

# Tsehai Johnson

(she, they)

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## 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*

## Commissions/Public Art

- 2022 Denver Art Museum, Commission for 50 Disaster Plates, Denver, CO
- 2021 Denver Art Museum, Volunteers with Vision, Permanent public work commissioned for the remodeled North/Martin Building
- 2018 **Octopus Initiative**, Museum of Contemporary Art, Denver, CO
- 2017 **Field #7**, Installation at Union Building, Denver, CO
- 2016 **Zest**, Commission for the CU Boulder Village Center Dining and Community Common, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO
- 2013 **Field Pattern #1, #2 and #3**, Art and Architecture Program, GSA, Byron Rogers Fed. Building, Denver, CO, \$100, 000 commission for the interior of the Byron Rogers Federal Building  
3 works total for 71 lineal feet of relief porcelain patterns

## Interactive Projects and Performances

- 2024 **Patterns of Seeing**, Interactive event, 48Hours of Socially Engaged Art, Redline Gallery, Denver, CO
- 2019 **Eating the Globe**, Multiple interactive events, Center for Visual Art, Denver, CO
- 2018 **Make/Shift Monday**, Redline Gallery, Denver, CO  
**Cups of Conversation**, Everyday Café, Pittsburg, PA
- 2017 **The Coffee Exchange**, 48 Hours of Socially Engaged Art and Conversation, Redline Gallery, Denver, CO
- 2014 **Fluids in Use**, during exhibit Making Contact, Center for Visual Art, MSU Denver, Denver, CO

## Selected Exhibitions

- 2024 **Collective Nouns**- Art Dept. Exhibit, Center for Visual Arts, MSU Denver, Denver, CO  
**Fahrenheit 2024**, American Museum of Ceramic Art, Pomona, California, USA
- 2022 **Cultivate**, Center for Visual Arts, MSU Denver, Denver, CO  
**11<sup>th</sup> Biennial Art Department Exhibition**, Center for Visual Art, Denver, CO
- 2021 **The Spaces Between**, Vicki Myhren Gallery, University of Denver, Denver, CO  
**The Spaces Between**, (work at two sites) Ent Center, Univ. of Colorado, CS, Colorado Springs, CO
- 2020 **Pink Progression: Collaboration**, Arvada Center, Arvada, CO  
**Collectivism**, with Distill Collective, Center for Visual Art, Denver, CO  
**10th Biennial Art Department Exhibition**, Center for Visual Art, Denver, CO  
**Ferment**, Minneapolis College, Minneapolis, MN
- 2018 **Rethinking Urbanism**, Redline Gallery Annual Juried Exhibit, Denver, CO  
**Mutability: One Thing Becomes Another**, Goodwin Fine Art (Project Space), Denver, CO
- 2017 **The Evocative Garden**, NCECA Biennial Exhibition, Disjecta Contemporary Art, Portland, OR  
**Small Works: 40th Annual National Art Exhibition**, Harper College, Palatine, IL  
**The Zanesville Prize for Contemporary Ceramics**, Seilers Studio Gallery, Zanesville, OH
- 2016 **Collective Nouns: MSU Denver Faculty Exhibition**, Center for Visual Art, Denver, CO  
**Domestic Design**, Architecture Gallery, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL  
**Southern Miss Ceramics National**, Univ. of Southern Mississippi Museum of Art, Hattiesburg, MS
- 2015 **Fired: Ceramics**, Arvada Center for Arts and Humanities, Arvada, CO  
**Activate**, DAVA- Downtown Aurora Visual Art Gallery, Aurora, CO  
**Metropolitan State University of Denver Faculty Show**, Emmanuel Gallery, Denver, CO  
**Icheon International Ceramics Biennial**, Icheon, Korea  
**Eclectic Traditions**, Attleboro Museum of Art, Attleboro, MA
- 2014 **\*Intense and Fragile**, Southwest College of Art, San Antonio, TX

- American Heirloom**, Cruz Gallery, Santa Fe, NM  
**\*FLOW**, NCECA Ceramic Arts Invitational, Milwaukee Museum of Art, Milwaukee, WI
- 2013 **Fluid Circumvention**, Solo Exhibition, Plus Gallery, Denver, CO  
**Mesmerize**, Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts, Spring, TX
- 2012 **Mellissa Haviland & Tsehai Johnson**, Univ. of Wyoming Art Gallery, Laramie, WY  
**Seven Reconsider Ceramics**, Schneider Museum of Art, Southern Oregon Univ., Ashland, OR  
**Strange Beauty**, IDEA Gallery, Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO
- 2011 **Overthrown: Clay Without Limits**, Denver Art Museum, Denver, CO  
**Sensual Ceramics**, Carbondale Arts Center, Carbondale, CO  
**Do It!**, Philip J. Steele Gallery, Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design, Lakewood, CO
- 2010 **Sustenance/Sustain**, Residency Exhibit, Platteforum, Denver, CO (with Biennial of the Americas)  
**\*Artist's Footprints**, Redline Gallery, Denver, CO (in conjunction with Biennial of the Americas)  
**\*Who is Afraid of Ornament?**, Nurture Art Gallery, Brooklyn, NY  
**\*Biennale Internationale de Vallauris**, Magnelli Museum, Vallauris, France  
**Roots and Wings**, Baltimore Clayworks Gallery, Baltimore, MD
- 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, Skagastrom, 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  
**Beyond Titillation**, Lawton Gallery, Univ. of Wis., Green Bay  
**The Veil: Visible and Invisible Spaces**, (traveling to multiple venues, 2008-present)  
**Pattern Recognition**, Foothills Arts Center, Golden, CO  
**\*The Knitting of Time**, Distill Group, Casa de la Culture, B. Carrion, Quito, Ecuador  
**Luring**, Distill Group, Urban Institute of Contemporary Art, Grand Rapids, MI
- 2006 **Misdemeanor**, Spaces Gallery, Cleveland, Ohio  
**Sampling**, Solo Exhibit, Plus Gallery, Denver, CO  
**\*The Knitting of Time**, Distill Group, Reyjanesbaer Art Museum, Reyjanesbaer, Iceland

#### 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  
 Reyjanesbaer Art Museum, Reyjanesbaer, Iceland  
 Museum of Ceramic Art, New York, New York

#### Teaching Experience

- 2011-present Professor of Art  
 Metropolitan State University of Denver, Denver, CO
- 2009-2011 Visiting Assistant Professor of Art and Ceramics Area Coordinator  
 Metropolitan State University of Denver, Denver, CO

#### Professional Experience

- 2023 **Building Resiliency**, invited residency at Watershed Center for Ceramics for artists working on socially engaged art and environmental activism, Edgcomb, ME
- 2022 Artist Panel, **Cultivate** Exhibit, Center for Visual Art, Denver, CO
- 2022 Fulbright-Hays Funded Travel Research- **Women, Art and Development in Contemporary Morocco** Seminar, one-month research in Morocco
- 2019 Co-curator of **Collectivism**, Center for Visual Art, Denver, CO
- 2018 Resident Artist for 3 months, SundayMorning@EuropeanCeramic Work Center, Oisterwijk, The Netherlands

