

CURRICULUM VITAE: RIKA HERBST

Qualification Profile

I am a ceramicist from South Africa with a passion for Porcelain, Bone China, and Wood firing! I work from my studio in Ruimsig, Gauteng and present workshops as guest teacher at studios all over South Africa.

Specific Accomplishments

Awards & Competitions

Oct 2017 - 3rd Cluj Ceramics Biennale (2017) Cluj-Napoca Romania
Oct 2017 - XIII International Biennial of Artistic Ceramics of Aveiro, Portugal
Aug 2016 – Ceramica Multiplex 2016 Croatia
Nov 2015 - XII Bienal de Cerâmica Artística de Aveiro, Portugal
May 2015 - III Triennial of Ceramics UNICUM 2015 Slovenia
July 2013 - Cluj International Ceramics Biennale 2013 Romania
July 2013 – 11^a Biennial International Artistic Ceramics Exhibition Aveiro, Portugal 2013
Aug 2012 – SA Handmade Collection Decorex – Gold Award, Best Stand South Africa
Aug 2012 – The Iconic Handmade Piece South Africa –Decorex Gauteng South Africa
Aug 2012 – Ceramica Multiplex 2012 Croatia - Honourable Mention
Aug 2011 – Decorex – SA Handmade Collection - Award for Best Product Design South Africa
Aug 2011 – CSA Regional Exhibition - Highly Commended Award South Africa
Jun 2011 - Gyeonggi International CeraMIX Biennale 2011, Korea – Certificate of Honor
Apr 2011 - 9th International Ceramics Competition Mino, Japan - Honourable Mention
Oct 2010 - CSA National Exhibition – Best Porcelain Piece South Africa
Aug 2009 – Icons – Decorex – SA Handmade Collection South Africa

Work History

Owner/Ceramicist – Bohlokoa Studio, Fairland Gauteng South Africa (Sept 2003 - Present)
Manager – Bohlokoa Consulting, Fairland Gauteng (April 1999 – Aug 2003)
Investment Officer, Investment South Africa, Sandton Gauteng South Africa (Feb 1997 – March 1999)
Personal Assistant, UCB Parktown Gauteng South Africa (Feb 1990 – Dec 1995)
Admin Assistant, Harmony Gold Mine, Virginia South Africa (Feb 1985 – Dec 1989)

Education

BA Hons (ANE History) University of South Africa, 2022 – current (Jan 2024)
Bachelor of Arts: Art & Ancient History, University of South Africa, 2021
Diploma Marketing & Business Management, Damelin 1993
Gr. 12, Hentie Cilliers High School, 1980 – 1984

Contact Information

+27 82 330 4246
rika@bohlokoastudio.co.za
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/rikaherbst/>
www.instagram.com/rikaherbst
www.facebook.com/rika.herbst1
www.rikaherbst.com

Qualification Highlights

Collections:

- Shanghai Institute of Visual Art 2023
- Jianshui Purple Pottery Museum 2023
- 5th Changchun International Ceramics Symposium, China 2016
- National Museum of Slovenia, 2015
- Ceramics Museum, Aveiro Portugal 2013
- Bloemfontein War Museum South Africa 2013
- Cluj International Ceramics Biennale, Romania 2013
- KERAMEIKON Collection of Contemporary World Ceramics, Croatia 2012
- Corobrick Collection Pretoria South Africa 2011
- Korea Ceramic Foundation Korea 2011

Residency/Festivals:

- 5th Shanghai – Yunnan Jianshui International Woodfired Ceramics Festival, China 2023
- 5th Changchun International Ceramics Symposium, China 2016

SHORT BIO : RIKA HERBST

Having transitioned from the corporate world and a successful marketing career, I embraced my passion for ceramics upon becoming a parent. My journey as a ceramic artist began as an eager amateur, attending classes and masterclasses at various studios to hone my skills. In 2003, I established my own studio, dedicating my focus to the intricate art of porcelain.

My early exploration in the creative realm included experimenting with glass, but my true dedication lay in the transformative power of clay. I initially shared my knowledge as a teacher for both adults and children, before transitioning into a full-time pursuit of creating unique and customized porcelain pieces.

In my pursuit of artistic excellence, I furthered my academic journey by earning a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Art History and Ancient History, completing my studies in 2021. This academic milestone inspired me to delve deeper into the realms of knowledge, leading me to pursue post-graduate studies and research in Ancient Near Eastern History. My diverse experiences and continuous passion for art and history fuel my creative endeavours, shaping my identity as an artist and scholar.

ARTIST STATEMENT

In the realm of my creations, I aspire for my work to be a subtle whisper rather than a loud proclamation. My goal is to create distinctive pieces that invite contemplation and bring joy to those who engage with them.

In my artistic practice, I am driven by the desire to create textures that invite touch, evoke memories, and play with the interplay of light and shadows on clay surfaces. Each piece is infused with the essence of life, a tangible statement of existence. My fascination lies in the ethereal qualities of porcelain, and my artistic journey is a continuous exploration of this delicate material.

Recently, my exploration led me to delve into the fascinating realm of wood-firing. Beginning in 2018 with a small philosopher's kiln and later expanding to a down-draught fast-fire kiln in 2020, I embarked on a profound exploration of raw materials for clays and glazes suitable for reduction and atmospheric firing. This journey introduced me to the art of painting with flames and the enchanting phenomenon of ash glazing.

In my latest body of porcelain work, I have embraced the use of acid as a masking agent, coupled with soluble salts and rare earth minerals. These elements enrich my designs while preserving the porcelain's translucency. I have also transitioned to darker and heavier clay bodies, enhancing the forms through the intricate surface decorations achieved in the firing process. Deliberate finger-marks, left intentionally, become a signature of my creations and identity.

Every piece I create is a testament to my evolving artistic expression, capturing the essence of life and the enduring beauty of clay transformed by fire. Through my work, I seek to engage viewers in a sensory experience, inviting them to explore the tangible and intangible layers of existence, memory, and light.

Collections:

- Shanghai Institute of Visual Art 2023
- Jianshui Purple Pottery Museum 2023
- Ceramics Museum, Aveiro Portugal 2016
- 5th Changchun International Ceramics Museum, China 2016
- National Museum of Slovenia, 2015
- Ceramics Museum, Aveiro Portugal 2013
- Bloemfontein War Museum South Africa 2013
- Cluj International Ceramics Biennale, Romania 2013
- KERAMEIKON Collection of Contemporary World Ceramics, Croatia 2012
- Corobrick Collection Pretoria 2011
- Korea Ceramic Foundation 2011

Awards & Competitions

Oct 2017 - 3rd Cluj Ceramics Biennale 2017 Cluj-Napoca Romania
Oct 2017 - XIII International Biennial of Artistic Ceramics of Aveiro, Portugal
Aug 2016 – Ceramica Multiplex 2016 Croatia
Nov 2015 - XII Bienal de Cerâmica Artística de Aveiro, Portugal
May 2015 - III Triennial of Ceramics UNICUM 2015 Slovenia
July 2013 - Cluj International Ceramics Biennale 2013 Romania
July 2013 – 11^a Biennial International Artistic Ceramics Exhibition Aveiro, Portugal 2013
Aug 2012 – SA Handmade Collection Decorex – Gold Award, Best Stand South Africa
Aug 2012 – The Iconic Handmade Piece South Africa –Decorex Gauteng South Africa
Aug 2012 – Ceramica Multiplex 2012 Croatia - Honourable Mention
Aug 2011 – Decorex – SA Handmade Collection - Award for Best Product Design South Africa
Aug 2011 – CSA Regional Exhibition - Highly Commended Award South Africa
Jun 2011 - Gyeonggi International CeraMIX Biennale 2011, Korea – Certificate of Honor
Apr 2011 - 9th International Ceramics Competition Mino, Japan - Honourable Mention
Oct 2010 - CSA National Exhibition – Best Porcelain Piece South Africa
Aug 2009 – Icons – Decorex – SA Handmade Collection South Africa

Residencies, Symposiums, Festivals:

Sept 2023, 5th Shanghai – Yunnan Jianshui International Woodfired Ceramics Festival
July 2016, 5th Changchun International Ceramics Symposium, China

Workshops presented:

- July 2023 – Wood-firing Meraki the Woodfire Kiln – Northvale Krugersdorp Gauteng
- June 2023 – Introduction to Paperclay/Porcelain – Giverny Studios, KwaZulu Natal
- June 2023 – Advanced Paper porcelain lights – Giverny Studios, KwaZulu Natal
- Nov 2022 – Porcelain Paperclay – Rushmere Farm, Sedgfield, Eastern Cape
- October 2022 – Porcelain Paperclay – Melissa Barker Studio, Western Cape
- June 2022 – Porcelain Paperclay – Giverny Studios, KwaZulu Natal
- June 2022 – Wood-firing Meraki the Woodfire kiln with special Guest Hennie Meyer – Northvale Krugersdorp
- Mar 2022 – Porcelain Paperclay – Ceramics @ Kleynstein Studio, Pretoria

Publications:

- Shanghai Institute of Visual Art 2023: International Woodfired Ceramics Works Exhibition Catalogue
- Jianshui Purple Pottery Museum 2023: International Woodfired Ceramics Works Exhibition Catalogue
- Flamingo, by Air Namibia. May 2018: Clay Naturally. Page 58 – 61
- 3rd Cluj Ceramics Biennale 2017 Cluj-Napoca Romania 2017, Catalogue
- XIII International Biennial of Artistic Ceramics of Aveiro, Portugal 2017, Catalogue
- Ceramica Multiplex 2016 Croatia, Catalogue
- Studio Potter, Jan/Feb 2015. In the studio glazing: Underglaze over glaze
- XII Bienal de Cerâmica Artística de Aveiro, Portugal, 2015 Catalogue
- III Triennial of Ceramics UNICUM 2015 Slovenia, Catalogue
- Ceramics Art & Perception No 95, 2014 Page 32-35
- Cluj International Ceramics Biennale 2013 Romania, Catalogue
- 11^a Biennial International Artistic Ceramics Exhibition Aveiro, Portugal, 2013 Catalogue
- Ceramica Multiplex 2012 Croatia, Catalogue
- Gyeonggi International CeraMIX Biennale 2011, Catalogue
- 9th International Ceramics Competition Mino, Japan, Catalogue
- Cerkanvas, Summer 2011: Page 54-55
- Beeld, July 2011 Pottebakker maak opslae.
- Ceramics Now, Featured Artist. July 2011
- SA Art Times – November 2010 Page 16/17 Issu
- <https://sahomeowner.co.za/the-allure-of-ceramics/2020>
- Ceramics South Africa Magazine
- City Vibe: Passionate Potter speaks the language of Clay. June 2009
- Garden & Home June 2003: Scratching the Surface. Page 18

Group exhibitions:

Oct 2023	International Woodfired Ceramics Works Exhibition, Shanghai Institute of Visual Art 2023: Shanghai Towers	Shanghai, China
Sep 2023	International Woodfired Ceramics Works Exhibition: Jianshui Purple Pottery Museum	Jianshui, Yunan Province, China
May 2023	Blue: Group Exhibition Johan van Heerden Art Gallery	Pretoria, South Africa
Sep 2022	Maison & Object, South African Pavilion	Paris, France
May 2022	Of Mothers and Madonna's: Johan van Heerden Art Gallery	Pretoria, South Africa
Feb 2022	After the Rain: Johan van Heerden Art Gallery	Pretoria, South Africa
Sep 2021	A Fling with Spring, Tina Skukan Gallery	Pretoria, South Africa
Aug 2021	Wood-fired & Other Ceramics: Featured Potter, Association of Arts	Pretoria, South Africa
Jun 2021	Desire – The Cape Gallery	Cape Town, South Africa
Jun 2021	Hermanus FynArts	Hermanus, South Africa
Jun 2021	Luminaries: Artbox Gallery	Pretoria South Africa
May 2021	Fabergé Inspired: Johan van Heerden Art Gallery	Pretoria South Africa
Sep 2020	Hermanus FynArts	Online Exhibition
Jun 2020	Gallery Synergy	Online Exhibition
Nov 2019	Connected by Fire: Rust-en-Vrede Gallery	Durbanville Cape Town South Africa
Nov 2018	Ceramics Southern Africa National Biennale: Rust-en-Vrede Gallery	Durbanville Cape Town South Africa
Sep 2018	Ceramics Southern Africa Regional Exhibition: MuseumAfricaA	Gauteng, South Africa
Jun 2018	Hermanus FynArts	Hermanus, South Africa
Feb 2018	Legacy Exhibition, Three Potters, and a Painter	Stellenbosch, South Africa
Dec 2017	International Celadon Exhibition, Huamao Art Museum	Ningbo, Zhejiang Province, China
Dec 2017	Association of Arts: Plate Exhibition	Pretoria, South Africa
Dec 2017	Let there be light Exhibition II, ArtBox Gallery	Pretoria, South Africa
Oct 2017	3rd Cluj Ceramics Biennale (2017) Cluj-Napoca	Romania
Oct 2017	XIII International Biennial of Artistic Ceramics of Aveiro	Portugal
Oct 2017	Ceramics Southern Africa Regional Exhibition: MuseumAfricaA	Gauteng, South Africa
Aug 2017	Decorex 2017 Gauteng, The South African Craft Collective	Gauteng, South Africa
July 2017	The David Walters & Friends Exhibition: Art in Clay, William Humphreys Art Gallery	Kimberley, South Africa
Dec 2016	Eat, drink and be merry pottery exhibition, Association of Arts	Pretoria, South Africa
Nov 2016	Tellus Sculptura Exhibition, Association of Arts	Pretoria, South Africa

Nov 2016	Ceramics South Africa National Biennale: University of Johannesburg	Gauteng, South Africa
Oct 2016	Let there be light Exhibition, ArtBox Gallery	Pretoria, South Africa
Aug 2016	Decorex, The South African Craft Collective	Gauteng, South Africa
Aug 2016	Ceramica Multiplex 2016: City Museum	Varazdin, Croatia
July 2016	5 TH Changchun International Ceramics Symposium	China
Nov 2015	XII Bienal de Cerâmica Artística de Aveiro	Portugal
Oct 2015	Ceramics South Africa Regional Exhibition Gauteng: University of Johannesburg, FADA	Gauteng, South Africa
July 2015	The Promenade: Healing in Nature. Co-Exhibition of Icheon World Ceramic Center and the National Folk Museum of Korea	Korea
July 2015	Giftex	Tokyo, Japan
July 2015	Decor & Design	Melbourne, Australia
June 2015	Forms of Expression: Hermanus Fine Arts	Hermanus, South Africa
May 2015	III Triennial of Ceramics UNICUM	Slovenia
May 2015	Index: Dubai	Dubai, UAE
May 2015	Exhibition: Rika Herbst & Stephen Graham, Alliance Francaise	Gauteng, South Africa
Oct 2014	Art Exhibition: The Leonardo Gallery	Moreletta Park Pretoria, South Africa
Oct 2014	The Name of The Rose Exhibition, Rust-En-Vrede Gallery	Durbanville, Cape Town, South Africa
Jun 2014	Ceramics South Africa Regional Exhibition Gauteng, MuseumAfrica	Gauteng, South Africa
May 2014	Index: Dubai	Dubai, UAE
Apr 2014	Decorex CT: SA Handmade Collection	Cape Town, South Africa
Mar 2014	Decorex Durban: SA Handmade Collection	Durban, South Africa
Mar 2014	Art Exhibition, Annica's, Michaelangelo Towers, Sandton	Gauteng, South Africa
Oct 2013	Cluj International Ceramics Biennale	Cluj-Napoca, Romania
Oct 2013	11 ^a Bienal Internacional de Cerâmica Artística de Aveiro 2013	Aveiro, Portugal
Aug 2013	Decorex: SA Handmade Collection, Gallagher Estate	Gauteng, South Africa
Aug 2013	Women in Clay, Art in the Forest	Cape Town, South Africa
Apr 2013	Ceramics South Africa Regional Exhibition Gauteng, MuseumAfrica	Gauteng, South Africa
Apr 2013	Fragile – The Porcelain Collective, Liz Loubser Gallery	Gauteng, South Africa
Mar 2013	Design Indaba, South African Handmade Collection	Cape Town, South Africa
Feb 2013	Ambiente – The Loft	Frankfurt, Germany
Nov 2012	KulturZentrum	Kapfenberg, Austria
Nov 2012	Translucencies, Art Afrique Gallery	Sandton, South Africa
Aug 2012	Decorex: SA Handmade Collection, Gallagher Estate	Gauteng, South Africa

Aug 2012	Ceramica Multiplex 2012: City Museum	Varazdin, Croatia
May2012	Ceramics South Africa Regional Exhibition Gauteng: MuseumAfrica	Gauteng, South Africa
Mar 2012	Design Indaba	Cape Town, South Africa
Feb 2012	Ambiente – The Loft	Frankfurt Germany
Dec 2011	Af - L'artigiano In Fiera	Milan, Italy
Sep 2011	9 th International Ceramics Competition	Mino, Japan
Sep 2011	Gyeonggi International CeraMIX Biennale	Icheon, Korea
Aug 2011	Decorex: SA Handmade Collection, Gallagher Estate	Gauteng, South Africa
Aug 2011	Ceramics South Africa Regional Exhibition: Eduardo Villa Museum, University of Pretoria	Pretoria, South Africa
Apr 2011	Easter Exhibition: Ou Lettere Building, University of Pretoria	Pretoria, South Africa
Feb 2011	Ambiente - The Loft	Frankfurt Germany
Jan 2011	The Cube at the Clay Museum: Rust-en-Vrede Gallery	Durbanville, South Africa
Oct 2010	Ceramics South Africa National Exhibition: Grande Provence Gallery	Franschoek, South Africa
Aug 2010	Decorex: SA Handmade Collection, Gallagher Estate	Gauteng, South Africa
Aug 2010	Echoes Exhibition: The Art Place	Randburg, South Africa
Aug 2010	Ceramics South Africa Regional Exhibition: MuseumAfrica	Gauteng, South Africa
Nov 2009	Coming Together at Christmas: Craft & Design Centre	Gauteng, South Africa
Sep 2009	Ceramics South Africa Regional Exhibition: Eduardo Villa Museum, University of Pretoria	Pretoria, South Africa
Aug 2009	Decorex: South African Icons, Gallagher Estate	Gauteng, South Africa
July 2009	Pace: Craft & Design Centre	Gauteng, South Africa
July 2009	African Landscapes in Clay: Association of Arts	Pretoria, South Africa
Feb 2009	The Art of Green Living: The Peech Hotel	Gauteng, South Africa
Aug 2008	Ceramics South Africa: National Exhibition, University of Johannesburg	Gauteng, South Africa

Rika Herbst©2023