

Christopher St. John

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<http://christopherstjohn.art/links-to-artist-portfolio-and-student-work/>

EDUCATION

Master of Fine Arts in Ceramics, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, 2024

(Studied with Tom Bartel, Brad Schwieger)

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Alaska, 2002

(Studied with Kes Woodward, Michael Nakoneczny)

AWARDS and HONORS

- Named Fellowship, Trisolini Fellowship, Ohio University, 2023-2024
- Director's Award for Excellence, Ohio Designer Craftsman Best of 2022
- Graduate Recruitment Scholarship, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, 2021 to 2024
- Graduate Assistantship, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, 2021 to 2024
- Instructor of the Year-Maude Kerns Art Center, 2020
- Special Prize for Painting, Lessedra Gallery, Sofia, Bulgaria, 2012
- Ruben Tam Award for Painting, Artists of Hawaii, Honolulu Art Museum, 2007

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (Instructor-of-Record)

- Summer Studios Pre-College Program, Ceramics, Ohio University, Summer 2024
- Hand Building, Ohio University, Spring 2024
- Critique Community, Ohio University, Fall 2023
- Intermediate/Advanced Ceramics, Ohio University, Fall 2023
- Art + Design Pre-College, Painting + Drawing Studio, Ohio University, Summer 2023
- Hand Building, Ohio University, Spring 2023
- Foundations: Description + Drawing, Ohio University, Fall 2022
- Summer Studios Pre-College Program, Ceramics, Ohio University, Summer 2022

CERAMICS EXPERIENCE (Graduate/Professional)

Graduate Assistant, Ohio University

Operation and management of all ceramics facilities according to university standards and safety. Classroom, kiln room, plaster room, glaze mixing room, clay mixing room, outdoor kiln pad. Equipment management, glazes and glaze mixing, and multiple firing

disciplines. This includes electric kilns, test kilns, gas kilns, reduction firings, raku, and loading/firing/unloading student work, professor work, visiting artists, and personal work. Regular studio upkeep and maintenance, including clay mixing, supply management, and inventory, regularly assisting with large shipments of clay materials at volume and using appropriate equipment, and managing a team of students to ensure that standards are met for all classes in the ceramics studio and labs, including the plaster mixing room. Continued to manage classroom studios while actively teaching as Instructor of Record. Troubleshooting kilns to diagnose problems and assist the Studio Technician in his work to facilitate quicker repairs. Managing both the wheel-throwing needs and the hand-building needs of the students. Graphic design work for the department for publication in Ceramics Monthly. Assisted Professor in Foundations classes helping students photograph their work, subbing, and engaging students in their process to push them toward fuller resolutions of their ideas.

Research (Ohio University/Professional)

Handbuilding-large and small-scale figurative sculpture using slab, coil, and pinch techniques. Wheel throwing techniques to facilitate exploration of form. Specializing in low-fire and midrange glaze chemistry for surface development. Low-fire techniques with slips, vitreous engobes, and glazes on earthenware clays to mimic effects achieved in high-fire woodfire and reduction. Wild clay research and its use as terra sigillata in low-fire and high-fire, in both wood and gas reduction. Lowfire soda. Animation-hand-drawn and 3D computer software and sound integrated with ceramics. Mastery of drawing and painting. Research across the sciences around mass extinction and biodiversity loss and exoplanet research as well as sound and collaboration across disciplines. Active exhibition record, including awards.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (Instructor-of-Record)

Hand Building, Ohio University, Spring 2024

An introduction to hand-building techniques in clay. Includes diverse surface techniques, slips, glazes, and kiln firing. The semester builds to address more advanced techniques such as basic mold making, and conceptual problem solving through material and contemporary and non-traditional approaches to ceramics. Issues of identity and making are considered through Western and non-Western readings.

Critique Community, Ohio University, Fall 2023

Critique Community is a class for the development of individual studio art practices. Students pursue individual projects of study, research, and production within disciplinary, multi-disciplinary, and interdisciplinary frameworks. Students build upon skills initiated in their concentrated areas of study toward a new body of work as their culminating thesis project. This is an instructor-directed senior capstone studio course for students matriculating toward their BFA thesis exhibit.

Intermediate/Advanced Ceramics, Ohio University, Fall 2023

This course includes the exploration of alternative construction and surface application techniques in ceramics to foster expressive sophistication in the production of art. Mold-making is introduced as a tool for ceramic construction and to discuss contemporary issues in ceramics; such as reproduction, the found object, craft, and the multiple. Independent artistic production is fostered alongside technical skill building.

Art + Design Pre-College, Painting + Drawing Studio, Ohio University, Summer 2023

Foundational two-week drawing and painting course in ink painting and acrylic painting. The course emphasized skill building in wet media, conceptual development, history of ink painting in China and Japan, for high school students.

Hand Building, Ohio University, Spring 2023

An introduction to hand-building techniques in clay. Includes diverse surface techniques, slips, glazes, and kiln firing. The semester builds to address more advanced techniques such as basic mold making, and conceptual problem solving through material and contemporary and non-traditional approaches to ceramics.

Foundations: Description + Drawing, Ohio University, Fall, 2022

This course introduces drawing and other descriptive processes as an expansive practice and a means for developing perceptual and conceptual thinking skills. Various methods of image-making, three-dimensional modeling, and data mapping are used as tools for observation and expression. Through broad, hands-on exposure to materials and methods, students develop expressive, communicative, and analytical capabilities.

Summer Studios Pre-College Program, Ohio University, Ceramics, Summer 2022

This intensive summer studio course is a college-level introduction to a medium-specific area of study within the School of Art + Design. Through material research and hands-on making using professional tools and facilities, students develop their ideas and learn the skills to realize them in two, three, and four dimensions. Students gain an understanding of contemporary art and design practices through lectures, class discussions, guided studio practice, and critique.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE Community**Head Ceramics Instructor, Belvoir Terrace, Lenox, Massachusetts, Summer 2022-2023**

This six-week course studio course introduces students to both hand-building techniques in clay as well as wheel throwing. Diverse surface techniques, object making, the use of

slips and glazes, and fostering an appreciation of ecology in the pursuit of creative conceptual development while encouraging female empowerment through the medium of clay. Curriculum development and record keeping of student progress and preparation of final reports. Oversees the day-to-day operation of ceramics material storage, glaze lab, and classroom equipment, and supervises, supports, and facilitates instructors in their teaching roles. Ordering of materials, stock, and record keeping on usage. 6 days with 5 and 4 class load for 8 weeks.

Life Drawing Instructor, Maude Kerns Art Center, Eugene, Oregon, 2018-2022

8-week studio course developing skills in observing and drawing the human figure. The course was taught working from the model, covering basic approaches to the human form, anatomy, gesture, and value, with longer poses allowing students to make more developed drawings. Problems of foreshortening, balance, lighting, and fabric were tackled in both charcoal and pastel.

Figure Painting Instructor, Maude Kerns Art Center, Eugene, Oregon, 2018-2022

An 8-week studio course in which students learned oil painting techniques in the representation of the human form. Students gained a material understanding of the oil painting medium, and its historical development with the human form, and learned how to develop underpaintings through the depiction of light and shadow and blocking in the form. Proportion and anatomy were considered key elements of understanding composition to develop creative reach while working with the live nude model.

Plein Air Painting Instructor, Maude Kerns Art Center, Eugene, Oregon, 2018-2022

An 8-week outdoor studio course in which students learned to create landscape paintings in oils from on-site observations. Students learned approaches to developing observational oil paintings while considering the problems of light, value, perspective, and composition. Students learned the history and development of plein-air painting. Each week, students met at a different site to learn to paint different environments, including urban settings, water, and night scenes.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (Teaching Assistant)

Handbuilding, Ohio University, (Assisted Professor Tom Bartel), Fall 2021

An introduction to hand-building techniques in clay. Includes diverse surface techniques, slips, glazes, and kiln firing. The semester builds to address more advanced techniques such as basic mold making, and conceptual problem solving through material and contemporary and non-traditional approaches to ceramics.

As a teaching assistant, I assisted in the preparation of the classroom for slide presentations, lectures, and demonstrations. I utilized Blackboard to facilitate communications with students, post course-related documents, and take attendance. In

addition, I mixed and prepared the clay used for the classroom, fired all of the student work, prepared glazes and slips for student use, and maintained the cleanliness and order of the classroom.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Department Communications Assistant, Ceramics Area, Ohio University, 2022-2024

Responsibility for the OU Ceramics social media pages (Instagram and Facebook), outreach to visiting artists, and promotion and marketing for the department as needed (design of Ceramics Monthly ads, pot sale ads and fliers, end of year cookout, etc).

Outreach and facilitation of the visiting artist program. Duties include picking up and dropping off artists to the airport/hotel and restaurants, fielding questions, and assisting the Visiting Artist with technology needs for their artist talks.

Recruitment liaison for prospective grads, answering questions about the program, and coordinating campus visits and tours of the facilities.

Effective writing and communication to be the voice of the program, representing the diversity of the undergraduate, graduate, alumni, and faculty communities. Shared weekly news and announcements via social media about our community as well as updates from our instructors and students. (Wood firings, students projects, critiques, etc)

Responsibility for primary marketing tool for the OU Ceramics brand, including language and content of the weekly posts. Ensured the language and voice used in these communications was professional and respectful and represented the highest standards of Ohio University's nationally-ranked program.

Acted as Graduate Recruitment Liason. Through email and telephone, coordinated and scheduled campus visits, and interviews with faculty via telephone and TEAMS. Conducted tours of the facilities and actively promoted and supported the ceramics program at Ohio University.

Curator, Show/Event Organizer, Lakewood Festival of the Arts, 2017-2022

Curated and organized a three-day outdoor summer arts festival with a 57-year history in Lake Oswego, Oregon. Developed themes and ideas in support of the growth of the Festival, and made annual presentations to the board on the status and growth of the Arts Festival. Community outreach and recruitment of artists local to Oregon to promote the region. Managed the online jurying process, selected jurors, managed communications with 124 selected artists, and managed load-in and load-out planning and facilitation of artists over a three-day city-wide art

event. Coordinated a team of volunteers. Crisis management during a heat dome event to ensure that there were no heat injuries during one weekend.

Mentor, Ohio University, 2021, 2022-2024

Worked with BFA students in the development of their work and practice toward their thesis exhibitions with the development of a focused body of work, 2022-2024.
Professional development.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2024

- *Vessel Vision Animal*, Adamah Gallery, Columbus, Ohio (October 2024)
- *How Can We Know Aliens? We Can't Even Know Rabbits*. Trisolini Gallery, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio (March 2024)

2022

- *Vessels*, The Arts Place, Portland Indiana (November 2022)
- *Connections*, Bear Mountain Lodge Gallery, Silver City, New Mexico (July 2022)
- *Friends and Relations*, Riversea Gallery, Astoria, Oregon, (May 2022)
- *Kinship*, Salem on the Edge, Salem, Oregon, (April 2022)

2021

- *Other Animals*, Eutectic Gallery, Portland, Oregon

2020

- *Shine*, Sidestreet Arts, Portland, Oregon

2018

- *My Left, You're Right*-The Gallery at the Jupiter, Jupiter Hotel, Portland, Oregon, December/January

2017

- *Uninhabitable*, Circuitous Succession Gallery, Memphis, Tennessee
- *Four Days After the Rabbit*, AKA Gallery, Portland, Oregon

2016

- *Where the Grass Grows Over Me*, Gallery at the Jupiter, Portland, Oregon
- *By the Moon, I Shall Know You*, Guardino Gallery, Portland, Oregon

2015

- *Stories From Eden Corridor*, Looking Glass Gallery, Portland, Oregon
- *Back in Detroit*, Detroit Contemporary, Detroit, Michigan

- 2014
- *In the Woods of Glastonbury Hollow*, Looking Glass Gallery, Portland, Oregon
- 2013
- *Spring Rites*, Gallery at the Jupiter, Portland, Oregon
- 2012
- *Gargantua*, Gallery at the Jupiter, Portland, Oregon
 - *The Eden Corridor*, The Galleries, Rogue Community College, Grants Pass, Oregon
- 2010
- *The Transformation of Icarus*, Harrington Brown Gallery, Memphis, Tennessee
- 2009
- *The Elephant in the Room*, Mariposa Gallery, Albuquerque New Mexico
 - *Haven*, Jandreau Art, Taos, New Mexico
- 2007
- *Big Hand Blues*, Hawaii Pacific University, Kaneohe, Hawaii
- 2006
- *The Cloud Eaters*, Bethel Street Gallery, Honolulu, Hawaii
 - *Everyone Rules the World*, Bethel Street Gallery, Honolulu, Hawaii
- 2003
- *Sprung*, Pikes Peak Library District, Colorado Springs, Colorado

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024
- *Color Pop!* Saratoga Clay Arts Center, Schuylerville, NY, Didem Mert, Juror
 - *78th Annual Ohio Exhibition*, Zanesville Art Museum, Zanesville Ohio, Max R. Barton II, Juror
 - *Best of 2024 Ohio Designer Craftsman-Columbus Ohio*, Jacqueline S. Nathan, Juror
 - *Earth and Fire 2024*, Oglebay Institute, Wheeling WV, Shoji Satake, Juror
 - *Ohio Artist Registry Juried Exhibition*, Columbus Metropolitan Library, Columbus, Ohio
- 2023
- *ORIGIN*, Baltimore Clayworks, Baltimore MD, Kensuke Yamada, juror
 - *Ohio Designer Craftsman New and Now: Emerging Artist Exhibition*, Columbus Ohio, Rachel Suzanne Smith, juror
 - *National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts Juried Graduate Student Exhibition*, Cincinnati Ohio
- 2022
- *Maps of the Intangible*, Iowa Ceramics Center, Iowa
 - *Biz' Art Biz' Art Le Vaudioux*, France
 - *Best of 2022 Ohio Designer Craftsman-Columbus Ohio*
 - *61st Midstates Juried Exhibition*-Evansville Museum, Evansville Indiana
 - *OH+5 The Dairy Barn Center for the Arts*, Athens, Ohio

2021

- *Convene-Eutectic* Gallery, Portland, Oregon
- *Biodiversity/Cultural Diversity*-The Jay County Campus of Arts Place, Portland, Oregon
- *Sitka Art Invitational*-World Forestry Center, Portland, Oregon
- *Eugene Biennial Revisited*-Karin Clarke Gallery, Eugene, Oregon
- *Eugene Biennial*-Karin Clarke Gallery, Eugene, Oregon
- Biz' Art Biz' Art, Le Vaudieux, France

2017

- *Intemporel*, Bizart Bizart Dijon, France

2015

- *Marianne*, Biz'Art Biz'Art, Le Vaudieux, France

2014

- *Indomtes de l'Art #2*, Galerie Jean Greset, Besancon France

2012

- Painting and Mixed Media Competition, Lessedra Gallery, Sofia, Bulgaria

2007

- *Square Foot*, AWOL Gallery, Toronto, Ontario

COLLECTIONS

- Pacific University, Forest Grove, Oregon
- Lessedra Gallery, Sofia, Bulgaria
- Museum of the North, Fairbanks, Alaska
- Hawaii State Art Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii

GRANTS

- Bobcat Seed Fund Arts Launch Grant, Ohio University, 2022
- Graduate Student Senate Original Work Grant, Ohio University, 2022
- Graduate Student Senate Travel Award, Ohio University, 2022
- Graduate Student Senate Travel Award, Ohio University, 2022

PUBLICATIONS

- National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts Exhibitions Catalog, 2023
- Ceramics Monthly "Exposure" Summer Issue, 2022
- The Crossing Choir-The Music of Martin Bresnick-Artwork and Design for album release, 2024
- The Crossing Choir-Born-Artwork and Design for album release, Grammy Award-winning, 2022

- The Crossing Choir-The Arc in the Sky-Artwork and Design for album release, Grammy-nominated, 2018
- Catalogue for 2012 Painting Competition, Lessedra Gallery, 2012
- Modern Luxury Magazine, HAWAII Summer Issue, 2007

RESIDENCIES

- The Roundhouse Foundation, Pine Meadow Ranch, Sisters, Oregon, 2021
- East Creek Pottery, Willamina, Oregon, 2021
- SpreadArt-Detroit Michigan, 2017

MILITARY SERVICE

- USARMY: Field Artillery Mechanic, 4 Years Active Duty, Honorable Discharge

SKILLS

- Adobe Animation Suite, including Photoshop, After Effects, Audition, Acrobat, Photoshop
- Cinema 4D animation software
- Video/Sound editing and mixing
- Knowledge and experience in ceramics, including hand-building, throwing, and operation and troubleshooting of electric and gas kilns
- Knowledge of glaze chemistry, particularly for low-fire ceramics
- Plays flute, saxophone, and piano.
- Drawing representational and contemporary approaches across many mediums in both wet and dry approaches
- Painting-oil and acrylic painting in representational and contemporary approaches
- Trail Runner

Organizations

- NCECA-2022-present

Permanent Collections

- Museum of the North, Fairbanks, Alaska
- Hawaii State Art Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii

References

- Tom Bartel, Professor of Ceramics and Area Chair, Ohio University 1-270-535-9666
tomxbartel@gmail.com

- Stuart Gair, Assistant Professor of Instruction and Technology, Ohio University, 1-330-687-1120, gair@ohio.edu
- John Sabraw, Professor of Painting, Ohio University 1-740-707-7855
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- David LaPalombara, Professor of Painting, Ohio University 1-937-767-2002
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