

Date of Birth: 2nd January 1950

Academic Position

Head of Ceramics. National Art School, Sydney. 2009-present

Education

Monash University, Gippsland. Victoria. M.A. (Research). 2004

Caulfield Institute of Technology, Melbourne Studied Diploma of Art & Design (Ceramics) 1974-1976

Conferences and Invitations (2004-2015)

- 2015 **National Art School.** Burn Baby Burn, Forum panel as part of Art Month.
Utopia Gallery, Sydney. The Art of Conversation. Speaker as part of Art Month.
- 2014 **Shigaraki Ceramics Cultural Park. Japan.** 2nd international Woodfire Workshop and symposium.
Parramatta Artists Studio. Sydney. Residencies. Panel forum.
- 2014 **Manly Museum and Art Gallery, Sydney.** Panel 'The Course of Objects: the Fine Lines of Enquiry'
- 2013 **ASNA Clay Triennial. Karachi, Pakistan.** Speaker Paper titled 'Contemporary Australian Ceramics'
Clay Push Gulgong. Education Panel. Paper titled 'The Elephant in The Fortress.'
- 2012 **Art Gallery NSW.** Short Talk Program. Presentation titled 'Experiences and Views on Picasso Ceramics.'
SH Ervin Gallery, Sydney Not The Way Home. Education forum.
Potober, Ceramics Festival Western Australian Ceramics Arts Association. Presenter and demonstrator
- 2011 **Ceramic Arts & Design for a Sustainable Society. Gothenburg, Sweden.** Speaker and demonstrator
National Taiwan University of Arts. International Forum & Workshop on Ceramics & Arts.
Arts Laboratory at Fowlers Gap Arid Zone Research Station. Broken Hill. Not the Way Home. Participant
- 2010 **Firing into the Future. 10th Festival of Ceramics: Ballarat University. Victoria.** Speaker and demonstrator
Art Gallery NSW. Lecture. 'Ceramics: Materials and Techniques.'
- 2009 **Australian Ceramics Triennale.** Chair, Organising Committee.. 2009. Sydney.
ISCAEE (International Society Ceramics Arts Education and Exchange). World Ceramics Biennale, Korea. Delegate and presenter
Kongju University, Korea. Artist in Residence
The World Ceramic Biennale, Icheon, Korea. Lecture titled 'Australian Ceramics Language'
- 2008 **National Art School.** Forum presentation titled 'The Ceramic Passport', also presented at the Australian Ceramics Triennale.
The Pottery Workshop Jingdezhen, China. Residency
Shepparton Art Gallery Sidney Myer Fund Symposium. Delegate
- 2007 **ClayEdge, Gulgong.** Paper titled 'A Studio in Paris.'
- 2006 **Cite Internationale des Arts, Paris. France.** Residency
Verge. 11th National Ceramics Conference, Brisbane. Invited speaker.
Fachhochschule, Koblenz. Lecture titled 'Australian Ceramics'
- 2005 **The Institute of Australian Studies, Kings College, London.** Lecture titled 'Australian Ceramics'
Common Ground – Contemporary Ceramics Delmar Gallery, Sydney. Curator
Chilli – Winter Ceramic Exhibition. Cudgong Gallery, Gulgong. Curator
NGA, Canberra. Transformations: The Language of Craft Conference. Paper titled 'Tumbarumba Transformations'
- 2004 **Clay Modern, Gulgong.** Paper titled 'Mao, Mud and Me'
The Hollow and The Whole- Contemporary Ceramics Delmar Gallery, Sydney. Co curator with Ruth Howard.
Xi'an Academy of Fine Art, China. Appointed Visiting Professor.

Solo Exhibitions

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| 2015 | <i>Catchment</i> | Stella Downer Fine Art, Sydney |
| 2011 | <i>Merran Esson Ceramics</i> | BMG Art, Adelaide |
| 2008 | <i>Displaced Places</i> | Stella Downer Gallery, Sydney |
| 2005 | <i>Sculpture 2005</i> | Stella Downer Gallery, Sydney |
| 2004 | <i>Buckets and Boundaries</i> | The Switchback Gallery, Monash University, Gippsland. |
| 2004, 1999, 1997, 1993 | | 4 solos exhibitions at Mura Clay Gallery, Sydney |
| 1988 | <i>For Pitcher, For Pouter</i> | BMG Fine Art Sydney. |

Selected Group Exhibitions – between 2004-2015

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| 2015 | <i>Turn Turn Turn</i> curated by Glenn Barkley
<i>Common Differences</i>
<i>300gram exhibition</i> | National Art School Gallery.
Mansfield Ceramics Gallery
Mansfield Ceramics Gallery |
| 2014 | <i>Shigaraki Woodfire Workshop Exhibition</i>
<i>Gallery Artists 2014</i>
<i>Australia-Korea, Heritage and Diversity.</i>
<i>The Course of Objects: The Fine Lines of Enquiry.</i>
<i>Gallery Artists</i> | Shigaraki Cultural Park
Stella Downer Fine Art Sydney
Hanyang University Museum. Seoul. South Korea
Manly Museum and Art Gallery, Sydney
Stella Downer Fine Art. |
| 2013 | <i>ASNA Clay Triennial.</i>
<i>Not the Way Home.</i> Curated by Owen Craven | Rangoonwalla Centre Karachi
Broken Hill Art Gallery |
| 2012 | <i>Milton Moon and friends: 50 Works.</i> Curated by Peter Pinson
<i>Artwords.</i> Curated by Joe Frost.
<i>Fowlers Gap:</i> Curated by Stella Downer
<i>Not the Way Home:</i> Curated by Owen Craven
<i>Melbourne Art Fair:</i> Curated by Stella Downer
<i>Not the Way Home:</i> Curated by Robert Bugatti | Peter Pinson Gallery, Sydney.
National Art School Project Space.
Stella Downer Fine Art Sydney
SH Irvin Gallery. Sydney
Royal Exhibition Building. Melbourne
Bugatti Fine Art, Perth.WA |

	<i>Potober: WA Ceramic Arts</i>	Showcase Gallery Central TAFE. Perth.
	<i>Not the Way Home: Curated by Owen Craven</i>	New England Regional Gallery. Armidale. NSW
	<i>Not the Way Home:</i>	Walcha Art Gallery
2011	<i>Ceramic Arts and Design for a Sustainable Society</i>	Frolunda Culture Centre, Gothenburg, Sweden
	<i>International Ceramics and Tea Symposium: Exhibition.</i>	National Taiwan University of the Arts, Taipei. Taiwan.
	<i>Celebrating The Year of Friendship between Australia and Korea.</i>	Korea Foundation Cultural Centre. Seoul. Korea
2010	<i>Firing Into the Future:</i>	Post Office Gallery, Ballarat.
	<i>Private Treasures, Public Pleasures: Ceramics</i>	Orange Regional Gallery
	<i>27th Gold Coast Award Exhibition.</i>	Gold Coast Arts Centre
2009	<i>Bravura (Curated by Robert Reason)</i>	Art Gallery of South Australia.
	<i>ISCAEE members exhibition.</i>	Yeuju Exhibition Space. Korea.
	<i>LINK. Ceramics from Kongju and Sydney.</i>	NAS Gallery, Sydney
	<i>Ceramics (with Lynda Draper and Fiona Murphy)</i>	Stella Downer Fine Art, Sydney.
2008	<i>Sidney Myer Fund International Award Exhibition</i>	Shepparton Art Gallery, Victoria
	<i>Off Shore 3</i>	The Jam Factory, Adelaide
	<i>Melbourne Art Fair with Stella Downer Fine Art</i>	Royal Exhibition Building. Melbourne
	<i>Singapore Art Fair. Represented by Gaffer Gallery, Hong Kong.</i>	Suntec City Singapore.
2007	<i>Mastery: Contemporary Ceramics. Curated by Julie Lambe</i>	Gaffer Studio Glass Gallery, Hong Kong
2006	<i>Contours: Curated by Stella Downer</i>	Stella Downer Fine Art, Sydney
	<i>Australische Impressionen: Curated by Ursula Rosenhauer.</i>	Galerie Rosenhauer, Germany
	<i>Clay Statements.NSW09: Curated by Patsy Hely</i>	Brisbane Conference Centre
	<i>Melbourne Art Fair with Stella Downer Fine Art</i>	Royal Exhibition Building. Melbourne
2005	<i>Collect.</i>	Victoria and Albert Museum, London.
	<i>Transformations: The Language of Craft</i>	National Gallery of Australia
	<i>Beyond Earth</i>	Manly Museum and Art Gallery. Sydney
	<i>Gold Coast International Ceramic Art Award Exhibition</i>	Gold Coast City Art Gallery
2004	<i>Vessel: Diverse</i>	Quadrivium Gallery, Sydney
	<i>The Hollow and The Whole.</i>	Delmar Gallery, Sydney
	<i>Ceramics: The Australian and New Zealand Context:</i>	Campbelltown Bicentennial Art Gallery.

Collections

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, Art Gallery of South Australia. Shepparton Art Gallery, Manly Museum and art Gallery, Western Australian Art Gallery, Bathurst Art Gallery, Gold Coast City Art Gallery, Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Launceston, Tasmania, Geelong Art Gallery, COFA UNSW, Qantas, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, National Art School, Sydney, Perc Tucker Museum, Toowoomba QLD, Museum für Kunsthandwerk und Gewerbe in Hamburg, Westerwalld Keramik Museum, Hohn-Grenzhausen, Koblenz, Germany. National Taiwan University of Arts

Grants

Workshop Development Grant through Crafts Board of the Australia Council.(1983). Nava Marketing Grant (2006)

Awards

The Austceram '94 Ceramic Award (1994). Port Hacking Potters Award (2000) The National Art School Staff Travelling Scholarship(2003) The 24th Gold Coast International Ceramic Award.(2005) The National Art School Paris Studio at the Cite Internationale des Arts.(2006) Poyntzpass Pioneer Ceramics Award of Merit, part of the Sidney Myer Fund international Ceramics Award. (2008)

Selected Publications

Israel, Glenis.	<i>Artwise Visual Arts 7-10.</i> Jacaranda Wiley. 1997
Versluys, Luk & Tinck, Lucien	<i>Het Atelier. Wereld Van 12 Keramisten</i> Belgium 1984
Bell, Robert (ed)	<i>Transformations: The Language of Craft.</i> National Gallery of Australia. 2005
Bowers, Stephen,	<i>Australian Contemporary, A Survey of a Sense of Place.</i> Published in <i>Ceramics: Art and Perception.</i> Issue 58 2004. Pages 17-24
British Crafts Council	<i>Collect:</i> Published by British Crafts Council 2005
Campbell-Allen, Barbara.	<i>Beyond Earth, exploring the plastic limits of clay.</i> Published By the Potters Society of Australia in <i>The Journal of Australian Ceramics</i> Issue 43#3 pages 45-52
Craven, Owen (ed)	Artist Profile. Issue 18 2012. Pages 84-85
Esson, Merran	<i>Sydney to Shigaraki and Back Again.</i> Yarrobil Magazine. Mansfield Ceramics. 2015
Esson, Merran	<i>Timelines – An Exhibition by Simone Fraser.</i> New Ceramics.Published by Bernd Pfannkuche. Germany. 2012
Esson, Merran (Curator)	<i>Common Ground: contemporary ceramics</i> exhibition catalogue. Trinity Grammar School 2005
Esson, Merran (ed)	<i>The Hollow and The Whole; contemporary ceramics</i> exhibition catalogue. Trinity Grammar School, 2004
Page, Sue (ed)	<i>Diverse 9th National Ceramics Conference Delegates Exhibition.</i> Published by WA School of Art and Design.
Guy, Jan (ed)	<i>Homebrand.</i> Published by Ceramics Renaissance and Casula Powerhouse. 1997
James, Chris (ed)	<i>Juggling the Elements,</i> Published by Manly Art Gallery and Museum. 1995
Kim, Jeoung-Ah (ed)	<i>Ceramic Arts and design for a Sustainable Society.</i> Frolunda Culture Centre. 2011
Schmitt, Peter	<i>Australische Impressionen.</i> Published by Galerie Rosenhauer, Goettingen, Germany 2006.

Journals and Newspapers

Allen, Christopher	Review. <i>Embracing Natural Symbolism.</i> <i>Ceramics, Art and Perception</i> Issue 14. 1993Pages 71-73
The Art Newspaper.	Review. <i>Second successful year for London crafts fair.</i> No 155, February 2005. Page 47
Buckle,Sue. Review.	<i>The Hollow and the Whole – Contemporary ceramics at The Delmar Gallery.</i> Published in the <i>Journal of Australian Ceramics.</i> Issue 43#2 2004 pages 9-10
Esson, Merran	<i>Marea Gazzard, Obituary.</i> <i>Art Monthly.</i> 2014
Esson, Merran	<i>The Condition Report.</i> 2014.
Esson, Merran	<i>Simone Fraser, Artist Profile.</i> 2014
Esson, Merran	<i>Beyond the Surface.</i> <i>Pottery in Australia</i> Vol 35. No. 1 1996 Pages 35-37
Foulds, Gordon	<i>Containers of Ideas – Craft Arts International.</i> Issue 72 2008 pages 29-34
Tanner, Howard	<i>Love Art: Collectors choose their favourite artwork from their personal collection.</i>
	The Australian Art Market Report. Issue 19. Autumn 2006. Page 28
Ali, Salwat	<i>Feats of Clay.</i> Dawn – The Express Tribune, Karachi. Pakistan 20 January 2013. Page 9
Salman, Peerzada	<i>Ceramists from across globe share finer points of art.</i> Dawn. Karachi. 13 January 2013. Pages 17 & 19
Husain, Zehra	<i>Drawing Inspiration.</i> Karachi Tribune. Pakistan. 13 January 2013 Page 14