

Paolo Porelli curriculum vitae

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Paolo Porelli, Rome Italy (1966). After graduating in painting (Accademia di Belle Arti di Roma, Italy), Porelli began a period of experimentation in ceramics in which he identified an anthropomorphic figure as his preferred expressive form. Clay remains his principal medium, although he often integrates 'ready-mades' in his sculptures as well as casts of found objects. Life-size to small-scale figures stand alone or in installations. In recent work, Porelli uses 3-D images and 3-D printing to create prototypes for series of figures, individualised through modifications, additions and subtractions. Porelli's works have been presented in numerous solo and more than 90 group exhibitions including international biennials in the US, Europe and Asia. The subject of feature-length articles in the US and Europe, Porelli has participated in symposia and residencies at the International Ceramic Studio Hungary, The Bray, The Clay Studio of Philadelphia, European Ceramic Work Centre, the Jingdezhen International Studio and more. Co-founder of CRETA Rome (2012), an international centre for ceramics and fine arts. In 2021, he was elected a member of the International Academy of Ceramics.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2027** "Figure Out", Fuller Craft Museum, Brockton, MA, USA
2026 "A Party for Betty (Woodman)", Museo Zauli, Faenza, Italy
"Figure Out: Catastrophe or Regeneration", Alfred Ceramic Art Museum, Alfred, NY, USA
"Zeitgenössische Keramik aus Italien" with Mattia Vernocchi, Stadtmuseum Siegburg, Siegburg, Germany
"Icons of a New World", Thorne-Sagendorph Art Gallery, Keene State College, Keene, NH, USA
2023 "Figure Out: Catastrophe or Regeneration", Holter Museum of Art, Helena, MT, USA
2022 "Madonne Protestanti: terzo atto", Ridotto del Teatro Masini, Argilla Italia 2022, Faenza, Italy
2021 "From Stereotype to archetype", Arch Contemporary, Tiverton, RI, USA
2021 "RefleX: figure per riflettere", with Maurizio Tittarelli Rubboli, Palazzo Ducale, Gubbio, Italy
2019 "Protestant Madonnas", curated by André Groeneveld, Firma Van Drie, Gouda, The Netherlands
2018 "Divinities + Idols", Heidmann Art Salon at Haw Contemporary, Kansas City, MO, USA
2017 "Humanae Terrae", curated by Claudia Casali, Honos Art, Rome, Italy
2017 "viewing", Jingdezhen International Studio, Jingdezhen, China
2016 "Humankind: the Sublime & the Ridiculous", Belger Arts Center, Kansas City, MO
2015 "Profili del tempo", curated by Rolando Giovannini, "Rocca Flea" Museo Civico, Gualdo Tadino
2012 "Creative Trilogy: Sculpture, Painting & Ceramics", c.r.e.t.a. rome, Rome, Italy
2011 "Controfigure", presented by Arte Comune, Palazzo Delfini, Rome, Italy
2008 "Eidolon", curated by Gabriele Simongini, Internoventidue Arte Contemporanea, Rome, Italy
2006 "Idoli Occidente", Galleria Lombardi, La Notte Bianca, Rome, Italy
2004 "Dipinti e Sculture", curated by Carlo Fabrizio Carli, Galleria Faleria, Rome, Italy
2002 "Paolo Porelli: pitture e sculture", curated by Barbara Mancini, Galleria Mancini, Monte Granaro

RESIDENCIES/VISITING ARTIST/DEMONSTRATING ARTIST

- 2026**
Visiting Artist, Keene State College, Keene, NH, USA
2025/26
Visiting Artist, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI, USA
2024
International Ceramics Symposium on Figurative Ceramics, International Ceramics Studio, Kecskemét, Hungary
University of Iowa Talavera Symposium, Iowa City, Iowa, USA
2023
Visiting Artist, Archie Bray Foundation, Helena, MT, USA
2022
Guest Artist in Residence, The Clay Studio of Philadelphia, PA, USA
2021
Woodman Artist Resident, Antella, Italy
2020
Invited guest artist (virtual lecture/demonstration), California Conference for the Advancement of Ceramic Arts, Davis, CA, USA
2019/20
Winter Installation Artist in Residence, Arch Contemporary, Tiverton, RI, USA
2018/2019
Sunday Morning Grant @ekwc, European Ceramic Work Centre
2017
Artist in Residence, Blanc de Chine International Ceramic Art Award Residency, Dehua, China

Guest Artist in Residence, International Studio Jingdezhen, China

2016

Visiting Artist, University of South Carolina, 'In-glaze luster workshop

2015/16

Fellowship Artist-in-Residence, Red Star Studios, Belger Crane Yard, Kansas City, MO

2014

Invited guest artist (lecture/demonstration), California Conference for the Advancement of Ceramic Arts, Davis, CA, USA

Visiting Artist, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS, USA

2012

Eric Myhre Scholar, Artist in Residence, Archie Bray Foundation, Helena, MT, USA

2011

Guest Artist in Residence, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA, USA

Artist in Residence, Woodstock Byrdcliffe Guild, Woodstock, NY, USA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS, BIENNIALS, EVENTS & PRIZES

2025

"TRUE AND REAL", 2025 NCECA Annual, curated by Judith Schwartz, Utah Museum of Contemporary Art, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA

"Alive and Unfolding", curated by Vasi Hirdo, Ceramic Art Andenne, La Delta Centre, Namur, Belgium

"63° Premio Faenza, Museo Internazionale delle Ceramiche, Faenza, Italy

2024

FIGURES: 2024 International Ceramics Symposium", International Ceramics Studio, Kecskemét, Hungary

"50 Years in the Making", The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA, USA

"Dis/comfort", curated by Alessandro Cristofari, Palazzo Rospigliosi, Zagarolo, Italy

2023

Lighton International Artist Exchange Program Award

"Ho visto la Madonna", curated by Donatella Ventura e Daniele Panucci, Museo della Ceramica di Savona, Savona, Italy

3rd Blanc de Chine International Ceramic Art Award, Hangzhou, China

"In bianco. La porcellana nella ceramica d'arte italiana contemporanea", curated by Matteo Zauli and Xiuzhong Zhang, Palazzo del Podestà, Faenza, Italy

2022

"40° Mostra Internazionale della Ceramica", Gualdo Tadino, Italy

"Ethos: Keramikos 2022", curated by Vittorio Sgarbi, Museo di Palazzo Doebbing, Sutri, Italy

"Artists for Amnesty", John Natsoulas Gallery, Davis, CA, USA

2021

Elected member of the International Academy of Ceramics

"KICB (Korean International Ceramic Biennale) 2021", Honorable Mention, Gyeonggi Museum of Contemporary Ceramic Art, Gwangju-si, Gyeonggi-do, South Korea

"Visioni contemporanee. Venti artisti a Castel Sant'Angelo", curated by Mariastella Margozzi, Museo nazionale di Castel Sant'Angelo, Rome, Italy

"Tradizione Contemporanea", curated by N. Teodori, Museo Opificio Rubboli, Gualdo Tadino, Italy

2020/21

"61° Premio Faenza (with Maurizio Tittarelli Rubboli), Museo Internazionale delle Ceramiche, Faenza, Italy

2020

"2020 Taiwan Ceramics Biennial", New Taipei City Yingge Ceramics Museum: shortlisted

"BACC 2020: Biennale Arte Ceramica Contemporanea", Scuderie Aldobrandini per l'Arte, Frascati, Italy

"Distant Ceramics, 2nd ed.", juror Shoji Satake, on-line

2019/20

"Cheongju International Craft Competition 2019", Cheongju, Korea: shortlisted

"Ceramics of Europe Westerwaldprize 2019", Keramikmuseum Westerwald, Westerwald, Germany

"XIV Bienal Internacional de Cerámica de Manises", Museu Ceràmica Manises, Manises, Spain

2019

"Point in Time II Jubilee Reunion Manifestation EKW", Heusden, The Netherlands

"Flesh for Fantasy", Concurrent Exhibition NCECA 2019, The Workshop Minneapolis, Minneapolis, MN, USA

2018/19

"Inquietant/e figura humana (Disturbing human figure)", Sala 30, curated by MACVAC (Museu d'Art Contemporani Vicent Aguilera Cerní de Vilafamés), Aéroport Castellón, Spain

2018

"38 Concurso Internacional de Cerámica-CICA 2018", 2nd prize, L'Alcora, Spain

"Ceramic Art Andenne 2018", "Contemporary expressions of Italy", curated by Martha Pachon Rodriguez, (Italy, invited country), Andenne, Belgium

"European Ceramic Context 2018, Open Call exhibition", 1 of 2 artists chosen to represent Italy, Grønbechs Gaard, Bornholm, Denmark
 "2nd Porzellanbiennial Meissen", Albrechtsburg, Meissen, Germany
 "Abscondita Veritas" presented by Honos Art Contemporary, in conjunction with Argillà, Faenza, Italy
 "CeramicAppignano" Convivium, in collaboration with Jeff Schmuki, IV Edizione Concorso Nazionale, Appignano, Italy
 "Ceramics in Love", 58 Mostra della Ceramica, Castellamonte, Italy
 "Deconstructing the Conversation", Morgan Glass Gallery in conjunction with NCECA, Pittsburgh, PA, USA
2017
 "L'acqua meraviglia della terra", Silver Award, XXXIX Concorso Internazionale della Ceramica d'Arte, Gualdo Tadino, Italy
2016
 "1st Porzellanbiennial", Albrechtsburg, Meissen, Germany
2015
 "Convivium", Honorable Mention, Primo concorso nazionale CeramicAppignano, Appignano, Italy
 "Scultura ceramica contemporanea in Italia", curated by Nino Caruso and Mariastella Margozzi, Galleria nazionale d'arte moderna, Rome, Italy
 "2015 NCECA Biennial", David Winton Bell Gallery, Brown University, Providence, RI, USA
2014
 "Made at The Clay Studio: Guest Artists in Residence 2010-14", curated by Garth Johnson, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA, USA
2013
 "New Directions", Lacoste Gallery, Concord, MA, USA
 "S.O.F.A. Chicago", presented by Lacoste Gallery, Chicago, IL, USA
 "2013 NCECA Biennial", Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, Houston. TX, USA
2012
 "Recent Acquisitions to the Permanent Collection 2012", Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts, Helena, MT, USA
2011
 "Figuration", The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA, USA

SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Museo Internazionale delle Ceramiche, Faenza, Italy
 International Ceramics Studio, Kecskemét, Hungary
 Museu de Ceràmica de L'Alcora, Spain
 Blanc de Chine ICAA, Yishu-8 Gallery, Beijing, China
 Taoxichuan Art Gallery, Jingdezhen, China
 ASU Art Museum Ceramics Research Center, Tempe, AZ
 Galleria Civica d'Arte Contemporanea, Termoli, Italy
 Musei Capitolini, Rome, Italy
 Museo di Gala di Barcellona, Italy
 Museo Civico di Rocca Flea, Gualdo Tadino, Italy
 Museo della Transtoria, Palazzo Orsini, Bomarzo, Italy
 The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
 The Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts, Helena, MT
 CeramicAppignano, Appignano, Italy
 Nobile Contrada del Nicchio, Arte dei Vasai, Siena, Italy
 World Museum, Palazzo Arese Jacini, Cesano Maderno, Italy

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Claudia Casali, ed., *63° Premio Faenza: Biennale internazionale della ceramica d'arte contemporanea* (catalogue, Faenza 2025)
["Perspectives Festival 2025: A new vision for Ceramic Art Andenne"](#) in *Ceramics Now Magazine Issue 11* (June 2025)
 Vasi Hirdo, ["Alive & Unfolding contemporary ceramics exhibition at le Delta, Namur"](#) in *Ceramics Now Magazine Issue 11* (June 2025) 68-77
["2025 NCECA Exhibitions at the Utah Museum of Contemporary Art, Salt Lake City"](#) in *Ceramics Now* 2025 (2025) 26-33
 2024. ÉVI NEMZETKÖZI KERÁMIA SZIMPÓZIUM / INTERNATIONAL CERAMICS SYMPOSIUM, 2024, International Ceramics Studio(Kecskemét, Hungary)
["Figure Out: Catastrophe or Regeneration by Paolo Porelli at Holter Museum of Art, Helena"](#) in *Ceramics Now* 2023 (2023)
 Paolo Porelli. *Figure Out. Catastrophe or Regeneration* (exhibition catalogue, Holter Museum of Art) (Helena, MT, USA 2023)

Garth Johnson, "Porelli's Proscenium", in *Paolo Porelli. Figure Out. Catastrophe or Regeneration* (exhibition catalogue, Holter Museum of Art) (Helena, MT, USA 2023) 16-26

Francesco Paolo del Re, "Paolo Porelli: an anthropography of the end of the world and its opposite" in *Paolo Porelli. Figure Out. Catastrophe or Regeneration* (exhibition catalogue, Holter Museum of Art) (Helena, MT, USA 2023) 31-36

Blanc de Chine International Ceramic Art Award 2023 (exhibition catalogue, Beijing, China 2023)

Donatella Ventura, Daniele Panucci, eds., *Ho visto la Madonna!*, Museo della Ceramica di Savona (exhibition catalogue, 2023) 80-85

Francesco Paolo del Re, "Paolo Porelli: una antropografia del fin del mondo y su opuesto", *Terrart: Revista de ceràmica contemporània* 62 (May 2023)

Daniela Lotta, "Madonne Protestanti, Terzo Atto (Protestant Madonnas. Third Act (by Paolo Porelli)", *Ceramics Ireland* 46 (December 2022) 19

["Argillà Italia 2022 kicks off in Faenza, Italy"](#) in *Ceramics Now 2022* (2022)

Daniela Lotta, "Madonne Protestanti, Terzo Atto (Protestant Madonnas. Third Act)" (exhibition text)

Nello Teodori, curator, *Triennale della Ceramica d'Arte Contemporanea di Gualdo Tadino* (exhibition catalogue, Museo Opificio Rubboli) (Gualdo Tadino, 2022)

Èthos: Keramikos 2022, Palazzo Doebbing, Sutri (exhibition catalogue, Sutri 2022)

Claudia Casali, ed., *Premio Faenza, Biennale Internazionale della Ceramica d'Arte Contemporanea – edizione speciale* (exhibition book, Faenza 2021)

Hanbyul Kim, Minhye Park (curators), *Korean International Ceramic Biennale 2021 International Competition* (exhibition catalogue, Korea Ceramic Foundation) (Korea, 2021)

"Paolo Porelli: Del estereotipo al arquetipo", *Boletín Infocerámica*, 14 agosto 2020

Sandro Conte, curator, *BACC (Biennale Arte Ceramica Contemporanea)* (exhibition catalogue, Scuderie Aldobrandini X L'Arte) (Rome, 2020) pp.30-31

Konrad Wolf, Achim Schwickert, et al, eds., *14.Westerwaldpries 2019 Keramik Europas* (Germany, 2019) pp.72-75

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Marinella Caputo, Domenico Iaracà, curators, *D'Après: riprese e citazioni nella ceramica contemporanea* (exhibition catalogue, Museo Opificio Rubboli) (Gualdo Tadino, 2019) p.

Peregrine Honig, "Divinities + Idols", HAS at Haw Contemporary 2018

"Inquietant/e figura humana (Disturbing human figure)", Sala 30, curated by MACVAC (Museu d'arte Contemporanea Vicent Aguilera Cerní de Vilafamés), Aeroport Castellón, Spain

"Idolatry + Mythos in Sophie Aguilera + Paolo Porelli's 'Humanae Terrae'", CFile, 25 August 2017

Claudia Casali, 'Icône moderne', in *Humanae Terrae* (exhibition catalogue, Rome 2017)

Blanc de Chine International Ceramic Art Award 2017 (exhibition catalogue, Beijing, China 2017)

Paolo Porelli: Humankind: the sublime & the ridiculous (exhibition catalogue, Belger Arts Center, Kansas City 2016)

Alice Thorson, "Paolo Porelli: Humankind: The Sublime and The Ridiculous", Belger Arts Center, KC Studio November 11, 2016.

"Exposure", *Ceramics Monthly* (Nov. 2016) 13

Glen R. Brown, '2015 NCECA Biennial', *Ceramics Monthly* (Dec. 2015), 58-62

R. Giovannini, curator, 'Profiles of time: Paolo Porelli and the conceptual form' in *Profili del Tempo* (exhibition catalogue, Rocca Flea, Museo Civico, Gualdo Tadino) (Rome 2015)

N. Caruso and M. Margozi, curators, *La scultura ceramica contemporanea in Italia* (Rome 2015)

Garth Johnson, curator, 'Made at The Clay Studio: Guest Artists in Residence 2011-2014'

C. Copeland, Review "Figuration at the Clay Studio", *Ceramics: Art & Perception* 87 (2012) 63-65

Gabrielle Simongini, 'The New Paganism of the Ultra-pop Idols', *Ceramics Ireland* 27 (2011) 28-29

Lori-Ann Touchette, 'Ultrpop Idols of Paolo Porelli', *Ceramics: Art & Perception* 77 (2009) 12-15

Manuela De Leonardis, 'Eidolon di Paolo Porelli, Roma, InternoVentidue', *Exibart* (2008)