

VLAD BASARAB BIO

www.basarab-art.com

Vlad Basarab (b. Bucharest, Romania, 1977) is a visual artist working with various mediums: ceramics, sculpture, installation, video and performance. Basarab has had over 20 solo shows in the US and Europe. He started working with clay in 1986 under the guidance of traditional Romanian potters from Horezu, Victor Vicșoreanu and Dumitru Mischiu, considered *living human treasures* by UNESCO.

In 2001, he received a Bachelors of Fine Arts Degree in Ceramics from the University of Alaska Anchorage and in 2013, a Masters of Fine Arts Degree in Electronic Media from West Virginia University. Basarab is a **PhD candidate at the University of Art in Bucharest** with the working thesis *Exercises of Recovering Collective Memory through Monumental Art and Multi-media Interventions in the Public Space*. He received a **Fulbright research grant in Romania** with the theme *Art as a Form of Remembering and Mourning the Victims of Cultural Censorship* (2013-2014); 1st prize for the international competition for the *Monument dedicated to the Romanian Language* in Chișinău, Republic of Moldova (2014).

He is a member of **NCECA** (The National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts, USA) since 1998, the **Union of Artists of Romania** since 2006. In 2017, Basarab became a member of the **International Academy of Ceramics of UNESCO (IAC)**, Geneva, Switzerland and the Galateea Contemporary Art Gallery Group, Bucharest, Romania. He is a founding member of two artistic groups: Pâlnia (The Funnel) since 1995 and NEURON since 2014.

In 2017, the artist received the **Award of Excellence** at the **Cluj International Ceramics Biennale** (7 member international jury), Romania as well as an **honorary mention** at the **Gyeonggi International Ceramic Biennale**, Icheon, Republic of Korea. In 2017, he was also a **guest of honour of the European Commission Representation to Romania, in the European Union Pavilion at the Gaudeamus Book Fair**, Bucharest, Romania.

In 2018, he is representing Romania at the **European Ceramics Context Curated Exhibition** in Bornholm, Denmark.

Part of his activity as a curator, Basarab organized **Together/Apart**, (Pittsburgh Cultural Trust) and **ClayVoiceRomania** (City of Asylum), both NCECA concurrent exhibitions, in 2018. His curatorial activity started in 2016 with **Arts in Bucharest** (Tipografia Gallery, Combinatul Fondului Plastic, Bucharest, Romania) and **Coast to Coast, An invitational exhibition of North-American Ceramicists** (The Brâncoveanu Palaces Cultural Center, Mogoșoaia/Bucharest, Romania, USA).

Basarab has lectured extensively in many countries around the world (USA, Romania, China and the Republic of Korea). Part of his interest as an educator, were the workshops he held, focusing on the influence of Asian traditions on contemporary ceramics practices. His lectures and teaching have been influenced by his abundant travels for research and residencies in China and the US, connecting him to the technological and conceptual advancements of the ceramic field.

His work is part of important international public and private collections in **China** (Taishuan Ceramics Factory Co Ltd, Jingdezhen Ceramics Institute, Jingdezhen Asia Europe America Ceramics and Glass Center, Yixing Museum, Artron Art Group, Liling Ceramics Valley Museum), **United States of**

America (West Virginia University, Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities), **Republic of Korea** (Toyaseum Museum, Korea Ceramics Foundation), **Romania** (Arad Art Museum, Museum of Art, Cluj-Napoca, Brâncoveanu Pallace Cultural Center, Mogoșoaia), **Hungary** (King St. Stephen Museum), **Republic of Moldova** (Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Moldova).