

## **Ben Owen III**

**(DOB- 13/09/1968)**

**105 Bens Place, Seagrove, NC 27341, USA, Phone 336.953.9596**

**[ben@benowenpottery.com](mailto:ben@benowenpottery.com)**

**[www.benowenpottery.com](http://www.benowenpottery.com)**

Ben Owen III is an American potter born and raised in Seagrove, NC, who uses wood firing and other techniques for making functional and artistic pottery. A sixth-generation potter learning from his family, BFA in Ceramics at East Carolina University, Fellowship in Japan, and visiting artist in Jingdezhen, China. His work is included in the collections of the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, DC; The International Folk Art Museum in Santa Fe, NM; The Schein-Joseph International Museum of Art in Alfred, NY; Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, MA; and Mint Museum of Craft, Charlotte, NC.

### **Education**

1989-1993 East Carolina University, Bachelor of Fine Arts: Ceramics, Greenville, NC.

1987-1989 Pfeiffer University, Misenheimer, N.C. (Instructor in Ceramics Department)

1984-1993 Apprenticeship with Ben Wade Owen Jr., Ben Owen Pottery, Seagrove, NC.

1977-1983 Apprenticeship with Ben Owen Sr., Old Plank Road Pottery, Seagrove, NC.

### **Fellowships | Residencies | Travel**

2007 Jingdezhen, China; Research and workshop for Sanbao Art Center.

1999 Australia and New Zealand; Independent research and workshops in clay.

1995 Tokoname, Japan; IWCAT Cultural Exchange Fellowship Program

1994 Rabun Gap, GA; Resident Potter Fellowship, The Hambidge Center.

### **Select Professional Experience**

2021-2022 High Point University, NC; Resident Artist/Professor

2021 NCECA Moderator, Seagrove Clay: Cross-Cultural Traditions Presentation

2020, 2018, 2015, 2012 Highlands, NC; Instructor, The Bascom Art Center Workshop

2018 Cambridge, MA; Instructor, Harvard Ceramics Department Workshop

2016 Cambridge, MA; Instructor, MIT Ceramics Department Workshop

2015 Raleigh, NC; Lecturer, Museum of Natural Sciences

2014 Santa Fe, NM; Panelist, International Folk Art Society

2013 Silver City, NM; Instructor, International Clay Festival Workshop

2011 Washington, DC; Demonstration, Smithsonian Museum

2009 Asheboro, NC; Moderator, NC Pottery Conference, Val Cushing-Norm Schulman, Clay

2008, 2002, 1998, 1995 Charlotte, NC; Lecturer, Mint Museum Craft & Design

2005 Raleigh, NC; Panelist, Potter's Eye Exhibition, North Carolina Museum of Art

2000 Wooster, Ohio; Instructor, Wayne Center for the Arts, Functional Ceramics

1999 Gatlinburg, TN; Instructor, Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts

1998, 1994 Penland, NC; Instructor, Penland School of Crafts

### **Publications/Honors**

Tradition and Vision, Ceramics by Ben Owen III; Pucker Gallery, Boston, 2018.

Rich History, Vibrant Present, Ceramics By Ben Owen III; Pucker Gallery, Boston 2016.

It's Just Dirt; Stephen Compton, 2014

2012 Chapel Hill, NC; University of North Carolina. Inducted into the North Caroliniana Society

Southern Living Travel, Heroes of the New South Awards, 2012

Throwing Large, Collins, Nick, London: AC Black. 2011.

New York Times, Feature Article, March 10, 2010

2004 UNC, Wilmington, NC; Named "North Carolina Living Treasure" Randall Library  
2000 Raleigh, NC; Governor's Business Awards in the Arts and Humanities (commission)  
1993 Greenville, NC; East Carolina University, Outstanding Senior Award, Art School  
1987 Greensboro, NC; Two Gold Key in Scholastic Art Awards, University of NC Greensboro

### **Affiliations**

Seagrove Woodfire NC, executive committee, Seagrove, NC 2018-present  
Seagrove Potters Association, Director of Marketing 2020-present  
NCECA Member 2021  
North Carolina Pottery Center, member, Board of Directors 1996-1999, 2002-2003

### **Selected Permanent Collections (partial listing)**

American Museum of Ceramic Art, Pomona, CA  
Ceramics Monthly Collection, Westerville, OH  
Chrysler Museum, Norfolk, VA  
Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, OH  
Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, TX  
International Folk Art Museum, Santa Fe, NM  
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Boston, MA  
Mint Museum of Art and Craft and Design, Charlotte, NC  
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA  
New Orleans Museum of Art, New Orleans, LA  
Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, MA  
Racine Art Museum, Racine, WI  
Smithsonian Museum, Washington, DC  
The Schein-Joseph International Museum of Art, Alfred, NY  
Ritz Carlton; Tokyo, Japan, Boston, MA, White Plains, NY, Charlotte, NC.  
Mandarin Oriental Hotel; Boston, MA  
Umstead Hotel; The Goodnight Collection, Cary, NC  
Grand America Hotel; Salt Lake City, UT  
Sun Valley Amphitheater; Sun Valley, ID  
Federal Reserve; Charlotte, NC

### **Selected Exhibitions**

Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, MA; December 2021  
Pucker Gallery, Boston, MA; 2015, 2016, 2018, 2019  
Blue Spiral 1, Asheville, NC; 1998, 2001, 2004, 2008, 2012, 2018  
Confluence: A Wood-fire Invitational, STARworks, Star, NC; 2017  
The Bascom Art Gallery, Highlands, NC; 2011, 2016  
Quiet Inspirations, Influences From Japan, North Carolina Pottery Center, Seagrove, NC; 2015  
Teapots VII, Baltimore ClayWorks, MD; 2015  
Pottery in the US South, International Folk Art Museum, Santa Fe, NM; 2014-2016  
Continuing Legacies, The Arvada Center, Arvada, Co. September; 2013  
Signature Shop Gallery, Atlanta, GA; 2009  
The Potter's Eye, North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, NC; 2005  
Louise Wells Cameron Art Museum, Wilmington, NC; 2004  
Different Stokes, The University of Iowa Museum of Art, Iowa City, Iowa; 1999  
Premeditated Function: The Corsaw Collection American Ceramics, Alfred University, NY; 1998  
Mint Museum of Art, Charlotte, NC; 1995, 2015, 2018  
The Chrysler Museum, Norfolk, VA; 1994-1995