



Images: Brian Molanphy, *sink*, 2018, coiled stoneware with glaze, 8" diameter x 16" depth. Photos: Easton Green

## CURRENT EXHIBITION

*The Form Will Find Its Way: Contemporary Ceramic Sculptural Abstraction*

January 22 - March 30, 2019

### Thursday, March 28, 2019

Public Reception | 5:00 – 9:00 PM | Regis East Lobby

That evening visit the *Department of Art Sculpture and Ceramics Area Faculty and Graduate Student Exhibition* (</art/galleries/quarter-gallery>) in the Quarter Gallery and *Object Lessons* (</art/galleries/regis-west-gallery>) in the Regis West Gallery.

An international ceramics exhibition of 40 artists organized in association with the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA). Minneapolis-based independent curator Elizabeth Carpenter has invited five international ceramic artists to participate in the exhibition and she has also chosen works by 35 artists who responded to an international juried call. Carpenter's title for the exhibition and the curatorial premise guiding her choice of artists stemmed from a quotation by Peter Voukos, an artist who almost single-handedly ushered in an interdisciplinary approach to the ceramic arts through his breakthrough conviction that the fields of painting, sculpture, and pottery could coalesce in works of great power and significance. Carpenter, in turn, explored experimental, cross-disciplinary, and aesthetically diverse artistic practices, with the explicit intention to avoid preconceptions about established categories like art and craft. *The Form Will Find Its Way: Contemporary Ceramic Sculptural Abstraction* coincides with *Claytopia* (<https://nceca.net/2019-minneapolis-minnesota/>), the 53rd Annual NCECA Conference, which will take place March 27 – 30, 2019 in Minneapolis. The exhibition includes the creation of a new, site-specific clay installation by Dutch artist Alexandra Engelfriet, made possible with support from the Harlan Boss Foundation for the Arts and Continental Clay Company.

Elizabeth Carpenter invited Nicole Cherubini, Alexandra Engelfriet, Jessica Jackson Hutchins, Brie Ruais, and Anders Ruhwald to participate in the exhibition, and chose works by the following artists who responded to the national call: Nolan Baumgartner, Dylan Beck, Zimra Beiner, Brian Boldon, Jennifer Brandel, Renata Cassiano, Yang Chen, Benjamin Cirgin, Joshua R. Clark, Naomi Cohn, Chotsani Elaine Dean, Louise Deroualle, Yewen Dong, Jessica Dupuis, Trey Duvall, Matthew Eames, Jessika Edgar, Cary Esser, Sarah Gross, Justin Groth, Jeffrey Haddorff, Sajeda Issa, Wansoo Kim, Adam Knoche, Drew Liedtke, Lauren Mayer, Kate Metten, Brian Molanphy, Michiko Murakami, Rebecca Murtaugh, Kelsie Rudolph, Karl Schwiesow, Nicole Seisler, Jim Shrosbree, and Jason Lee Starin.

### About *sink* by Brian Molanphy

Besides the interdisciplinary mode that is architectural ceramics, series since 2010 originate in the disciplines of fiction & poetry. *sink* recalls the horizontal plumbing of *Endless Plumb (Plugged)*, 2014. Instead of the obstructions that closed both end of that artwork, *sink* renders a double curve – the “punt” or “kick-up” inside a bottle that is just slightly budding toward the continuous surface of a Klein bottle. *sink* taps into ambiguity, disorder, entropy, & the uncanny like a culvert, after the culverts in some of Robert Gober's sculptures, though *sink* turns back on itself inside. *sink* draws on the “unaccountable cone” of the “cassock” in *Moby-Dick*. In tension in space, *sink* bursts from the wall like an extruded architectural feature. *sink* goes further with its horizontal extension in a tradition, after Eva Hesse & Richard Serra, of defiance of gravity, depiction of flow, & combination of sculpture & painting. *sink* turns fully round & horizontal the truncated parabola of Ellen Carey's photographs. *sink* holds hidden contents, passages, & surfaces that reveal themselves upon bodily movement on the part of the beholder. A single example is exhibited from a series of nine individual artworks. In addition to those already named, Ernest Chaplet, Pierre Soulages, Michel Muraour, Sadashi Inuzuka, & John Utgaard are prominent inspirations.

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