

# Zak Helenske

[zak.helenske@gmail.com](mailto:zak.helenske@gmail.com) | [www.zakhelenske.com](http://www.zakhelenske.com) | 701.412.7296 | 13730 1<sup>st</sup> ave. NW Seattle, WA 98177

## EDUCATION

- 2014 *MFA*, Rochester Institute of Technology, School for American Crafts, Ceramics and Ceramic Sculpture, Rochester, NY
- 2009 *BFA*, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND

## PROFFESIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2015-2016 Board Member, Resident Representative, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
- 2015 Visiting Artist/Visiting Lecturer, School of Art, 3D4M, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
- 2015-2017 Artist in Residence, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
- 2015 Steering Committee Member: Demonstrations, National Conference on Cast Iron Art, Sloss Furnaces, Birmingham, AL
- 2014 Visiting Artist, XIV International Casting Workshop, Akademia Sztuk Pienknych, Gdansk, Poland
- 2013-2014 Artist in Residence, Foundry Manager, Ceramics Studio Manager, Sloss Arts, Birmingham, AL
- 2013 Artist in Residence, Assistant Foundry Manager, Sloss Metal Arts, Birmingham, AL
- 2013 Steering Committee Member: Demonstrations, National Conference on Cast Iron Art, Sloss Furnaces, Birmingham, AL
- 2012 Resident Artist/Instructor, Redbird Studio and Gallery, Columbia, SC
- 2011-2012 Instructor, Ceramics, School for American Crafts, RIT, Rochester, NY (Instructor of Record)
- 2010-2012 Studio Assistant to Rick Hirsch, Rochester, NY
- 2011-2012 Crucible Projects: Mobile, AL, Rochester, NY, Lake Charles, LA, Montevallo, AL
- 2011-2012 "Mano" Project, School for American Crafts, RIT, Rochester, NY  
2010-2012 Studio Manager/Technician Clay Department, School for American Crafts, RIT, Rochester, NY
- 2011 Visiting Artist, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC  
2010 Iron Foundry Charging Crew/Cast, Second Act of Matthew Barney's *Ancient Evening*: "KHU"

## PANELS/LECTURES

- 2015 Lecture: Artist Talk, School of Art, 3D4M, University of Washington, Seattle WA
- 2015 Lecture: Artist Talk, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
- 2014 Lecture: Artist Talk, Akademia Sztuk Peinknych, Lodz, Poland
- 2014 Lecture: Artist Talk, Akademia Sztuk Peinknych, Gdansk, Poland
- 2013 Lecture: Glaze Chemistry, University of Alabama at Birmingham, AL
- 2013 Moderator/Panelist, *Heat + Alchemy = Transformation*, Sloss Arts
- 2012 Panelist, *Mano Project*, School for American Crafts, RIT
- 2012 Lecture: Artist Talk, State University of New York Geneseo, Geneseo, NY
- 2011 Lecture, Aluminum Casting, Fine Art Studio, RIT, Rochester, NY
- 2011 Lecture: Artist Talk, Mcneese State University, Lake Charles, LA
- 2011 Panelist, *Material Integration*, National Conference on Cast Iron Art, Sloss Furnaces, Birmingham, AL

## SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 Resident Precedent: A Decade of Artist in Residence at Pottery Northwest, NCECA, Portland, OR (March '17)
- 2016 Irons in the Fire, Companion Gallery, Humboldt, TN
- 2016 Strictly Functional Pottery National, Market House Craft Center, Lancaster, PA
- 2016 CHEERS, Medalta, Medicine Hat, Alberta, CA
- 2016 Coffee and Clay, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
- 2016 Clay? VI, Kirkland Arts Center, Kirkland, WA
- 2016 Working Pots, James May Gallery, Alagoma, WI
- 2016 Resident 8x8, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
- 2015 Industrial Vases, The London Plane, Seattle, WA
- 2015 Mugen/Infinity, Pottery NorthWest, Seattle, WA
- 2015 Steering Committee Exhibition, Trim Tab, Birmingham, AL
- 2015 *Clay Collects Clay*, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
- 2015 *Iron Tribe Invitational*, New Mexico Highlands University, Las Vegas, NM
- 2014 *XIV International Casting Exhibition*, Akademia Sztuk Pienknych, Gdansk, Poland
- 2014 *Happening III*, The Warehouse, Birmingham, AL
- 2013 *Records of Resistance and Vulnerability*, Powerhouse Gallery, Birmingham, AL (Solo)
- 2013 *National Juried Exhibition*, National Conference on Cast Iron Art, Sloss Furnaces, Birmingham, AL
- 2013 *Iron Tribe Invitational*, New Mexico Highlands University, Las Vegas, NM

- 2012 *Le Coeur Rouge*, Redbird Gallery, Columbia, SC
- 2012 *100 Cups*, Gallery V, Columbia, SC
- 2012 *Volumes II*, Gallery V, Columbia, SC
- 2012 *MFA Thesis Exhibition: Verse*, Gallery 311, Hungerford Heights, Rochester, NY (Solo)
- 2012 *Redefining PCP (Poetry, Craft, Performance)* Gallery R, Rochester, NY
- 2011 *Intercollegiate Iron Exhibition*, Salem Art Works, Salem, NY
- 2011 *Quartz Conversion*, Hungerford Heights, Rochester, NY
- 2011 *National Juried Student Exhibition*, National Conference on Cast Iron Art, Sloss Furnaces, Birmingham, AL
- 2009 *BFA Thesis Exhibition: Organic Progression*, Memorial Union Gallery, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND (Solo)

## AWARDS

- 2016 Juror's Award, Coffee and Clay, Juror: Noah Riedel, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
- 2016 Honorable Mention, *Working Pots*, Juror: Simon Levin, James May Gallery, Algoma, WI
- 2015 Niche Award Finalist, Niche Magazine
- 2015 The Wally Resident Artist Project Grant, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA

## GALLERY REPRESENTATION

Pottery Northwest, Seattle WA  
 Bellevue Arts Museum Store, Bellevue, WA  
 James May Gallery, Alagoma, WI  
 In Tandem Gallery, Bakersville, NC