, May 3-9, 2001
Exhibit Review, "Clay Comes Alive at Foothills", *The Denver Post*, May 4, 2001
Exhibit Review, "Clay Returns After a Dry Spell", *The Rocky Mountain News*, April 6, 2001 (photograph: 15D)
Exhibit Review, "Emerging Artists of the US", *The Times Argus*, November 3, 2000
Exhibit Review, "Emerging Artists of the US", *The Stowe Reporter*, Oct. 26, 2000
Baltimore Magazine, 32 no.10 (Nov., 1996): 60-71 (photograph:66)
Ceramics Monthly, 43, no. 3 (March, 1995): 38-40 (photograph: 40)

Publications

Confrontational Clay, Judith Schwartz, A&C Black Pub. 2008, (Photographs)
500 Ceramic Sculptures, Glen Brown, ed., Sterling Pub. 2009, (Photographs)
Sex Pots, Paul Mathieu, Rutgers University Press, 2003, (Photographs)
NCECA Journal 2002, "Eroticism in Ceramics", by Tsehai Johnson

Collections

Museum of Outdoor Arts, Englewood, CO
Reyzjanesbaer Art Museum, Reyzjanesbaer, Iceland
Museum of Ceramic Art, New York, New York
Betty Woodman Collection, Univ. of Colorado, Boulder
Ray Graham, Albuquerque, New Mexico
Western Reserve Bank, Colorado

Awards

2004 Merit Award, *The Slipcast Object*, E. Bliss Ctr. for the Arts, Steamboat Spgs., CO
2004 Best of 3D, Group Show 2, Studio Aiello, Denver, CO
2003 Honorable Mention, Second World Ceramic Biennale 2003 Korea International
2003 Artist Fellowship, Colorado Council on the Arts, Denver, CO
2002 Ralph Johnson Award, Colorado Clay 2002. Foothills Art Center, Golden CO
2002 Merit Award, Colorado 2002, Colo. Spgs. Fine Art Center, Colorado Springs, CO
2000 Juror's Award, Y2Klay, Buddy Holly Center, Lubbock, TX
1999 Colorado Graduate Student Grant, Univ. of Colorado, Boulder, CO
1998 Colorado Graduate Student Grant, Univ. of Colorado, Boulder, CO
1998 Beverly Sears Dean's Small Grant, Univ. of Colorado, Boulder, CO
1997 Dean's Small Grant, Univ. of Colorado, Boulder, CO
1996 Graduate Fellowship, Univ. of Colorado, Boulder, CO
1995 Community Arts Project Grant for the Patterson Park Tile Project
Mayor's Advisory Committee on Art and Culture, Baltimore, MD