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## B I O G R A P H I C A L   S U M M A R Y

C.A. “Cat” Traen is an international teaching artist working in clay since 2002, leading to a BA and MEd from University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Motivated by enriching others through community building and collaboration, Cat has mentored thousands of students and teachers to equip and ignite the next generation in clay.

Since relocating to Memphis in 2017, Cat serves as faculty in the ceramics department at University of Memphis and Christian Brothers University in addition to working as an educational consultant for regional school districts with a mission to support start-up clay programs at underserved public schools.

Internationally active since 2015, Cat teaches workshops, exhibits, and is collected in the US, Europe, and Asia. Notable awards include Bronze Medal in the 2020 International Gold Teapot Prize in Taiwan and Silver Award in the Fu Le Ceramic Arts Museum Emerging Artist Exhibition in Fuping, China.

Beyond her work as an emerging international teaching artist, Cat and her partner, Robert LaWarre III are developing an international 3D arts incubator space in Memphis slated to open in 2026 to connect people and expand professional opportunities worldwide through clay.

# R E S U M E

**BORN** September 1980, Minnesota USA

## EDUCATION

<b>Figure Sculpture Intensive</b> – Florence Academy of Art, Florence Italy	Summer 2022
<b>Ceramics Studio Residency</b> - Alfred University, Alfred, NY	Summer 2014
<b>M.Ed in Curriculum and Instruction</b> - University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV)	May 2007
<b>B.A. in Studio Art</b> - University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV)	May 2004

## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

<b>Christian Brothers University</b> - Part-time faculty, Fine Arts Depart: Ceramics, Memphis, TN	August 2023 - Present
<b>University of Memphis</b> - Part-time faculty, Fine Arts Department: Ceramics, Memphis, TN	August 2018 - Present
<b>Shelby County School District</b> – Educational Consultant, Visual Arts, Memphis, TN	August 2019 – Present
<b>LaWarre Technical Services</b> - Instructional Designer / Special Projects, Memphis, TN	August 2017 – Oct 2021
<b>Laguna Clay Company</b> - Instructional Designer/Educational Ambassador, City of Industry, CA	August 2018 - 2020
<b>Educator of Secondary Arts</b> - Clark County School District, Las Vegas, NV	2006 – 2017

## INVITED ARTIST WORKSHOPS / DEMONSTRATIONS / LECTURES

<b>International Studio Residency</b> - Jingdezhen University, Jingdezhen China	May 2025
<b>Southern Census II</b> – Invited Juror, Workshop. New Orleans, Louisiana USA	April 2025
<b>Korean University Circuit</b> – Invited Lecturer, Seoul, Buyeo, Namwon Korea	October 2024
<b>Mokwon University</b> – Invited Lecturer, Daejeon, Korea	October 2023
<b>Mississippi Clay Works</b> – Round Table Discussion, Tupalo, Mississippi USA	August 2023
<b>Clay Con West</b> - Headline Demonstrator, St. George, Utah USA	January 2020
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Namwon Ceramic Expo</b> - International Ceramics Art Research Center, Namwon, Korea	October 2019
<b>V-Oglje 2019: International Symposium</b> - Museum of the Commune Sencur, Slovenia	July 2019
<b>Laguna Clay Demonstration</b> - Minneapolis, Minnesota USA	March 2019
52 <sup>nd</sup> Conference of National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA)	
<b>International Seminar of Craft</b> - Upendra Maharathi Institute, Patna, Bihar, India	January 2019
<b>Anadolu University Olimpos Anagama Woodfire Symposium</b> - Antalya, Turkey	October 2018
<b>Salon der Keramik 18 Symposium</b> - Z Studio, Giessen, Germany	July 2018
<b>Museo Carlo Zauli</b> - slide and process presentation, Faenza, Italy	July 2018
<b>La Meridiana Ceramic School</b> - slide and process presentation, Florence, Italy	June 2018
<b>Alabama Clay Conference</b> - sculpting demonstration, Montgomery, Alabama USA	February 2018
<b>Alabama Clay Conference</b> - slide presentation, Montgomery, Alabama USA	February 2018
<b>“Seminar on Contemporary Ceramic Sculpture”</b> - India International Centre, Delhi, India	November 2017
<b>“Photo / File / Upload: Digital Portfolios in the Cloud”</b> - presentation Portland, OR	March 2017
51 <sup>st</sup> Conference of National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA)	
<b>Salon der Keramik Symposium</b> – workshop, Giessen, Germany	July 2016
<b>“The Articulate Figure”</b> - workshop, Studio 111D, Grenoble, France	July 2016
<b>“Get Stoked on Project Based Learning”</b> - presentation, Kansas City, MO	March 2016
50 <sup>th</sup> Conference of National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA)	

## SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

<b>Shift Drift</b> – Solo exhibition. Rosenzweig Arts Center, Columbus Mississippi USA	September 2024
<b>Fahrenheit Biennial</b> – American Museum of Ceramic Art, Pomona, CA USA	January 2024
<b>The Resonance of Contemporary Ceramic Art</b> – Chunhyang Culture and Arts Museum, Korea	October 2023
<b>Material Mugs VIII</b> – Invitational Exhibition, Companion Gallery, Humboldt, TN USA	September 2023
<b>Southern Census</b> – New Orleans Clay Center, New Orleans, LA USA	May 2023
<b>41 Concurs Internacional de Ceramica</b> – Museu de Ceramica de l’Alcora, Spain	October 2022
<b>Contemporary Clay Biannual</b> – The Arts Center of Western Colorado, Grand Junction USA	March 2022
<b>8<sup>th</sup> Gyeongsang Nam-do Teabowl Exhibition</b> – Namwon, Korea	October 2021
<b>Material Mugs IV</b> - Juried by Michelle Ettrick, Companion Gallery, Humboldt, TN USA	September 2021

<b>International Exchange Exhibition</b> – Korea Society of Ceramic Art, Seoul Korea	October 2020
<b>8th Annual Gold Teapot Prize</b> - Ceramics League of Taiwan, Farglory Museum, Taiwan	April 2020
<b>World Ceramic Teapot Art Competition</b> , Yixing Ceramic Industry Ass., Yixing, China	October 2019
<b>Cluj Ceramics Biennale</b> , Cluj-Napoca Museum of Art, Cluj, Romania	October 2019
<b>FES TEA VAL</b> - Curated by Monika Gass, NASPA Foyer Wiesbaden, Germany	March 2019
<b>MUGSHOT II</b> - Mojo Coffee Gallery, NCECA Concurrent Exhibition, Minneapolis, MN USA	March 2019
<b>Homeward Bound</b> - Crosstown Concourse, West Gallery, Memphis, TN USA	December 2018
<b>Good Things...Come in Small Packages</b> - Flower City Art Center, Rochester, NY USA	November 2018
<b>Potters of Chosun Remake Namwon</b> – Int'l Ceramics Art Research Center, Namwon, Korea	October 2018
<b>International Fantastic Teapot Exhibition</b> - SERES'18: Anadolu University, Eskişehir, Turkey	October 2018
<b>Echoes of Ohr</b> - Juried by Allen Chen, Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art, Biloxi, MS USA	October 2018
<b>Cup: The Intimate Object XIV</b> - Charlie Cummings Gallery, Gainesville, FL USA	October 2018
<b>Material Mugs III</b> - Juried by Renee LoPresti, Companion Gallery, Humboldt, TN USA	September 2018
<b>Vernissage</b> - Galerie Unterer Hardthof, Giessen, Germany	July 2018
<b>Diagonal Eleven: Woodfire in Tuscany</b> - Mi.MO Gallery, Faenza, Italy	July 2018
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Annual International Ceramic Art Competition</b> - Blue Line Arts, Sacramento, CA USA	June 2018
<b>Fahrenheit Biennial 2018</b> - American Museum of Ceramic Art, Pomona, CA USA	March 2018
<b>International Glory: Ceramic Masters</b> - Tainan National Museum of Fine Arts, Taiwan	January 2018
<b>MUGSHOTS I</b> - Mojo Coffee Gallery, Minneapolis, Minnesota USA	December 2017
<b>Journey of Transformation</b> - India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, India	November 2017
<b>National Salt &amp; Pepper Shaker Show</b> - Starbrick Gallery, Nelsonville, OH USA	October 2017
<b>Battle of the Bowls</b> - Academy Center for the Arts, Lynchburg, VA USA	October 2017
<b>XXXIX International Competition of the Artistic Ceramic</b> - Rocca Flea Civic Museum, Italy	September 2017
<b>Espresso and Cappuccino Cups</b> - Casa Cajani Museum, Faenza, Italy	August 2017
<b>Vampire...Which Vampire?</b> - Vallauris Institute of Art, Salernes, France	July 2017
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Annual Cup Show</b> - Jansen Art Center, Lynden, WA USA	June 2017
<b>Arkansas Grown</b> - England Center Gallery, Arkansas State University, Beebe, AR USA	May 2017
<b>TEA: The Ritual and The Art</b> - Plough Gallery, Tifton, GA USA	April 2017
<b>The Neon Teapot Prize</b> - The Grand Gallery, Las Vegas City Hall, Las Vegas, NV USA	March 2017
<b>6th Annual Gold Teapot Prize</b> - Ceramics League of Taiwan, Yingge Museum, Taiwan	October 2016
<b>Emerging Artist Exhibition</b> - Fu Le International Ceramics Museums, Fuping, Shaanxi, China	October 2016
<b>Ceramica Multiplex 2016</b> - Kerameikon, Croatian Ceramic Association, Varazdin, Croatia	August 2016
<b>Salon der Keramik 16</b> - Der Unterer Hardthof, Giessen, Germany	July 2016
<b>Suspended Earth: Contemporary Clay</b> - Western Colorado Arts Center, Gr. Junction, CO USA	May 2016
<b>Tea is Hot</b> - Keramiekcentrum Tiendschuur, Tegelen, Netherlands	Feb 2015 – May 2016
<b>It Happened Like This</b> - Mayor's Gallery, Historic 5th Street School, Las Vegas, NV USA	October 2015
<b>Stille Kraft und Powerdrink</b> - Höhr-Grenzhausen Ceramics Museum, Westerwald, Germany	April 2015
<b>Solo Chic</b> - Solo exhibition, The Grand Gallery, Las Vegas City Hall, Las Vegas, NV USA	Spring 2015

## AWARDS

Functional Sculpture Award: <b>Material Mugs VI</b> – Companion Gallery, TN USA	September 2021
Bronze Medal: <b>8th Annual Gold Teapot Prize</b> - Farglory Museum, New Taipei, Taiwan	April 2020
Purchase Award: <b>Orton Cone Box Show</b> – NCECA Exhibition, Richmond, VA / Kansas City, MO	March 2020
Award of Excellence: <b>World Ceramic Teapot Competition</b> , Yixing, China	October 2019
<b>Next Century Memphian Bicentennial Award</b> – WeAreMemphis.com, Memphis, TN USA	May 2019
People's Choice: <b>MUGSHOT II</b> - Mojo Coffee Gallery, Minneapolis, MN USA	March 2019
Finalist: <b>7th Annual Gold Teapot Prize</b> - Farglory Museum, New Taipei, Taiwan	September 2018
Purchase Award: <b>National Salt &amp; Pepper Shaker Show</b> - Starbrick Gallery, Nelsonville, OH	October 2017
Silver Plate: <b>XXXIX International Competition of Ceramic Art</b> - Rocca Flea Museum, Italy	September 2017
Honorable Mention: <b>XXXIX International Competition of Ceramic Art</b> - Italy	September 2017
Judge's Choice: <b>5<sup>th</sup> Annual Cup Show</b> - Jansen Art Center, Lynden, WA USA	July 2017
<b>Making a Difference in Ceramics Award</b> - International Ceramic Artist Network (ICAN)	June 2017
Silver Prize: <b>Emerging Artist Exhibition</b> - Fu Le International Ceramics Museums, China	October 2016