

NANCY M. SERVIS 7300 Lahontan Drive, Truckee, California, 96161, United States
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BIOGRAPHY: Born 31 May, 1959, Cleveland, Ohio, US. Nancy M. Servis was raised in a small town in North Eastern Ohio and attended a nearby liberal arts college. Upon graduation, she moved to New Haven, Connecticut and began her art career at the Yale Center for British Art. Affirmed by her experiences there, she simultaneously attended two graduate schools in New York City, studying art history and museum studies. Her appointment as the Hilla Rebay Curatorial Fellow at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum established her professional direction. Nancy later moved to Benicia, California, and was introduced to the work of the dynamic ceramic sculptor, Robert Arneson, who lived one block away from her new home. This coincidence ignited Nancy's budding career as a ceramics historian and curator. In Davis, California, she became the director of a small gallery which she transformed into a professional mid-sized art organization housed in a new state-of-the-art building. Her curation there led to academic positions at University of California, Davis and The California College of the Arts, Oakland where her ceramic inquiries deepened into established scholarship. Since then, Nancy M. Servis has actively documented the vitality of Northern California ceramics through articles, catalogues, exhibitions, lectures, workshops, symposiums, oral history interviews, and photo documentation. Nancy now lives in both Sacramento, California and the Sierra Nevada Mountains further pursuing her writing on the fine art of ceramics.

EDUCATION

City University of New York, New York, US, Master of Arts Degree, Art History, Spring 1992
New York University, New York, US, Degree in Museum Studies, Fall 1992
Hiram College, Ohio, US, Bachelor of Arts Degree, June 1981 *cum laude* Art/Art History; Departmental Honors, 1980

WORK EXPERIENCE: MUSEUMS, GALLERIES & ART ORGANIZATIONS

ServisArts: Author, curator, and lecturer relating to Northern California ceramic art topics, February 2006 – present
NCECA On-Site Conference Liaison, Sacramento, California, US, 2022 and Board Member
Research Fellow: American Museum of Ceramic Art, Pomona, California, US, April 2014 – September 2017
Jentel Critic: Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts, Helena, Montana, US and Jentel Foundation, Banner, Wyoming, US, April 2014 – June, 2014
Executive Director: Richmond Art Center, Richmond, California, US, January 2009 – January 2012
Director & Curator: Art Foundry Gallery, Sacramento, California, US, September 2005 – May 2006
Director & Curator: Pence Gallery, Davis, California, US, June 1994 – April 2004
Assistant Director & Curator: Sarah Lawrence College Art Gallery, Bronxville, New York, US, August 1987 – June 1989
Assistant to the Registrar: Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York, US, January 1987 – June 1987
Hilla Rebay Curatorial Fellow: Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum New York, New York, US April 1986 – August 1986
Museum Education: Yale Center for British Art, New Haven, Connecticut, US, October 1982 – February 1985

BIBLIOGRAPHY: SELECT PUBLICATIONS

State of Clay: History of Northern California Ceramics, book publication anticipated Fall 2019
Out Our Way: The Pivotal Sculpture of Robert Arneson, *Neue Keramik*, January/February 2019, pp. 38-39
Ruth Rippon: Her Story, *Studio Potter-Women in Ceramics*, No. 45, Volume 1, (2017), pp. 8-13.
Innovations in California Clay, NCECA Journal, Vol. 37, 2016 the NCECA 50th Anniversary Conference, Kansas City, Missouri, US, pp. 110 – 112
51 Portraits of Women Artists by Kurt Fishback, 2015 Lead essay, Unpaginated, Sacramento, California, US
Flora and Fauna, exhibition review, Brinton Museum, Big Horn, Wyoming, *Neue Keramik*, No. 1 (2016) pp. 56 – 57
Jim Melchert—Works of Resonance, *Ceramics: Art and Perception*, No. 100 (2015), pp. 88 – 93
Susan Harris—Lidded Vessels—exhibition review, *Ceramics: Art and Perception*, No. 100 (2015), pp. 20 – 23
Bill Abright—Mining Meaning, 2014, SERVISarts publication, Sacramento, California, US
The Ceramic Pot Shop at UC Berkeley, 1959-1964, The Possible at the Berkeley Art Museum, January 29 – May 25, 2014, Berkeley, California, US
Ceramic Excellence: Fellowships at the Archie Bray Foundation, 2013-2014, Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts, Helena, Montana, US
John Toki: A Life that is More than Clay, 2013. NCECA, Houston, Texas, US, SERVISarts publication, 2013
Jun Kaneko—Beyond Sculptural Boundaries, *Ceramics: Art and Perception* No. 92 (2013), pp. 32 – 35
Stephen De Staebler, *Matter + Spirit*, edited by Timothy Burgard, Book Review in *Ceramics: Art and Perception* No. 92 (2013) p. 110
Erna Aaltonen—Nostalgia, exhibition review, *Ceramics: Art and Perception*, No. 91 (2013) pp. 100 – 103
Wanxin Zhang: Innovation in Ceramic Sculpture, *Wanxin Zhang*, catalogue, March 2012, Richmond Art Center, pp. 23 – 27, Richmond, California, US
Local Treasures: Bay Area Ceramics, 2012, catalogue for Berkeley Art Center, September 22 – November 18, 2012, Berkeley, California, US
Past Masters: Stephen De Staebler, NCECA Journal 2012, Volume 33, the NCECA Conference in Seattle, Washington, US, pp. 13 – 14
Ruth Rippon: Sacramento Ceramist, exhibition with catalogue, John Natsoulas Gallery, Davis, edition 2012, Davis, California, US
Stephen De Staebler: Scope of an Artful Life, *Ceramics: Art and Perception* No. 85 (2011), pp. 102 – 103
Contemporary Ceramics: Four Decades of Collecting, catalogue, California State University Library Gallery, Sacramento, California, US, 2008
Priming the Vacuous Soul: The Recent Work by Misty Gamble, *Ceramics: Art and Perception* No. 78 (2009), pp. 13 – 16
James Lovera: Craters from Fire – exhibition review, *Ceramics: Art and Perception* No. 68 (2007), pp. 96-97
Stephen De Staebler: *The Sculptor's Way*, essay, September 2009, Richmond Art Center, Richmond, California, US
Modern Myth Maker: The Figurative Sculpture of Donna Billick, exhibition catalogue, July 2006, John Natsoulas Gallery, Davis, California, US
The Eve Aesthetic: Contemporary Figurative Sculpture by Artists from TB-9, catalogue, April–May 2004, UC Davis, California, US
Danae Mattes: Sibyls & Pools: *Ceramics: Art and Perception*, No. 52, (2003), pp. 92 – 93; catalogue, Fresno Art Museum, California, US Oct. 2004
Tracking Fire: Clay Collaborations of the Pacific Rim, exhibition essay, May 1999, Pence Gallery, Davis, California, US
More Than Clay: The Toki Collection of Ceramics, exhibition catalogue, April 1998, Pence Gallery, Davis, California, US
John Toki, *Ceramics Monthly*, Vol. 46, No. 8 (1998) pp. 35 – 38.

TEACHING & LECTURES UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE

**image-illustrated, ** gallery lecture, + significantly modified or new curriculum*

Women Who Changed California Clay*+, San Francisco Art Institute, March 8, 2019, San Francisco, California, US
Concurrent/Conventions in Ceramics*+, Speaker and Panel Moderator, California State University, Sacramento, California, US, April 12, 2018
State of Clay: Bay Area Ceramics*, November 7, 2017, Ceramics Program, Office of the Arts at Harvard, Allston, Massachusetts, US
Northern California Ceramic History: Artistic Pluralism* San Francisco Art Institute, February 23, 2016, San Francisco, California, US
A Century of Northern California Ceramics*/+: California College of the Arts, Oakland, California, US, Spring 2002, Fall 2004, 2007, 2009
The History of Modern Art*/+: Solano Community College, Fairfield, California, US, Spring 2006, Summer 2008
The History of Art, Prehistory to Medieval*/+: Solano Community College, Fairfield, California, US, Summer 2007
The History of Art, Renaissance to Modern*/+: Solano Community College, Fairfield, California, US, Fall 2007
Beyond Beat: Berkeley's Radical Clay Movement of the 1960s*/+: California College of the Arts, Oakland, California, US, Spring 2006
Postmodern Ceramics and the Concept of Display*/+: California College of the Arts, Oakland, California, US Spring 2003
Cultural History of Museums and Art Exhibitions*: University of California, Davis, CA, Department of Art/Art History, Spring 2001
Museum Training (401): Curatorial Principles*/**/+ : University of California, Davis, CA, Department of Art/Art History, Winter 2000
Museum Training (402): Exhibition Methods*/**/+ : University of California, Davis, CA, Department of Art/Art History, Spring 2000

SELECT COMMUNITY LECTURES

Women Who Changed California Clay*, Monterey Art Museum symposium, Presenter and panelist, January 12, 2019, Monterey, California, US
State of Clay: Bay Area Ceramics* Project Art/Ferrin Contemporary, November 8, 2017, Cummington, Massachusetts, US
Daniel Rhodes: Cross-Country*, October 17, 2017, The Blanden Memorial Museum of Art, Fort Dodge, Iowa, US
A Case for Clay: Northern California Ceramic History*, March 3, 2017, Greenwich House Pottery, New York, New York, US
Big Clay by The Bay*, Palo Alto Art Center, CA, July 28, 2016 in association with 45 Days of Clay, Palo Alto, California, US
Ceramic Sculpture as Catalyst*, Five unique lectures during a five-day workshop, July 18 – 22, 2016, Sierra Nevada College, Incline Village, Nevada, US
Innovations in California Clay*, Co-Lecture with John Toki, National Council on Education for the Ceramics, Kansas City, Missouri, US, March 17, 2016
Clear Thoughts on a Muddy Matter*, Co-Lecture with John Toki, Richmond Art Center, Richmond, California, US, February, 21, 2016
Fired in Oakland: Slice--Northern California Ceramic History*, Featured speaker at the ceramics symposium Oakland, California, US, September 21, 2014
Matter + Spirit: The Art and Life of Stephen De Staebler: Panel discussion, De Young Memorial Museum, San Francisco, California, US February 25, 2012
Past Masters: Tribute to Stephen De Staebler*, National Council on Education for the Ceramics, Seattle, Washington, US, March, 2012
History of Northern California Ceramics*, di Rosa, Napa, California, US, 2011
Innovators of Northern California Ceramics*, The Richmond Art Center, Richmond, CA, September 25, 2009
The Eve Aesthetic in Ceramics*, California Conference for the Advancement of Ceramic Art, Davis, California, US, April 30, 2004
A Century of Northern California Ceramics*, The Kingsley Art Club, Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, California, US, November 2002
CLAY: N.CA**, Pence Gallery, Davis, California, US, Sept. 8, 1999
The Art of Peter Voukos**, Pence Gallery/Oakland Museum, Davis, California, US, October 1, 1995

SELECT EXHIBITIONS

Daniel Rhodes Revisited, www.servisarts.com
Artists in Their Studios (artists using clay) www.servisarts.com
Southern Migration: Ruby's at AMOCA, Juror, Feb. 14 – March 29, 2015, American Museum of Ceramic Art, Pomona, California, US
California Clay Competition, Juror, April 29 – May 27, 2011, The Artery--California Conference for the Advancement of Ceramic Art, Davis, California, US
Ruth Rippon: Sacramento Ceramist, April 20 – May 28, 2011, John Natsoulas Gallery, Davis, California, US, (publication: edition 2012)
Raku Mastery, September 14 – November 13, 2010, Richmond Art Center, Richmond, California, US
Stephen De Staebler: The Sculptor's Way, September 9 – October 24, 2009, Richmond Art Center, (publication), Richmond, California, US
1st Annual Enamel Exhibit, November 9 – December 2, 2006, Art Foundry Gallery, Sacramento, California, US
Antonio Prieto & Masters of California Ceramics, April 3 – May 7, 2006, Art Foundry Gallery, Sacramento, California, US
The Family of Clay: CCA Ceramics 1950-2000, January 17 – 27, 2006 Oliver Art Gallery, California College of the Arts, Oakland, California, US
The Eve Aesthetic: Contemporary Figurative Clay Sculpture by Artists from TB-9, April 17 – May 22, 2004, UC Davis (catalogue), Davis, California, US
The Artistry and History of California: The Commemorative Spanish & Mexican State Seal March 14 – April 26, 2003, Pence Gallery, Davis, California, US
Object as Subject: Ceramics and Drawings by Nancy Selvin, May 3 – June 1, 2002, Pence Gallery, Davis, California, US
Artists' Tiles: Beyond Tradition, October 2 – November 17, 2002, Pence Gallery, Davis, California, US
The Fine Art of California Craft, March 6 – 31, 2001, Pence Gallery, Davis, California, US
CLAY: N.CA., Sept. 7 – Oct. 2, 1999, Pence Gallery, Davis, California, US
Tracking Fire: Clay Collaborations of the Pacific Rim, April 30 – May 29, 1999, Pence Gallery (publication), Davis, California, US
More Than Clay: The Toki Collection of Ceramics, March 27 – April 25, 1998, Pence Gallery, Davis, California and Sept. 2 – Nov. 14, 1998, Richmond Art Center, Richmond, CA (catalogue), Richmond, California, US

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

Republic of Korea: November 2018, Independent visit to Gimhae Clayarch Museum, Icheon, and the Korea Craft and Design Foundation
Europe: Scotland, England, France, Italy, August through October, 2007
Spain: September 2007 Art guide for a specialized museum and ceramics tour to Madrid, Barcelona, Toledo and Talavera de la Reina
Scotland: Lived in Aberdeen, Scotland June through September, 1986

HONORS, AWARDS and MEMBERSHIPS

National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts, US, Member 2014 – Present
Community Arts Education Leadership Awardee – National Guild for Community Arts Education, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, US, 2010
State of California: California Legislature Assembly Resolution by Assemblywoman, Lois Wolk, 2004