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## **2011 Biennial Exhibition Plumbs Depth of Expression in Contemporary Ceramics**

The National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts presents new works in clay at the Tampa Museum of Art

Concurrent with its 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Tampa-St. Petersburg, The National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA) presents the 2011 NCECA Biennial Exhibition at the Tampa Museum of Art. The 2011 NCECA Biennial Exhibition will be on view from January 29-April 24, 2011 at the Tampa Museum of Art, 120 W. Gasparilla Plaza, Tampa, FL 33602. Museum hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 11 am – 7 pm; Friday from 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.; and Sat and Sun from 11 am – 5 pm. A reception and awards presentation will take place 7 - 9 pm on Thursday, March 30 at the Tampa Museum of Fine Arts.

The *NCECA Biennial* enjoys a reputation as the premier exhibition of ceramic arts staged in the United States. The exceptionally wide range of entries and the high degree of visibility of the exhibition within the field make it an exceptional celebration of ceramic expression from those inspired by historical influences to those of the most contemporary trends and ideas. More than 900 artists submitted more than 1600 entries for the exhibition which represents one of the centerpieces of the NCECA's 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference which will be hosted in Tampa- St. Petersburg, Florida from March 30- April 2, 2011.

Organized by Linda Ganstrom, Professor of Art at Fort Hays State University- Kansas, the NCECA Biennial includes 45 works selected by jurors Glen R. Brown, Julia Galloway and Arthur Gonzalez. Brown is professor of modern and contemporary art history at Kansas State University and a member of the International Academy of Ceramics, Galloway, a potter, is a chair of the School of Art and professor at University of Montana, Missoula, and Gonzalez, a sculptor, is a full professor at California College of the Arts.

In his catalog essay, Brown writes that “co-juried exhibitions result from negotiation and compromise rather than from unanimous convictions about quality...” Working collectively with potter Julia Galloway, and sculptor Arthur Gonzalez, Brown considers that through the process of reviewing more than 1600 images “we take a step forward in our conception of the social and add to ceramics a subtle facet of relevance for the contemporary world.” Jurors recognized several pieces in the exhibition with awards supported by Ceramics Monthly Magazine, Trax Gallery, AMACO/ Brent, L & L Kiln Manufacturing, Inc., Skutt Kilns, Old Poag Road Ceramic and Glass, and Workhouse Art Center.

Artists in the *2011 NCECA Biennial* include the following: Christopher Adams, Massachusetts; Lesley Baker, Indiana; Chris Berti, Illinois; Brian Bolden, Minnesota; Andy Brayman, Kansas (NCECA Purchase Award); Bob Bruch, Ohio; Sam Chung, Arizona ; Autumn Cipala, Maine; James Coquia, Arizona; Josh DeWeese, Montana (Skutt Kilns Purchase Award); Magdolene Dykstra, Ontario, Canada; Leopold Foulem, Montreal, Canada; Edith Garcia, United Kingdom; Mark Gordon, North Carolina; Jason Green, New York; Shane Harris, Illinois; Trey Hill, Montana; Sin-Ying Ho, New York; Jared Janovec, Wisconsin; Nicholas Kripal, Pennsylvania; Laura Kukkee, Missouri; Clay Leonard, Ohio(AMACO/ Brent Purchase Award); David Linger, California (Paper Clay Award); Jeffrey Mongrain, New York; Lindsay Oesterritter, Kentucky (NCECA Purchase Award); Steven Olzewski, Michigan (NCECA Purchase Award); Tara Polansky, Ohio (NCECA Purchase Award); Adam Posnak\*, Arkansas (NCECA Purchase Award); Carla Potter, Montana (L & L Kiln Mfg., Inc. Purchase Award); Kate Roberts, South Carolina ; Jesse Ross, Nebraska ; Brad Schwieger, Ohio; Virginia Scotchie, South Carolina; Jose Sierra, Arizona (NCECA Purchase Award); David Smith, Montana; Jinsoo Song, Arkansas; Shawn Spangler, Pennsylvania; Kala Stein, New York (Ceramics Monthly Purchase Award); Steven Thurston, Ohio; Charles Timm-Ballard, Washington; Shalene Valenzuela, Montana; Monica VanDenDool, California; Adam Welch, New Jersey; and Blake Williams, Michigan.

The *2011 NCECA Biennial* is supported in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. The exhibition is one of more than 100 being presented in the Tampa-St. Petersburg region concurrently with the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the National Council on Education for the Ceramics Arts (NCECA). The conference theme, *Tidal Forces: The next wave* was developed especially for the Florida Gulf coast region by NCECA On-Site Liaisons Anna Calluori Holcombe and Brian Ransom, members of the faculty of University of Florida and Eckerd College respectively.

The conference, which is expected to draw nearly 5000 artists, educators, collectors, non-profit organizations, schools and enthusiasts, takes place from March 30-April 2, 2011 at the Tampa

Convention Center. Along with it will come many opportunities for area residents and visitors to experience first-hand the transformative and continually evolving influences of one of our most ancient art forms. NCECA is the world's leading organization dedicated to the medium of ceramics. Its annual conferences are legendary and 2011 marks Florida's first time hosting this exceptional event.

### **About NCECA**

The National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts is a dynamic organization that fosters global education and appreciation for the ceramic arts. NCECA's programs, exhibitions, publications, opportunities and resources inspire advancement of the field.

NCECA promotes and improves the ceramic arts through education, community-building, research and creative inspiration. NCECA offers programs, events and publications to support its membership of artists, educators, students, individual and corporate art patrons, gallery owners, museum curators and providers of ceramic arts-related products and services. As a dynamic, member-driven organization, NCECA is flexible in its program development, international in its perspective and responsive to the changing needs of its constituency.

To learn more about NCECA and the 45th Annual Conference in Tampa-St. Pete visit [www.nceca.net](http://www.nceca.net) or contact the office by phone at 1-866-266-2322.