

**Thomas Schmidt**  
Artist Statement

In my work, I am driven by a sense of discovery that develops as I investigate materials. I use methods such as mold-making, scanning, and photography to capture material moments. These *samples* can then be printed, cast, crumpled, layered, and distorted. This process fascinates me, because like our own constructed histories, the objects are then imbued with layers of material memory that echo, embellish and obscure the original event. Like the shift from experience to memory, all the transformations that take place are deviations from the original event, yet each transformation carries with it a new truth.

Currently I am interested in mining the zone between two and three-dimensional space. Drawing from aspects of ceramics, sculpture, printmaking, and photography, the objects I make are attempts at seeing the volume of a skin. At what point does an image become ink on paper and when does a substance become insubstantial? Thus, it is through these material experiments that the work steps beyond questions of materiality into an exploration of perception itself.